

Feline Forum

The Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

April/May 2020

Make Our Wish List Come True



For the safety of those who care for the cats, the decision was made to close our doors to the public on March 16. Our dedicated staff is taking every measure possible to protect their health and the health of their fellow staff members so our residents can receive the highest quality of care.

We are so grateful to those kind folks who have offered to foster. We've seen several fosters that have since turned into adoptions! Adoptions have also been granted to those who met their match prior to March 16.

In the last couple weeks, many generous souls have sent items from our Amazon Wish List to help us keep things running smoothly. If you'd like to contribute, visit our Wish List at amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/16SPHH93DJRLT. You can also pick up items from the list in the pink box below and drop them off outside the shelter doors between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily. Staff will make sure they are brought inside.

While we all wait for these difficult days to pass, make sure to catch a daily glimpse of the reason you support our mission by following us on Facebook at facebook.com/catwelfareassoc.



Shelter Wish List

- Purina Cat Chow
- Purina Kitten Chow
- Moist cat food
- Gerber baby food in meat flavors
- Paper towels
- Paper grocery sacks
- Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Postage stamps
- 8.5"x11" copy paper

Our Mission

The 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

catwelfareassoc.org

facebook.com/catwelfareassoc

Hours

11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday, Thursday, Friday,
Saturday & Sunday

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday

(Closed the first Thursday of each month and all major holidays)

The adoption fee of \$20 (\$10 for senior cats) includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations, testing for feline leukemia and FIV, microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.



Board of Directors

President: RoseAnn Ballangee

Vice President: Karen Ramey

Recording Secretary: Brenda Martin

Sue Godsey • Claudia Plumley • Katie Thomas

Treasurer: Judy Vertikoff

Saying Farewell to Guardian Angel Chico

It is with a heavy heart that we share our news of Guardian Angel Chico's passing. Chico's dear friends, Krystal and Linda, were with him at the end.

Chico arrived at our shelter in January 2017. After being returned three times, he became a sanctuary resident and would represent the shelter with off-site appearances. Gentle in his nature, Chico quietly sought out attention and affection. His presence will be greatly missed.

We also want to express our gratitude to all who cherished Chico through our Guardian Angel program.



Wanted: Catnip Gardeners

Is the warmer weather inspiring you to begin planning your garden? Would you consider planting catnip to benefit the cats and kittens in our care? The plant is a hardy perennial, and seeds are inexpensive! Just grow them until the flower buds appear, then cut them and bring them into the shelter in paper bags. It's an easy way to help with this ongoing fundraiser. In 2019 our volunteer-created catnip toys raised nearly \$4,000 for our mission.



Foster Program Connects Volunteers with Kittens in Need

An interview by Kitty Stevens



For decades, Cat Welfare has run a foster program to help give kittens a good start in life. The program relies on the help of volunteers to handle the overwhelming number of kittens the shelter receives each year. Rose-Ann Ballangee, long-time volunteer and the current board president of The Cat Welfare Association, shares an inside look at the program.

What is Cat Welfare's foster care program, and how did it get started?

This program was started to take care of all the kittens coming into the shelter. There are so many of them, and they can't survive in the shelter when they're that young because they're so susceptible to illness. This program helps connect kittens with volunteers who take care of them until they're old enough.

How many kittens are a part of the foster care program at one time?

In the summer, we can have anywhere from 300-400 kittens come through. That's why our volunteers' help is so important.

How do volunteers get involved?

Before starting to foster, volunteers will go through a training process to learn how to take care of the kittens. Then after they've started, there is a network of us to help with questions or issues that come up. One of us has most likely dealt with the problem before, so we can offer advice and help.

What can volunteers expect when they start fostering?

Cat Welfare really sets up volunteers for success. We provide the food, litter and whatever the volunteer needs. If the kitten gets sick, the shelter will get them an appointment with one of our vets.

How long is a foster period?

It depends on what the volunteer wants to do. The kittens come back to the shelter when they're eight to 10 weeks old. Some people will care for the neonatal kittens that are one to three weeks old. This is the hardest. I've had to get up every two hours to feed the babies each night, and they need constant supervision. Other people like to care for the ones that are at least four to five weeks old and can eat by themselves, and others still will care for even older kittens.

Can anyone volunteer to be a foster parent?

Anyone can foster, but if, say, you work a full-time job, you would want to take the older kittens that can eat on their own. We fit the foster parents to the kittens.

If someone can't foster but wants to help the kittens, what can they do?

Every year we have a kitten shower. It's like a baby shower. People bring in all kinds of supplies like kitten food, blankets, beds, toys, litter and KMR (a milk supplement). People are so generous to us. Those supplies are given to the foster parents to help them care for the kittens.

Watch our website and Facebook page for more information about our virtual kitten shower.

