Beauty and the Beast

Tiger and Princess Nutmeg have a fairytale ending. Senior cat Tiger ended up back at Cat Welfare in 2006 after being adopted in 1995. His owner claimed she simply did not have time for him anymore. The golden boy showed his affections toward humans and quickly became a staff and volunteer favorite but sharing his space and attention with 200 other felines was very stressful for Tiger. Time did not help Tiger adjust to his surroundings and he grew more beastly with his feline housemates.

His nature and noticeably failing health lead to two life-changing occurrences in the spring of 2008. Tiger became the exclusive, spoiled office cat in the newly remodeled from storage to office space in the south end of the shelter and he was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Tiger’s new living accommodations immediately suited him to a tee. He had the human attention and TLC he craved along with the peace of being away from the shelter cats.

In September of 2008, Beauty met the Beast. A gorgeous long hair calico came to a September spay/neuter clinic at the shelter. The unnamed kitty came to us from a small group of cats living outside at an apartment complex in Delaware. The DVM on duty determined the timid female was already spayed and front declawed. We had arranged to give post-op care to the cat for the complex manager and he asked if we could house the cat, now called Princess Nutmeg, for that period because of storm warnings for the week. After a day in a cage, Princess Nutmeg began making her request to roam. It was decided that Princess could have a try at exploring as long as it was not too upsetting for Tiger. You can’t say that it was love at first sight because after all these are cats but Tiger did not mind sharing his space or humans with the gentle-natured Princess. Princess quickly made herself at home. It soon was apparent that the office space and being with Tiger was a better home than a life out on the streets for a princess. Tiger now joins Princess at the bowl as she eats the crunchy kitten food his diet requires and Princess Nutmeg will give gentle licks to the top of Tiger’s head. As the New Year begins, Tiger’s blood work results show that his current course of treatment is keeping the disease from progressing and there is now quite a fondness between Beauty and her former Beast who is now her Prince.
Our Mission

Cat Welfare Association is dedicated to the care of and education about cats and kittens. Our pledge is to cherish, nurture and provide veterinary care for homeless, abused, injured and abandoned felines. We strive to find each cat an appropriate, safe and loving home, allowing those not placed to live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 268-6096
www.catwelfareohio.com

The shelter is open seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (closed the 1st Wednesday of each month)

Adoption fee of $60 for adult cats and $70 for kittens includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations including rabies, testing for feline leukemia and FIV (adults), microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.

The shelter has established an Altering Fund to subsidize spay/neuter surgeries for cat owners with limited incomes. Contact 268-6096 for an application.

Current Board of Directors
RoseAnn Ballangee, President
Sharon Hebenstreit, 1st Vice President
Sheila Zirkle, 2nd Vice President
Kathryn Hart, Corresponding Secretary
Anne Riley, Recording Secretary
Cathi Eisley, Treasurer
Nancy Flanagan, Assistant Treasurer
Rita Burns, Member-at-Large
Joan Derstine, Member-at-Large
Jill Lee, Executive Director

Stories from the sun porch

Hello everyone, this is Della reporting from the shelter! Everyone is anxiously awaiting the outcome of our 2009 Top Cat Election wondering who will get the most votes. I’ve been serving as the Top Cat for quite some time now and it has been a great honor and joy for me to serve my fellow cats and keep all of you informed on what my feline friends have been up to. I know that if Fannie or Frank wins that either one will do a great job and will be sure to share all the news with you. I just wanted to take this opportunity to say thanks for all your support and that I hope you have enjoyed my updates.

I’ve been asked to pass along a special thank you to all our 2008 Cat Welfare volunteers and supporters. We’d also like to thank The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital and The Ohio State University Transportation Department for “adopting” Cat Welfare during the holidays. Thanks also go out to Barnes and Noble at Kingsdale, Lennox and Easton for the opportunity to gift wrap purchases for donations and all the volunteer gift wrappers. A big thank you to the Complete Petmart in Clintonville/Worthington for the opportunity to take pictures of many wonderful pets with Santa. Thanks also go out to Vivian Lermond for her donation of jewelry to be sold to raise funds for the Cat-A-Lack Chow Club - keep an eye out for your chance to purchase the beautiful pieces at upcoming events!

Do you remember the cute photo to the right? It is of some of the Cat Caper 2008 Kids Fun Run winners with our CWA mascot. All the kids at the Cat Caper and at Boo At The Zoo wanted to know what our mascot’s name was. This is where we need your help. So before the redbuds start blooming for this year’s outdoor activities, we’re on a mission to name our furry friend once and for all!

