

Feline Forum

The Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

August/September 2020

FIV+ Cats Have So Much Love to Give

Cats with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus typically don't have needs that are much different from any other cat. They should be kept indoors, eat a good, healthy diet and have as little stress as possible. Since FIV is transmitted only through deep, penetrating bite wounds and blood transfusions, FIV+ cats can easily live in a home with FIV- cats. All cats in the household should have regular vet visits for their own health and to protect the health of the FIV+ kitty, since his or her immune system can have a harder time fighting off infections. Read about two of our FIV+ residents below, then make an appointment to come and see them. Find out more about our shelter visitation guidelines on page 2.



Boris

Boris' Story: When I arrived at CWA in December 2019, I was feeling poorly. I had been on the street for some time, and it was taking a toll. I had tummy issues, and my teeth were in bad shape. Lucky for me, a Good Sam took the time to rescue me and get me here so I could be saved! I received a warm, safe place to sleep, medication and a good diet to relieve my digestive issues. After my respite care, I was ready for a dental cleaning. By early February I felt like a new kitty. My pain was gone, and it was time to make some friends. Life on the streets has made me a bit wary, so I need a forever human who can give me time to acclimate. In return for your patience, I do solemnly swear to purr loudly, snuggle often and let you know every day that you are loved.

Nugget's Story: It's hard to believe I've been a shelter resident for more than six months now. While I have greatly appreciated having my injured leg tended to and making some special human and feline friends here, I am very interested in this thing referred to as a "forever home." I happen to be an FIV+ kitty, which means that I have a decreased immune system. I don't need special food or medicine, and humans and dogs cannot catch what I have. The staff would like you to know that I am healthy and keep myself well groomed. Additionally, I am outgoing and not a lazy fella, as I always rise with a greeting when someone enters my room. I sure do enjoy being petted or playing with a feather toy! So if you have some time and you're thinking about a forever friend, please do come in for a visit. I look forward to making your acquaintance.



Nugget

Members: Vote in the Board Election

This year, The Cat Welfare Association's Board election will be held by mail rather than in person. If you are at least 18 years of age and have been a paid member of The Cat Welfare Association for at least 12 months preceding September 2020, you are eligible to vote. To vote, cut out this ballot and send the completed form to CWA Board Election, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214. **Please write your name and address on the envelope so that your voting privileges can be verified before the ballots are opened and counted on September 15, 2020.** Processes are in place to ensure the confidentiality of your vote. Votes must be received no later than September 11, 2020.

Please select up to FIVE:

- Heidi Garinger
- Sue Godsey
- Brenda Martin
- Jennifer Parker
- Teresa Plummer
- Katie Thomas

Need help deciding? Candidate statements can be found on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter, and the candidates' full Board applications can be found at catwelfareassoc.org/board.

Make an Appointment to Visit CWA

Our shelter is open and operating under the following guidelines to keep everyone safe:

- Prior to making an appointment to visit the shelter, potential adopters must submit a completed application to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214 or cwashedelter@yahoo.com. The adoption application can be found on our website under the "Adopt" tab.
- When the application is approved, potential adopters will be contacted to schedule an appointment.
- Potential adopters must limit their group to no more than three people. Masks are required for entry into the shelter *without exception*. Cat Welfare will not provide masks. No more than two potential adopters (up to three people per group) will be permitted at the same time.
- All visitors must wear gloves that will be provided by Cat Welfare.
- Six feet of social/physical distancing is required.
- Appointments should not be scheduled if the potential adopter has traveled outside of Ohio in the last 14 days. Potential adopters who are feeling ill or exhibiting any signs or symptoms of illness are asked to reschedule their appointments.

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

The Cat Welfare Association is currently open by appointment only. Masks are required for entry, without exception.

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

Get Cozy with a Colorful Cat Quilt



Quilt Raffle Ticket Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

Phone _____

Number of Tickets _____

Total Cost _____
(\$5 per ticket, \$20 for 5)

Mail to: Cat Welfare, Attn: Quilt Raffle
741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214

This spectacular lap quilt was made by Judy Vertikoff to help raise funds for CWA! It measures 51" x 62". Tickets will be available from August 1 through October 15 by mail and online at catwelfareassoc.org/raffle. We will draw the name of the lucky winner on October 16 at noon. You need not be present to win.



Pay a Visit to The Catique

Our resale shop, The Catique, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday each week. Stop by and find some good deals!

1005 Mediterranean Ave., in the Busch Boulevard Centre

Scheduled Storewide Sales:

August 13-15	50% off
September 3-5	70% off
September 17-19	50% off

Get to Know Your Board Candidates

To help mail-in voters get to know the CWA members running to serve on the shelter's Board, we asked the candidates to submit answers to two questions in 250 words or less:

- Why do you want to serve on the Board?
- What skills do you bring to the table to help The Cat Welfare Association?

Their answers are below. Find instructions for voting on page 2 of this newsletter. The candidates' completed applications can be found at catwelfareassoc.org/board.

