

Feline Forum

Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

February/March 2015



Jamie Hicks Joins CWA as Shelter Operations Manager

As a kid, Jamie Hicks ran an animal rescue out of her parents' Akron garage. That early experience led her to a lifetime of work with animals, up to her newest position as Cat Welfare Association's Shelter Operations Manager.

"After high school, I went to Walsh University to major in secondary education," Jamie says. "But I realized that teaching was not my calling. I really wanted to be a voice for animals in need."

She became aware of our mission in 2008, while working as Assistant to the Medical Director at Shelter Outreach Services (SOS), then worked in Akron as a Dog Warden in Summit County. Jamie is enthusiastic about her new role as our Shelter Operations Manager and working with our dedicated staff. Cat care, shelter life enrichment and increasing adoptions are topics she has identified as initial areas of interest.

She currently shares her home with four dogs: Mastiff mix, Morgan; Great Dane, Hooch; Weimaraner, Z; and French Bull Dog mix, Gremlin. Three cats round out the family: Stinky, Penelope, and permanent CWA shelter resident Squirrel, who Jamie is fostering.

In her spare time, Jamie is an avid athlete who enjoys running, pick-up basketball and sand volleyball. She's a big fan of North Carolina Tar Heels basketball and the Chicago Bulls.



CWA Halfway to Cat Condo Fund Goal



Because of your generosity, Cat Welfare has been able to purchase two more condos for our Main Adoption room. As of December 31, we have been gifted nearly half of our \$68,000 goal! Will you join in to help us reach our target of replacing every cage in the shelter with a cozy condo?

We are grateful to our recent donors: Marie Evans, Karen Lemley, Mary & David

Pohli, Victoria Saunders, The Nationwide Foundation, Muriel Parish, Carolyn Sommerich, Sharon Rhymaun-Croyle, Paige Harmon Maston, Edgar Erlanger, Thomas Stockdale, Tamara Wade, Leigh Freter, Clarence Schimmel Jr., Jane Carolyn Reeves, David & Beth Gervers, Karen Pedersen, Michelle Buyer, Betty Goodyear, Richard Murphey, V. Ann Hailey, Judy Hicks, Janet Moffat, Judith Vertikoff, Linda Schellkopf, Susan Posey, Byers Auto, Rev. Garrard A. Haubrich, Peggy Kirk, Joan Shkolnik, Susanne Canale, Elizabeth Langford, Richard & Lynne McWherter, Deb Wood, Ruth Ann Branoff, William Studer, RoseAnn Ballangee, Judy Malenick, Jerry Holt, Tim Greene, Karen Baird, Christina Nawrocki, Jill Auxer, Sarah Luckay, Martha Montgomery, Lois Schultz, Irene Rousos, William Hout, Nancy Flanagan, Nancy Preston, Anita Knoechel, Paula Orban, Sherry Mullett, Karlene Weyl, Ryan Briggs, Olwen Firestone, Peter Johnson, Carole Miller, Jennifer Schleppe, Baillie Siegenthaler, Doris Fuller, Jane Matson, Kristina Ward, Deja Franklin, Matthew Thompson, Ashley Bowerman and Stephanie Fitos.

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
facebook.com/catwelfareohio

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)

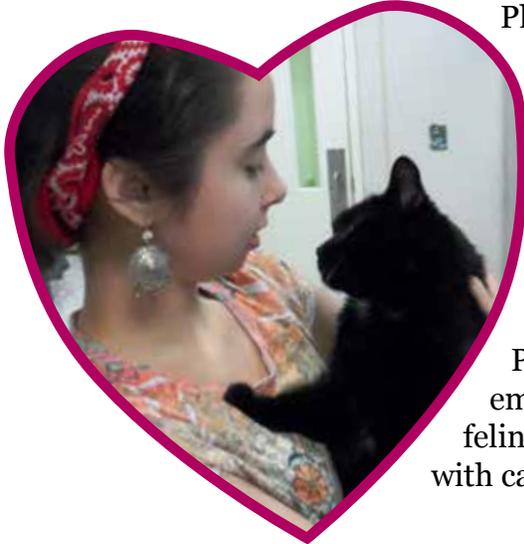
The adoption fee of \$40 (\$30 for seniors) includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations, testing for feline leukemia and FIV, microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.