Obviously, we’re looking for a name that expresses the core of who and what we are as an organization. As our friends here have quite a job naming all the cats that pass through our doors, they are having a hard time choosing one special name that represents all of us.

Maybe the name will come from a landmark found around the shelter that we pass by everyday. Everyone has at least one story, memory, or image that might just help produce the winning name. So let’s get naming folks! It’s cold and snowy now, but our spring and summer events are right around the corner. And who knows? There might just be an unexpected lucky charm for the winner! Send your suggestions to: cwashelter@sbcglobal.net and may the best name win!

Hope to see you at the shelter soon and thanks for being my special friend, Della
Direct connect

2008 was a great year for Cat Welfare Association! 895 shelter cats found their forever homes. 1,915 cats were spayed or neutered through our various altering assistance programs...13% more than last year!

Of course, all of this was made possible by all of our tireless volunteers, generous supporters, dedicated staff, and special furry feline friends! In addition, we were very fortunate to partner with several organizations who share our dedication to animals including Animal Outreach, the Humane Society of Delaware County, Colony Cats, SOS Ohio, Save the Wild Side, Capital Area Humane Society, and Cozy Cat Cottage.

We are hoping for another banner year in 2009. Your kindness is needed now more than ever. We hope that you will join us at the Animal Outreach Adopt a Valentine event scheduled for Sunday, February 8 from 1:00 -5:00 PM at Park Your Paws Doggie Daycare (4366 Indianola Avenue). Perhaps your favorite Valentine awaits you at For the Love of Our Cats, our special Valentine’s event on February 14 from 1:00 -3:00 PM. For the first time ever, we will be celebrating Spay/Day USA on February 24th with a spay/neuter clinic and other fun activities. February 28th from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM we will be at the Easton Community booth with a special CWA representative! Please mark March 19 on your calendar and plan to have a wonderful lunch or dinner at the Kenny Road Max & Erma’s with 20% of the proceeds going to Cat Welfare Association!

Thanks to all of you for joining us as we continue our quest to ensure all cats get the lives they so deserve. In the spirit of caring, Jill Lee, Executive Director

For the Love of Our Cats Valentine’s event

Please join us February 14th for a very special Valentine’s Day celebration. The For the Love of Our Cats event will run from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. Spend time sharing your love with our residents, take advantage of special adoption rates, enjoy refreshments and shop for unique gifts that say, “I love you.”

If you are looking for a special gift of love, gift certificates will be available for CWA memberships, Adopt-a-Cage, and Guardian Angel sponsorships. For your cat-loving sweetheart, gift certificates in several denominations will be available that can be redeemed for CWA merchandise such as the 2009 CWA calendar, catnip toys, travel mugs, t-shirts, etc. Gift certificates to the Catique will also be available.

In addition, this will be your final opportunity to vote for Della, the incumbent, Fannie, or Frank as the 2009 Top Cat! The election will end at 2:00 PM and the winner will be crowned at 2:30 PM. We hope to see you there for a fun filled afternoon!

Spay Day USA

The 15th annual Spay Day USA takes place on Tuesday, February 24 with events and activities in honor of Spay Day taking place throughout the month of February. Cat Welfare will be hosting three clinics during the month of February with a goal of altering 100 owned or feral cats. Every year in the United States an estimated 5 million animals lose their lives in shelters. That is one pet life lost every 6.5 seconds. It costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated 2 billion each year to round up, house, euthanize and dispose of homeless animals. The pet overpopulation epidemic is so staggering that for every animal born in the United States to have a home, each and every human being would have to own 6 dogs and 9 cats. You can contribute to our Spay Day efforts by sponsoring the altering of a cat for a low income family. A donation to our altering fund in the amount of $35 will cover the cost of a neuter and a $50 contribution will cover the expense of a spay. T-shirts to show your support of the spay/neuter movement will be available for sale at the shelter or via our website.

2009 Board elections

The Cat Welfare Association’s annual election of Board directors will take place on Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the University District Organization in Room 100. The facility is north of Lane Avenue at 2231 North High Street and parking is available behind the building. To be able to vote you must be a Cat Welfare member for at least one year. Your voice matters in the exciting future of the Cat Welfare Association and we hope to see you at this important meeting!

Help make a kitty an “itty” - spread the word about the importance of spay & neuter!