Heidi Garinger

I have been a volunteer at Cat Welfare since October 2014. Pre-COVID, I was there every Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. My time is primarily spent in the shy cat room and with any cat deemed shy that might be elsewhere and needs socialization. Volunteering started as a way to get out of the house and developed into a real passion for "my shy cats." I run a silly YouTube channel for them and love nothing more than seeing a cat I've worked so hard with on the adoption board. Joining the Board seems like the natural next step. Cat Welfare is my favorite place, and I want to be a part of making sure it is around for another 75 years. I have ideas around the Shy Cat Room reading program, member engagement, social media outreach, donor outreach, etc., all with the end goal of strengthening the shelter and its presence as a vital part of the community. I am excited about the prospect of expansion and willing to challenge myself to engage in fundraising. My main skillset would be my background in market research. I've worked in the industry since 1999 and can use what I've learned to help solicit info from and craft messaging to members and donors. My passion for the cats and the shelter is my real driving force, and I believe it shines through. I'm willing to learn grant writing and additional skills to expand our social media outreach.

Sue Godsey

As a board member seeking re-election, I see myself as a caretaker of our organization and, most importantly, our cats. CWA has many good programs that benefit our shelter residents and community cats. We have a wonderful shelter, a place of safety and comfort for the abused and abandoned strays that come to us. It is my wish to continue, as we have more work to do. If I am not re-elected, I will continue to participate as I do now, to help as many of our residents find homes as I can. P.S. Thanks to all the gardeners who have donated catnip to the catnippers. It is appreciated VERY MUCH!

Brenda Martin

I have been a Cat Welfare volunteer for over 20 years. During that time, I have assisted with numerous projects, including chairperson of the Community Outreach Committee, Community Resources representative, Catique volunteer and foster "mom" for our kittens. I have helped care for local feral cats. I helped create a gift wrapping program for Barnes and Noble bookstores, including spending many hours at the stores, not only wrapping books, but using the opportunity to educate the public about Cat Welfare.

I am a retired social worker. My entire career was spent in the nonprofit world. I was primarily a clinician working with children, adolescents and families. I have also worked in administration in public mental health services.

I feel very passionate about our mission at Cat Welfare. I want to help in any way that I can.

Jennifer Parker

Hello! My involvement with CWA began when I adopted my very first cat in August 1989. She changed my life! Since then, I have been involved in various capacities, including by serving on the Board of Directors when the organization moved to its current location in 1999. That was a very exciting time. I have also served on numerous committees (the most recent being the Bylaws Revision Task Force and the 75th Anniversary Planning Committee) and on the Feline Wine and Dine fundraising team. CWA has consistently provided a vital service to this community, ever growing in its mission and purpose. In this, its 75th year, I believe it is important to review where we — as an organization — have been and to begin setting goals and objectives for the future. As a recently retired staff attorney with the State of Ohio, I am hoping to serve once again in a greater leadership capacity. I feel expanding our low-cost spaying and neutering efforts should be a priority. Sadly, as we are all well aware, no cat shelter will ever be big enough if we do not tackle pet overpopulation. I would also like to explore how more staff support (in the areas of marketing, development and event planning) could help us better engage volunteers and expand CWA's presence in Central Ohio. After all, it really is all about the cats!

Teresa Plummer

I am honored to be considered for a position on the Board of Directors and hope that you will consider me a good choice for the role. Professionally, I am a teacher at a small two-year college. Although I love my work, one of the greatest joys of my life has been serving as a volunteer at Cat Welfare. My husband and I began volunteering a few years ago, and each time we visit we fall in love with a new feline friend (or two, or three ... or 12). Although we love all aspects of Cat Welfare, we are especially fond of spending time in the rooms for the shy cats, FIV+, and FeLV+ kitties.

Resources are never sufficient to do everything that the shelter wants and needs to do, and that's where I believe that I can be of the greatest service. As a member of the Board of Directors, I would like to begin my tenure with three plans: 1. Help write grants to bring more money into the shelter; 2. Brainstorm new ideas for fundraising. I already have a few ideas that can be done virtually in hopes that we can get people involved even during the pandemic; 3. Recruit the younger generation to help with and participate in Cat Welfare events, activities, and volunteerism.

Regardless of the outcome of this election, I will always be a strong supporter of Cat Welfare. I hope that I can earn your vote.

Katie Thomas

Cat Welfare plays an important part in our community, and I want to help continue to drive the mission of Cat Welfare and help the organization flourish. I have served on the board for one year and on the marketing committee for six years. I realize this makes me more a newbie volunteer in terms of time because we have so many amazing, long-time, dedicated volunteers. However, it also gives me an "outsider" perspective to look at the ways we have done things, how we can improve upon them and present new ideas. I take pride in my ability to bring innovative ideas and strategic thinking to the table, making sure that resources are allocated appropriately to what best serves the mission of the organization. In addition, I have 15+ years in marketing and communications. This experience has helped provide counseling, strategy and data insights to the organization. I look forward to helping the organization in any capacity this year.

CWA Happy Homes



Foster is going on three years in his new home in Marysville. He is a big fan of our three kids and his new buddy **Natty**, formerly known as Brenda when she was adopted from Cat Welfare in 2013. There are many more fun years to come.