CWA Happy Homes



Walter & Jessie are brothers and were in a cage together. I saw Walter's nose (right), and we were done looking. Walter is sweet and gentle. Jessie is an extrovert and loves to head-butt. They chase each other around the house (usually Jessie chasing Walter). They will go to the exact same spot and

sit to patiently wait for a treat. We can't imagine our lives without them.

Nan & Mike



Ofie lived in the shelter for two years because she was always hiding. While she is still shy around strangers, she has warmed up to others. Now she greets her mom when she comes home late, and they watch TV and nap together. Now her mom can't even go to the bathroom without Ofie demanding attention.

Erica



I adopted Ms. **Roxy** from the shelter on June 9, 2017. Roxy was just nine weeks old at the time! She is such a spoiled little girl. As soon as I approached her cage and held my finger to it, she nudged me with her head. This little girl was not shy! At that moment I knew she was the one for me. Her distinguished markings caught my attention, and I just fell in love with her. Roxy really

loves playing with her toys, and let's not forget she loves to chase them all throughout the home! She really enjoys sunbathing and cuddling. I'm so grateful to have an amazing companion like Roxy!

Angelica



I had recently moved away from home and missed having animals around, so I went to the shelter looking to find a new companion. I went through every cat, and **Mango** was the VERY last one I saw in a cage in the corner. I reached my hand in to pet her, and I could tell she was scared, but she immediately began licking my hand. I was sold from that moment on. She is a VERY shy cat and it took her a while to warm up to me, but after she did she began to sleep next to me every night and greet me when I came home. She still has a problem with meeting new people, but she's the sweetest cat. It's now more than a year later, and I can still say that she puts a smile on my face, even though her favorite hobby is meowing in my ear at 3 in the morning. I'm fairly certain I know now why she was named Mao Mao at the shelter!

Alexis



Thank you so much to The Cat Welfare Association! After having my former kitten adoption end with an unfortunate and untimely death from FIP, I was leery and hyper-sensitive regarding my new adoption. The people at Cat Welfare were helpful and understanding. After working through a couple

of small health issues, our little **Nego** is happy, healthy and, as you can see, has fit in quite well in his new home with his older sister Tatiana. When Nego isn't playing on his cat tree, sunning himself in the window, or licking his bowl clean, he enjoys snuggling up with Tatiana. And she seems happy with the company. She especially likes it when he takes to massaging her with his kneading paws. Thank you again for the wonderful addition to our family. He is a joy.

Rebecca Wolfrum



In May of 2017, we went to Cat Welfare looking for a new kitty. We had our last baby for 17 years. Much to our luck, we found our **Delilah**. She had been at Cat Welfare for a long time and was in need of a family. We were meant to be together! She was shy at first but is now making herself right at home with us. She loves to play with her mice and especially loves looking out the window at all the birds and dogs in the neighborhood. We are so happy to have her in our lives. She is truly a lovey.

Rob & Kathy



After finding out I had thyroid cancer and taking time off work, I was bored and needed a friend. **Spice** is the best thing that has happened to me. She lifts my spirits. I believe I'm cancer free because of her company and love. Having a lack of thyroid makes me tired, but she gives me life.

Ashley



Franki is so easy going and laid back, she fits into our family perfectly. She even loves cuddling and playing with her Goldendoodle brother, Graham. So glad she's ours.

Claudia & Cole

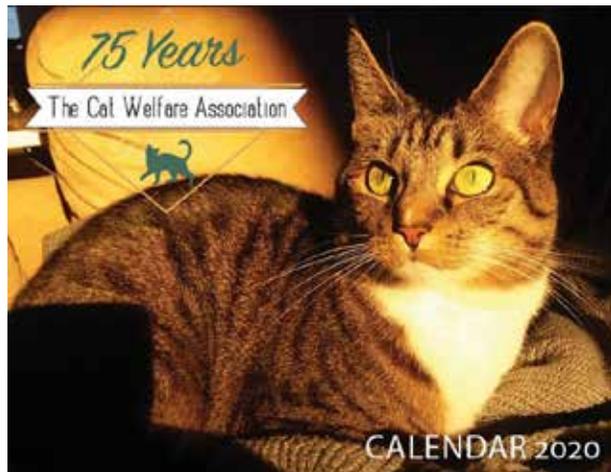
Got a Happy Homes story?
Upload it at [catwelfareassoc.org/
share-your-happy-home-story](http://catwelfareassoc.org/share-your-happy-home-story)
or mail it to Cat Welfare, 741
Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH
43214.

Cat Welfare: 2021 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 2021 Calendar, which will be on sale this fall before November 1st.