February is membership renewal month. Please, take a moment and use the form in this newsletter to renew your membership or to become a member.
Bert & Ernie (above photos) were adopted by the Stitt family. “We adopted Donner and Blitzen, who we renamed Bert and Ernie. After losing our Beagle a few years ago, we all really wanted a new pet. After going to several shelters, we finally found the two best cats in the world at Cat Welfare. Ernie (above left) is fearless and will venture to any part of the house even after just being here for two days. Bert (above middle) is more timid and waits on his brother to let him know everything is okay. Thank you Cat Welfare for making the adoption process so simple and keeping a home for Bert and Ernie until we found them.”

Moonlight (photo left) was adopted by the Tijerina family. “First, we want to give a huge thank you to one of your volunteers, Kelly, who actively matched our daughter with Moonlight. They are a purrfect match! Second, we want to just say how grateful we are to Cat Welfare for this little treasure. We adopted Moonlight (his eyes are light moons) Valentine’s week 2008 and he is a pet-me and purr machine, a rag doll allowing my daughter to hold him every minute they can both stand, and he has plenty of kitten in him much to our amusement. Thank you. We came to Cat Welfare every week starting January 2, 2008. We, sadly, just missed out on two other seemingly perfect cats (Holly and Doug), so when Kelly told us about this new little black kit-cat we tried to brace ourselves. But, it only took one visit and we were sure. He played basketball and soccer with a ping-pong ball and did not tire of my daughter’s attention. A match made in heaven. Thank you again.”

We love to see pictures of former Cat Welfare cats in their new, happy homes. Be sure to send us a photo(s) of your special feline(s) soon!
Happy Homes for CWA Cats

Kaspurr (photo left) was adopted by Judy MacNamee. “I adopted Kaspurr in September 2007. I was looking for a playmate for my 5 year old Cockapoo Zoe. He was the first one I picked up and he never stopped purring in my arms. I walked around and walked around and looked and petted many of the other cats but this one just laid there looking up at me with those big eyes while I rubbed his belly! He is the most lovable cat I have had and is so adaptable to any situation. He and Zoe became fast friends and playmates (although Zoe remains Alpha dog). There is a lot of chasing, a lot of loving, and most of all a lot of purring. He was originally named Kaspur but since his “motor” runs so much, his name was changed to Kaspurr! He loves to play with twistie ties, watch all the birds and rabbits from his cat tree, and as you can see is quite helpful with the bills and paperwork. Thank you for all you do and for bringing the “little gladiator” to my home.”

Callie (photo right) lives with the Rumpff family. “We adopted Callie in the spring of 2003. She was a special adoption because she was a very anxious kitty and she preferred to stay back in the corner by the sink. We were even advised not to adopt her but we loved her so much and we wanted to give her a good home. We renamed her Caliente, and we still call her Callie sometimes, and sometimes we call her Ente. She answers to both. It took her awhile to warm up to us, but eventually she came around and now she even rubs up against us and allows us to pet her. She plays with her calico sister Prudence a lot. We also catch her playing with various toys from time to time, and her favorite treat is catnip. She still will not allow us to hold her or pick her up, but she shows her love in so many other ways. She even naps with Mommy as long as Daddy isn’t in bed too! We still hope that one day she will overcome her remaining fears and want to be a lapcat! One of our favorite sounds is her loud purr, which always greets us and tells us she loves us even if we can’t hold her and snuggle with her. Her favorite place is on our bed and I’ve even caught her under the covers once! We love Callie very much and are so very happy Cat Welfare allowed her to come live with us. We believe she is very happy and nowhere near as anxious or scared as she once was.”

Send your “Happy Homes” photo(s) and short story (200 words or less if possible) to the editor at “Happy Homes” c/o Cat Welfare; 741 Wetmore Road; Columbus, OH 43214, or online at catwelfarecats@yahoo.com. View these and many more “Happy Homes” stories on our web site: www.catwelfareohio.com.
Alvin (photo left) was adopted by the Stamm family. “Thanks so much for allowing Alvin (formerly Leon, lower part of photo) to go home with us. He has become fast friends with our 9 year old cat Simone (top part of photo) and she has a new pep in her step chasing him all around the house (when he’s not chasing her that is)! Our little Maggie loves how he will let her pull and tug at his fur without so much as a snip. He scoots away as soon as she lets go though! And his favorite sleeping spot is on my husband! We are so happy he found us! Thanks to all of you. Keep up the great work.”

Abbey (middle photo) posing like the original Marilyn Monroe photograph lives with Bill & Mary Carpenter.