Board of Directors

RoseAnn Ballangee, President
Brenda Martin, Vice President
Steve Hebenstreit, Recording Secretary
Cathi Eisley, Treasurer
Sue Godsey • Peggy Kirk

Bring Your Valentine to 'For the Love of Our Cats'



Please join us Saturday, February 14 for this very special Valentine's Day celebration. The event will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Spend time sharing your love with our residents, take advantage of special \$14 adoption rates, enjoy refreshments and shop for unique gifts to say, "I love you."

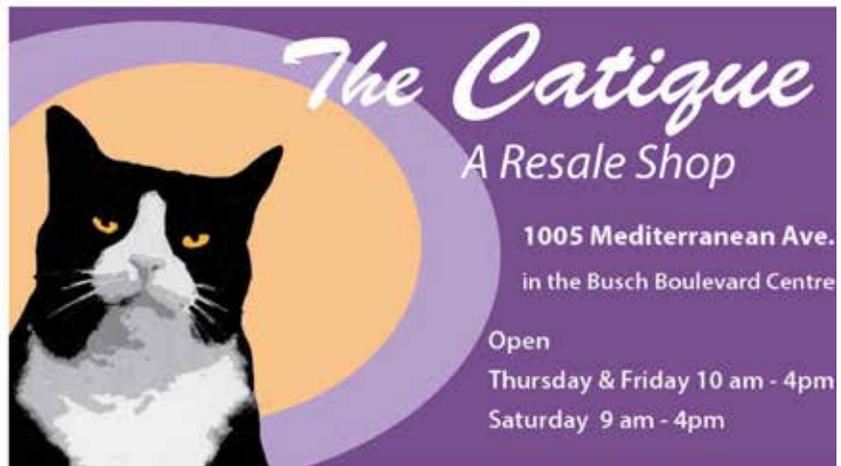
Along with our catnip pillow toys, T-shirts and 2015 calendars, gift certificates will be available for CWA memberships, Adopt-a-Cage, Guardian Angel sponsorships and The Catique.

Clintonville author Wolfgang Parker will join us from 1 to 3 p.m. Parker's two novels for children ages 8 to 12 have been enthusiastically embraced by adult readers, too. The novels feature actual Clintonville felines and their human friend, Jonas, who has the ability to communicate with cats.

Join the Team at The Catique, A Resale Shop

After a spectacular first year in our new home, we are looking to build our resale shop team. The need for team members is especially critical for Thursdays and Fridays.

If you can assist with accepting and sorting donations, tagging and pricing clothes, creating displays, general cleaning or if you want to help with sales, please reach out to Meridith Kiyosue, Volunteer Coordinator, at cwameridith@gmail.com or 614-268-6096, Ext. 106.



Sign Up for Email Delivery

The *Feline Forum* brings all the best Cat Welfare news right to your door, but did you know you can receive our newsletter via email? Each new digital subscription saves the shelter \$0.62, which equals the cost of two 5.5 ounce cans of moist cat food. Six new digital newsletter subscriptions equal the cost of one 25 pound bag of cat litter—not to mention saving trees, ink and gasoline from printing and delivery.

To sign up for our digital newsletter, send an email with your name, email address and current mailing address to cwavolunteers@gmail.com.

Finney to Speak at Meeting

Rachel Finney, Executive Director at Capital Area Humane Society, will be joining us for our February Board of Directors meeting. We encourage our members to attend the February 17 meeting to learn about Capital Area's new program for homing Central Ohio's stray cat population.

Cat Welfare's Board of Directors meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the conference room of Villa Angela Care Center, 5700 Karl Road, Columbus, OH 43229.

CWA Happy Homes



On January 5, 2014, the Smith family adopted **William**. He is such a sweetheart and a major lap cat. He has found his favorite spot in the house to stare out the window and watch all the squirrels. He's been a wonderful addition to the family, and we love him very much.

I wanted to say thank you again from the bottom of my heart for keeping him until we found him. He's such a joy and has helped fill the void I felt with the loss of my cat, Tom, of 14 years. Thank you for all the work you do, and thank you for taking such great care of the kitties.

Megan Smith

We adopted kitten littermates **Milo** and **Luna** (then called Ted and Rhoda) in July 2013. They are such good cats. I wanted to send a picture of them so you can see how they have grown and how well they are loved.