CONTEST RULES:

- 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 larger the JPG file size, the better the quality.
- The contest is open to everyone. You can submit as many entries as you want, provided you pay the \$10 entry fee for each photo. Photos may be taken from any place or time, but the subject must be a cat. 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 CWA's *Feline Forum* Newsletter or in previous calendars are eligible, provided they have not been published elsewhere.
- Voting will be performed online at: <http://www.catwelfareassoc.org/> beginning in April. You, your friends, and family may vote as many times for each photo you like. You must purchase a minimum of 5 votes for a \$5 donation to support CWA. Forward your pet's CWA photo page to your friends and family and then ask them to donate to vote for your pet!
- A panel of judges selected by the Cat Welfare Association will determine 10 winning photos from the top 20 photos with the most votes, as well as 3 photos chosen from all entries. The CWA judge's decisions are final. Winners will be announced online at catwelfareassoc.org on August 15.
- To enter the contest, starting in April, follow the steps at <http://www.catwelfareassoc.org/> by uploading your JPG format photo and vote for your favorite entries. You may also enter by mailing in this form. **Entry form(s) must be postmarked and electronic entries must be submitted before June 30, 2020. Voting for the contest ends at midnight EST on Friday, July 31, 2020. Be sure to include a 150 word story or description all about your cat's rescue, adoption or favorite things to do, along with each photo.**



Your Name: _____ Cat's Name: _____

Street: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Photo Title: _____ Photographer's Name: _____

150 word story (include on separate piece of paper) _____

Number of photos enclosed: _____ Entry Fee enclosed: _____ (\$10 for each photo)

By signing, I accept the below disclaimer

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

Signature: _____

Disclaimer: By submitting this photo(s), you agree to transfer to The 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.

We Love Our Donors

Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

Darin & Teresa Plummer "In loving memory of Louis Crazyman Plummer"

Mary & Jim Hope "In memory of Mary Jane Ryan, from all the staff at Cat Welfare"

Kristin Mihoci "In memory of Biscuits "Ralph" Mihoci"

Douglas Hoke, Ashley Pittman, & Joe Petrucci "In memory of Justin Stepp"

Janice & Jerry Noltemeyer "All our kitties present & past"

Lynne Corbin "In memory of Sandy Corbin"

Jennifer Owen & Leigh Johnson "For Devan's 4th birthday"

Beth Cunningham "Mr. Tibbs"

Susan Lapp "In memory of Sharon Bischoff"

Richard & Lynne McWherter "In honor of Martita Dougherty"

Vanja & Howard Mosley "In memory of Janet Mosley"

Michelle Davis, Barbara Moseley and Ruby Leftwich

Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

Annie Lach, Craig Lewis "In memory of Simon," Steven Puckett, Patricia Sweeney, Edwin & Ulla Wagers, Penny Popper, Holly Burkhard and Ramona Sietsma

Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Linda Schellkopf, Leon & Patricia Cohan, Jr., Gail Kalbus, Kristin Mihoci, Janice & Jerry Noltemeyer,

er, Irina & Boris Pittel, Patty & Robert Dale, Marjorie Obrist, Betty Maynard, Molly Watts "In memory of Ivan," and Annette McClure

Joey's Good Sam Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Randall Hertzner "In memory of Doug Buhner and Jasmine Boots," Kathryn Hess "In memory of Simone Sez," Deborah Hunter, Kristin Mihoci, Tracey Larue, Camille Brubaker, and Elizabeth Garster "In loving memory of Rugby, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on March 3, 2020"

Willard's Village Babies Fund

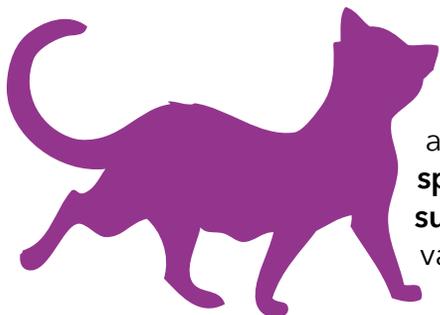
for care of feral cat colonies

Juanita Woods "In memory of our beloved tuxedo girl Lola, who died January 10, 2013 - always in our hearts," Annie Lach, Charles & Marcia Dunlop "In memory of Marty Montgomery," Deborah Hunter, Anne Riley "In memory of Mary Jane Ryan," Juanita Woods "In memory of Willard," and Richard Austin

Cat-A-Lack Chow Club

for food for the shelter residents

Leslie Bothast, Craig Lewis "In memory of Micah & Sara," Joe Sharick "In honor of Lilly, Leonard, and Nyota," Deborah Hunter, Kirsten Osborn, Cecilia Donohue "In memory of Mary Flickinger," and Betty Maynard



From January through February 2020, we **adopted 151 cats** into loving homes and **subsidized 334 spay and neuter surgeries** through our various Altering Fund programs.

NOTICE: There will be no Board meetings in April or May 2020.



Feline Forum

April/May 2020

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS, OH
PERMIT NO. 407

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214

www.catwelfareassoc.org

Incorporated Under Law: As a non-profit, charitable organization

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Shelter Wish List

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