Alex & Tara



When I adopted **Sophie**, she was a timid little kitty who had just had her tail amputated. Only four or five hours after I took her home, she began to act affectionate and has since become a clingy and very affectionate cat towards me. I've had her for about a year and a half now. She's doubled in size and healed from her surgery perfectly, and she gets along just fine with the other cat in my household.



Emma



I got **Mr. Henry B. White** 10 years ago from Cat Welfare after one of my two cats passed away. My other cat was so lonely, so I went in seeking a companion for him. I very much succeeded, and I got the best companion for myself as well. My cat Wilber immediately liked Henry. How could you not? He's the most charismatic, silly, funny, sweet and loving creature. He has so many fans out there. Anyone

who steps into my house ends up loving him. He makes me laugh on a daily basis and sleeps next to me every night. I got so lucky finding this guy.

Rachel

I adopted **Lucien** in November 2015 when he was 3 months old. He's my first cat and has always been a little ball of energy and love. He likes to cuddle, watch the snow fall, and meow a LOT. Adopting Lu is one of the best things I've ever done. He really means the world to me.

Kim



I adopted **Bacall** four years ago, and she has made our house a home. She has so much spirit and personality that no day is ever boring. She loves cuddling in odd positions and chasing after her canine roommate.

Libby Baldwin

Got a Happy Homes story? Upload it at catwelfareassoc.org or mail it to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214.

We Love Our Donors

Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

William Hout "In memory of Doug Buhner"
Ann & Dan McDowell "Isabelle & Maude"
Judy Hardy "In loving memory of Ozzy"
Richard & Lynne McWherter "In memory of Sugar"
Julie Christopher "In memory of Jean Holland"
Richard Austin "In memory of Spot"
Darin & Teresa Plummer "In loving memory of Louis Crazyman Plummer"
James Innis "In honor of Bittersweet, you were my first and last chance. Thanks for being the best cat ever."
Michael Mathy, Laura Lyle, Rebecca Salt, Todd Loftus, Rob Aitken, Jan Ellison, Jodi Brown, Maura Maloney, Joan Wehrle, & Alyssa Shepherd "In memory of Nick Ridolfo"
Anna Teichmoeller "In memory of Cat Welfare adoptees: Ziggy & Lulu"
Nancy & Paul Bohn "In memory of the Miller family's cat Fannie"
Lisa Leaper, Linda Zoundas, Penny Popper, Barbara Bates, Steven Puckett, Janice & Dan Bailey
Irina & Boris Pittel and Richard Austin

Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

Annie Lach, Marla Raffield, Joyce Evans "In memory of Elaine Oelker," Michelle Cour, Carol Williamson, and William Hout "In memory of Doug Buhner"

Joey's Good Sam Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Randall Hertzner "In memory of Doug Buhner and Jasmine Boots," Grace Schillinger, John Colvin Family "In celebration of Deborah Hunter's birthday" and Calvin Taylor

Willard's Village Babies Fund

for care of feral cat colonies

Juanita & Rita Woods "In memory of brave Willard," Annie Lach, Juanita & Rita Woods "In memory of Chico," Lisa Leaper, Juanita & Rita Woods "In memory of Bosworth (died Tuesday, June 25, 2002) we will always remember you," Deanna Vaughn "Memorial contribution for Jan Puchan," Nabeel Khoury, and Anne Riley & Wilma Wabnitz "In memory of Zoie Smith"

Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Linda Schellkopf, Steven Puckett, Janice & Dan Bailey, Carol Daniels, Anonymous, Michael Reagan, Judy Rollins, Marjorie Obrist and Gail Kalbus

Cat-A-Lack Chow Club

for food for the shelter residents

Leslie Bothast, Terena Wells "In memory of my Gma, Elizabeth Moore," Claire Smith, Darin & Teresa Plummer, Richard Flint and William Leatherwood



Comet joined our home in November 2017 after we lost our cat Hash in July. I wasn't sure we were ready for a new cat, but Comet has been a great addition to our family and he loves his best friend, our dog, Cooper. Thank you for showing us we were ready for another cat.

Chris, Brandy & Celeste



Emily has lived with us since fall of 2017 and we couldn't be happier! She loves snuggles, chasing her ball, and wet food! Emily does really well with her fur siblings Winnie, Walt and Wendy (who are dogs). We could not have asked for a better addition to our family.

Brittany Mollett



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

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214

catwelfareassoc.org

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Shelter Wish List:

Purina Cat Chow, Purina Kitten Chow, paper towels, brown paper grocery bags, laundry detergent, moist cat food, Temptation cat treats. Find more on CWA's Amazon Wish List: goo.gl/eLNYhd.



Hello, Brody

Can I PLEASE be your one and only? I love attention and playtime with humans, but these darn cats keep getting in my way. Cuddling is fun, and I do come when called. All in all, I think you'll find me to be a super guy. I'm currently holding interviews for my new person. Please fill out an application and set an appointment. I'd love to get to know you.

Cat Welfare has about 270 cats available for adoption. Find your new feline friend by visiting catwelfareassoc.org or stopping by our shelter. The kitties would be happy to see you!