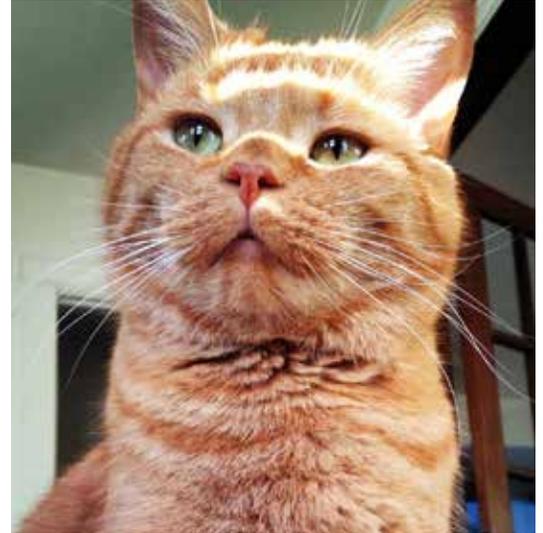
Daniel & Elizabeth LaBozetta



Just wanted to give you all an update on **Yoshi**! We adopted him in September 2013, and he adjusted right away! He was previously adopted but was returned the day we arrived at Cat Welfare because the people who adopted him said he didn't get along with their cats. Who couldn't get along with something this cute?! We kept his name, but as we've gotten to know him, we should have named him Dennis (the Menace) because he's so ornery.

Thank you, Cat Welfare, for such a wonderful, playful, crazy, lovable kitty!

Pat and Nicole



Artemus Gordon has been such a wonderful addition to our little family! When I first brought him home, the poor thing was so terrified. It took awhile, but after graduating from his safe room, he became his curious, rambunctious self. Just like at the adoption center, he LOVES being up high and checking out the scene. Give him a big couch or a windowsill, and he can sit for hours! He loves playing with string, ball toys and water bottles (go figure!). His big sister Peppermint Patty has gone through a few different surgeries to fix her health issues, and he is very sweet with her. After a recent trip to the vet, she came home for a nap, and he didn't leave her side. I like to think he was "keeping watch" so she could relax. They're a great pair!

Spencer Jordan

Got a Happy Homes story? Upload it on the Adopt tab at catwelfareohio.org or mail it to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214.

Apply to Serve on CWA Board

Do you have skills in organizational management, finance, fundraising, marketing, computer programming or other areas? Consider being a Board member of Cat Welfare. Board members are required to attend scheduled meetings, work on committees, raise funds and be ambassadors for the organization.

Prospective Board members must be Active Members or Life Members for at least two (2) years, with evidence of ongoing involvement with the Association. Members will be elected to fill Board openings at our meeting on May 19, 2015.

Please download an application, available February 1 at catwelfareohio.org, or contact our office to have one mailed to you. Completed applications should be sent to boardresumes@catwelfareohio.com or mailed to the shelter, Attn: Helen DeSantis, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214. The deadline for applications is March 13. Information about each candidate will be posted on Cat Welfare's website by April 13.

Cat Welfare would like to thank:

Everyone who gave so generously during the holiday season. The kitties received a package from Amazon nearly every day in December!

The Cat Nippers. Cat Welfare sold approximately 825 catnip pillow toys during the month of December.

Those crafty folks who make blankets for the shelter residents.

Our corresponding secretaries, RoseAnn Ballangee, Nancy Flanagan and Sue Godsey, for all of their efforts.

Dr. Danya Linehan to Speak at Members Event

Cat Welfare will host a 90-minute members-only event on Sunday, March 22, at Mozart's Café, 4784 N. High St. Please join us at 2:30 p.m. for a symphony of desserts and a discussion on FIV and Feline Leukemia with Dr. Danya Linehan.

Dr. Linehan has worked in the veterinary field since 1983 and has been a practicing veterinarian since 1993. She obtained a B.S. in animal science from the University of New Hampshire and received her veterinary degree from The Ohio State University. Dr. Linehan is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Ohio Veterinary Medical Association and the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators. Dr. Linehan currently serves as the Ohio Director for The Paw Project. Her other animal-focused waking hours are spent serving on the Ohio Pet Fund Board and helping provide trap-neuter-release (TNR), food and shelters for local feral colonies. Dr. Linehan spreads the word about animal issues—physical, societal and behavioral—through radio and webinar appearances and at seminars for the pet-owning public, shelter staff and volunteers.

This event is free to our members but limited to 45 attendees. You can reserve your spot online at signupgenius.com, select "Find a Signup" (located above "Create a Signup") and enter the email cwivolunteers@gmail.com, or by calling 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.