Junior & Jimmy (lower right photo) live with the Zoundas family. “These two additions, Junior & Jimmy, from Cat Welfare have added such havoc and laughs at the Zoundas house. The “boys” have been accepted by the three “old girls” (cats) and a ten year old Doberman (named Tille). Junior, the tuxedo, has a fondness for Tille and is always trying to rub her face and lay on the sofa with her. I’m not sure how Tille feels about this closeness, but she allows it. This photo is one of my favorites. They have brought such fun to my house!”

For more Happy Homes stories, visit our website at: www.catwelfareohio.com
Izzy (photo left) lives with Mark Jones. “Izzy was adopted December 2, 2007. Her new home is with myself, Mark Jones. I recently had moved to Columbus bringing Smokey, my pal of 16.5 years. In early November, Smokey developed heart problems and, reluctantly, had to be put to sleep. Anyone who has ever had to do this knows what a difficult and heart wrenching experience this can be. After a month of grieving over my loss, a friend took me to Cat Welfare to find another companion. I was looking for a new friend who enjoyed being petted, brushed, and loved...when I took Izzy out of the cage, she instantly crawled into my arms and laid her head on my shoulder. Izzy has since adjusted well to her new home and unconditional love! Thank you Cat Welfare for rescuing Izzy!! She has been eating as much as I can feed her and continues to gain weight (as she was a little skinny).”

Henry & Mary (photo right) were adopted by the Miller family. “We keep reminiscing about the happy day we found these two wonderful littermates at Cat Welfare. We had come in with the hope of finding one good match for our family, which we did almost immediately. But Earl’s littermate, Stormy, started crying as soon as he was taken from their cage. He was crying back to her from his go-home box, too. It really tugged at our heartstrings. We just had to take them both home together. It’s one of the best decisions we ever made. We love them so much, and as you can see they love each other very much, too. Now known as Henry & Mary, they are the focus of love and attention from our whole family.”

Thanks for adopting from Cat Welfare!
Can’t adopt? Come and visit our feline friends - they love the extra attention.
CWA 2010 CAT CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

Would your kitty like to be famous? Well, actually would YOU like your kitty to be famous? Cat Welfare invites you to submit your best photo(s) of your favorite kitties. If your photo is chosen, it will be published in the CWA 2010 Calendar which will be on sale this fall!

CONTEST RULES:

- Photos should be in color, printed on professional photo paper, and at least 4” x 6”. Be sure your photo is focused and of good quality. If your picture is blurry, then it is not likely to be selected for the calendar.
- The contest is open to everyone. You can submit as many entries as you want, provided you pay the entry fee for each photo. Photos may be taken from any place or time, but the subject must be a cat(s). Other animals may be in the photo. Sorry, no humans allowed in the photo.
- You must own the rights to the photo. Photos that have appeared in Cat Welfare’s newsletter (the Feline Forum) or in the photo collages in the front or back of our previous calendars are eligible provided they have not been published elsewhere.
- A panel of judges selected by the Cat Welfare Association will determine the winning photos and their decision is final. Winners will be notified via the CWA Fall Newsletter.
- You must complete and sign the below release statement granting Cat Welfare Association the rights to use your photo(s). You may submit your entry in person or mail it to the shelter. **Entry form(s) must be received before June 30, 2009 to be eligible for the contest.** Please, be sure to attach a detailed caption and/or story (150 words or less) along with each photo.

Your Name: ___________________________ Kitty’s Name: ___________________________

Street: ______________________________ City, State, Zip: ___________________________

Daytime Phone: ______________________ E-mail: ________________________________

Photo Title: ___________________________ Photographer’s Name: _______________________

Number of photos enclosed: _________ Entry Fee enclosed: ___________ ($10 for each photo)

I heard about your contest from __________________________ I obtained my entry form from __________________________

I have the original negative or digital file for this photo: yes no

By signing, I accept the below disclaimer

Signature: ______________________________

MAIL TO: Cat Welfare, Attn: Calendar Contest
741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214

Disclaimer: By submitting this photo(s), you agree to transfer to Cat Welfare Association (CWA) all rights to the photo(s) without license, limitation, or compensation. All submitted photos are property of CWA, who may do with the photo(s) what they please. If you want the photo returned, you must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your photo. CWA is not responsible for any errors, loss or damage regarding the photo entry/entries. All contestants agree to release and hold harmless CWA, all sponsors, and representatives from all claims or actions, they, their heirs, executors or assigns may have arising directly or indirectly from the contest. Winners consent to the use of their name, for advertising and publicity purposes without compensation.
Cat Welfare Association Membership Application

YES! I want to become a member of the Cat Welfare Association!
Enclosed is my tax deductible membership gift of:

____ Individual ($20/year) ______ Family ($35/year) ______ Senior 60+ ($5/year) ______
Lifetime ($200 one-time gift) ______ Business ($100/year)

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______ Zip: ____________

Phone: (____) __________________ E-mail: ____________________________

Please return this form and payment to:
Cat Welfare Association - 741 Wetmore Road - Columbus, Ohio 43214

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promotions via email.
Introducing some cats who are not the best at “selling” themselves to potential adopters who visit Cat Welfare. Stop in and visit these wonderful cats who are available for adoption and would love to have someone pick them and give them a happy home.