Looking Back: Outlining CWA Points of Pride for 2014

It was an exciting and transitional 2014 for Cat Welfare. These successes were made possible by the generosity of our donors, commitment of our members and volunteers, dedication of our staff, and the leadership of our Board of Directors.

IN KEEPING WITH OUR MISSION

- **1100** cats/kittens admitted to the shelter
- **950** cats/kittens adopted
- 157 cats posted to Petfinder; approximately 80% of cats posted to Petfinder were adopted. 2014 was the first year we received more than 10,000 views in one month. More than 10,000 views each month September through December; 13,047 views in December
- Nearly **2,200** community cats altered through Cat Welfare's low-cost spay and neuter programs
- **223** community cats received emergency services paid from the Good Sam Fund
- Over **20,000** cans of food donated to other shelters, caretakers of cat colonies and owners in need of food for their cats
- Remodel completed in less than a year, freeing up approximately **400** additional sq. ft. for our free-roaming cats
- Space now available for our **shy cats** (cubbies to be installed later this month)
- **Kittens** have their own room
- Shelter is open to a limited number of **FIV and FeLV cats/kittens**
- **Isolation and Step Down rooms** positively impact cats' recovery

- Converting steel cages to **cat condos** improves cats' morale and living conditions
- More than **80** volunteers work on grooming teams – more than 90% of our cats are groomed or socialized every week (on average)

AROUND THE SHELTER

- Leaky **roof replaced**
- Inside of **shelter painted**, rusted doors replaced

PERSONNEL

- Hired on-site vet, operations manager, volunteer coordinator; two animal care technicians replaced following vacancies

OUTREACH

- Expanded presence on **Facebook** – **5,100 likes**
- Launched new **website**
- First time **Art Show** a success
- **The Catique** reopened and grew its client base – began making a profit in less than one year

MISCELLANEOUS

- Updated **Bylaws**
- Received a donation of **25,000 cans of food** from Friskies

Cat Welfare Association Life Members

All members of Cat Welfare receive discounted tickets to events, a subscription to the *Feline Forum* and eligibility to vote at the annual Board Member elections. In addition to these core benefits, life membership affirms your long-term commitment to CWA and its mission. A life membership badge signifies your participation in this elite group of contributors. Supporters can become life members with a donation of \$250. A single payment is preferred; however, installment payments can be arranged by contacting the shelter.

We would like to thank the following supporters for becoming life members in 2014: Cynthia Moree, Art & Janet Lofton, Melissa Wiser, James Demas, Kathy Ann Poulton, Dustin Clayton, Sharon Sadlowski, Randy Kirschner, Chris Martinez, Don Shaw, Tom Carr, Brenda & John Finfgeld, Linda Mercer, Margaret McMahon, Helen Chamberlin, Thad & Claudia Plumley, Sue Frost, Christina Hoffman, Brian Hallett Robb, Katherine Waller, Jodie Bokemper, Melissa Wachtel, James Demas, Robin Stearns, W. Bruce Walsh, Shirley Metro and Susan Sprague.

We Love Our Donors

Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

- Bertha Ihnat, "In memory of Bridgett"
- Diane & Sam van Schoyck, "In memory of Tom, Ali, Ruby, Amanda, & George"
- Renee Paquin, "In memory of Hugs, Kissy, Kahli, Kitty, & Checkers"
- Joy Pratt, "In memory of Jacob & Ontario"
- Anna Teichmoeller, "In memory of Scraps"
- Catherine Zitko, "In memory of Sweet Pea"
- Ruth Ann Branoff, "In memory of my beloved felines DJ, Tayo, Shanghai, & Pookie"
- Sue Lape, "Gordon Wilson"
- Jennifer Parker, "In loving memory of Calvin ("Kelvin")"
- Heidi Sherer, "In memory of Little Guy"
- Kenneth Oates, "In memory of Cha Cha"
- Nicole Papa Odegaard, "In honor of Nancy Heller"
- Wanda Rogers, "In memory of Felix, Fang, Jezabel, and BC, my friends"
- The Knoechels, "In memory of Figgy – we miss you very much"

● Frederick Mann, "In honor of Barbara Mann"
Richard Austin, Cathleen Battiste Presutti, Joanne Schumacher, James & Mary Criswell, Leslie Bothast, Kristen Sellgren, Joy & Ed Weiler, Eileen Richardson, Mark Meyers, Richard Wortman, Judith Johnson, Patricia Pound, Judy Malenick, Kathleen Pursley, Jonathan Schroeder, Judith Boyer, Ameer El-Mallawany, Amy Larson, and Jill & Lyle Schumacher

Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

Kathryn Kim, Lucy Gettman, Ruth Ann Branoff, Peggy Kirk, Roseann Stoehr, Connie Cline, J.G. Kassel, Judy Pfaltzgraf, Steven Puckett, Shirley Tobias, Claudia Speakman, Peg & Donald Wentz, Janice & Dan Bailey, Laura Whinery, and Jill & Lyle Schumacher

Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Linda Schellkopf, James & Mary Criswell, Cindi Hill, Renee Paquin, Thomas Kreger, Ramona Sietsma, Mary Alice & Leslie Susi, Marjorie Obrist, Thom & Anne Marie Saarie, Irina & Boris Pittel, Liz Fisher, Kathryn Hoffman, Jody Alders, Sarah Fields, Diana Longwell, Terence Odlin, Dorothy Cobbs, Judy Malenick, Terri Hnidka, Mary Eberlyn, Ronald Wolf, Judith Boyer, Sherry Mullett, Heidi Sherer "In loving memory of Emmy from Heidi, Salie & Ray Angels," Leon & Patricia Cohan, Jr., Connie Kellar, Anita Knoechel, Kristi Lekies "In memory of Ginger-snap," Jill & Lyle Schumacher, and Sandra Myers

Willard's Village Babies Fund

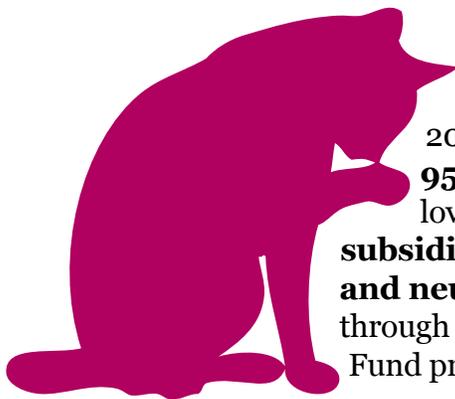
for care of feral cat colonies

Juanita Woods "In memory of all feral cats" and "In memory of Willard," Richard Austin, Tina Siswandari, Anne Riley & Wilma Wabnitz "In memory of our sweet baby boy, Calvin. 14 years was not long enough," Wendy Stewart, Cindy Krebs "In memory of Bernard Loudermilk, who saved a stray named Tom," Laura Davis-Robeson "In memory of Joey Fernandes," Nancy Swisher, Beth Puleo, Peggy Kirk, Katie & Robert Hunter, Renee Paquin, Joy & Ed Weiler, Sandra McCutcheon, Janet McMullen, Judith Boyer, Heidi Sherer "In memory of Mikayla," Matthew & Elizabeth Swain, and Jill & Lyle Schumacher

Joey's Good Sam Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Jeremy Alltop, Joyce DeWitt "In memory of Joey Fernandes our nephew. Rest in peace Joey. We love you!", Lisa Justi "In memory of Joey Fernandes who was called to heaven December 4, 2014. He will love caring for all those cats who crossed the Rainbow Bridge."



From January through December 2014, we **adopted 950 cats** into loving homes and **subsidized 2,188 spay and neuter surgeries** through our various Altering Fund programs.



Hello, Serena

This is Serena, “take two.” I was featured as an adoptable senior cat in last February’s *Feline Forum*. To my dismay, I still find myself without a forever family. I am a wonderful, reserved feline, and I’ve been patiently waiting for YOU to come in and adopt ME. I’ve been here in the shelter for more than three and a half years. I’ve seen so many kitties find a family. I am healthy, gentle-natured and I get along just fine sharing space and people with other cats. My adoption fee for the month of February is \$14. I thank you for your consideration.

Serena is a 10-year-old spayed female that spends the majority of her time in the main adoption room of our shelter.

Cat Welfare has nearly 300 cats available for adoption. Find your new feline friend by visiting catwelfareohio.com or stopping by our shelter. The kitties would be happy to see you!

Shelter Wish List:

Purina Cat Chow, Kitten Chow, brown paper grocery bags, Windex, clean newspapers, clean towels, clay litter, dryer sheets, bleach, Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, laundry detergent, stainless steel Chore Boy scrubies, and Mr. Clean.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

www.catwelfareohio.com

Columbus, OH 43214

741 Wetmore Road



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NON-PROFIT ORG
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