Kelly (above photo, #30046), a longhaired Calico, was dropped on our doorstep in July of last year. One look at her angelic face and you won’t be able to imagine why or how. She loves attention and enjoys being brushed, especially when she can have you all to herself for more than a quick minute, so she’ll be an excellent choice as an affection bug. Kelly is about 2 years old and has been in the shelter long enough to develop a bit of sinusitis that will require some time and extra care to overcome, but when you meet her you’ll see that she’s worth every effort. Kelly is also a feline who prefers a solitary environment, so if you don’t see her on the floor when you come in to visit, ask someone from our staff to go in the back and find her for you. Everybody can stand to be touched by an angel now and again, and she could use a touch from you, too.

Charles (above photo, #28605) is usually on the go. Unlike some of the cats who stay in one room (or even one corner) most of the day, Charles can be found strutting around almost any area of the shelter, almost any time of our open hours. Named after Charlie Chaplin, this star would do best as the only cat in the household. He does tend to get jealous quickly here at the shelter if a cat steps in his spotlight. One of our veteran “cat whisperers”, Donna, calls him “Cha-Cha” for short and swears that he answers to the sound of his name. Charles is active and healthy and would do well in a family without small children.

Whether by blind luck or chance, Cinderella (photo right, #22626) was as aptly named as a cat could be. Sitting on her throne is her favorite activity (which might at least partially account for her girth of 13 pounds), but she’s equally happy when a human “vassal” stops by to say hello and pat her head. She loves attention, especially when it’s uninterrupted by other cats. She is declawed, so we would recommend a sole indoor environment, but her temperament is conducive to this arrangement, regardless. Her only real issue is her desire to be a single cat in a single pet home. Cinderella would be perfect for either a retiree or an active, busy professional as she demands less than she gives in return.
**Important Shelter Information**

In 2008, we **adopted 895 cats** into loving homes and **subsidized 1,915 spay and neuter surgeries** through our various Altering Fund programs.

**Interested in volunteering** for Cat Welfare? Call or mail your name and contact information to the shelter, or send a message to Gail Harbert, volunteer coordinator, at cwavvolunteers@gmail.com.

**Catique Corner:**
Thanks to the Catique volunteers and supporters for a record breaking 2008 and we are looking forward to a fabulous 2009! Frustrated about what to get your feline fanatical sweetheart for Valentine’s Day? How about a beautiful piece of jewelry or a one of a kind collectible? Still not sure? The Catique is also offering gift certificates that can be used for any merchandise in the Catique!

The **“Catique”** (aka garage sale) is in need of **clean, gently used items for resale.** This includes (but is not limited to) clothing (in season), books, house wares, collectibles, linens, and gift items. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept computers, exercise equipment or other large, heavy items. We are also always looking for friendly faces to volunteer.

**Shelter Wish List:**
Cat toys and furniture, brown paper bags, Windex, clean newspapers, clean towels, clay litter, dryer sheets, bleach, liquid dishwashing soap, instant hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, laundry detergent, stainless steel Chore Boy scrubbies, and Mr. Clean with Febreze. Re-carpeting of our scratching post/perch in the main adoption room and puppy pads/Chux pads.
Punkin (#28495) - It’s the great Punkin! All 17 pounds of him! If you’ve been looking for that lap cat that just doesn’t stop cuddling, look no further. Punkin is a yellow tiger that is about three years old and is an all-American couch potato who couldn’t be more friendly. Maybe because of his girth and maybe because he’d just rather have all the attention to himself, Punkin is probably best in a single cat home environment. Territorial issues have kept him from staying adopted in the past, but you’d never guess it holding him in your arms! Whether you’re reading the Sunday paper in bed or looking out the window together watching the world go by, this guy is the definition of what good company is all about. Stop by the shelter to give him a pat on his back or to share a moment with him and see why we see him as the center stage cat he was born to be.

Visit other Special Adoptions cats online at www.catwelfareohio.com.