

Feline Forum

Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

February/March 2018

Odin Finds A Perfect Perch in His New Forever Home

We introduced you to Odin in our December 2016 Feline Forum. Thanks to donations to our Vincent Fund, he was able to get the care he needed after a BB lodged near his spine caused him to lose the use of his back legs. He recovered from the surgery to remove the BB, though he still had limited function. We were optimistic Odin might find a forever home with a family equipped to accommodate his special needs, however, and in October 2017, this wish came true.

Karli had been touched by a story she saw online about a cat with mobility challenges (@_gochloego_ on Instagram), and she began to research to see if her home and lifestyle could accommodate such a pet. Karli saw our July Instagram post about Odin, and her interest was piqued. After multiple visits with Odin and discussions with our operations manager, Karli and her boyfriend, Edgar, were confident that, with a few simple modifications, their home could be ready for him.

Odin has acclimated well to his new surroundings. We have confirmation that he is spoiled! While he can maneuver



the few steps in his split-level home, he will call out for a lift when the mood hits. Odin's

additional requirements include regulated trips to the litter box and physical therapy. He has two new best feline buds, Bear and El, both of whom are also Cat Welfare alums. A favorite group pastime is watching out the big picture window. Odin also enjoys roughhousing with Bear and napping with El.

Karli encourages others not to be reluctant to consider a special needs pet. It is more work, but she believes Odin understands they are going the extra mile for him. Bear and El take for granted that they can jump up in the window box. Odin chirps in gratitude when he is lifted there with his feline siblings.

We are so very grateful to Karli and Edgar for taking the time to create a safe environment for this very dear boy. You can follow Odin's amazing story of love and dedication and get to know his siblings at [instagram.com/ebo_cat_trio](https://www.instagram.com/ebo_cat_trio).

Looking Back: Points of Pride for 2017



After living at the shelter for seven years, Serena found a home! Josh bonded with her during his weekly visits to the shelter.

The generosity of the donors and friends, commitment of our members and volunteers, dedication of our staff, and leadership of our Board of Directors contributed to a memorable year for Cat Welfare.

IN KEEPING WITH OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

- **1,615** cats and kittens admitted to the shelter, many with life threatening injuries
- **1,368** felines adopted into loving homes, including **24** FIV-positive and **8** FeLV-positive kitties
- **316** kittens cared for in foster homes
- **1,680** altering surgeries subsidized through Cat Welfare's low-cost spay and neuter programs (through November 2017)
- **175** companion cats received medical care, supported by our Good Sam fund, when families could not afford

their cats' emergency medical treatment

- Existing space converted to house additional FIV-positive cats
- Vertical climbing areas created to enrich the lives of feline residents

OUTREACH

- Presence on Facebook increased to nearly **9,196** follows and **9,344** likes; just over **1,551** followers on Instagram
- Awareness session for members to learn how Western medicine can be complemented by Eastern practices
- Reading program launched to connect shy shelter cats with children in grades 1 through 8
- Supplemental volunteer training programs implemented for condo cleaning, shelter greeters and socializing FIV-positive and FeLV-positive shelter kitties
- Monthly spay and neuter clinics held on site April through September
- Annual open house hosted to thank the community for 72 years of support
- The Catique, Cat Welfare's resale shop, celebrated its third anniversary at the Mediterranean location in the Busch Boulevard Centre. Proceeds help to fund shelter operations.

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
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: Peggy Kirk
Vice President: RoseAnn Ballangee
Secretary: Anne Riley
Erik Diekmeyer • Steve Hebenstreit •
Claudia Plumley • Karen Ramey

Treasurer: Judy Vertikoff

**Save the Date! Volunteer Appreciation Dinner,
April 29 at the Clintonville Woman's Club**



CWA Window Wins Contest



Sponsor the 2018 Cat Caper

Our 2017 Cat Caper raised just over \$11,000 for the cats and kittens in our care! And we are hoping to increase our 2018 proceeds by 15%. Can you help? We are seeking sponsors for the 2018 Cat Caper. If you are interested in becoming a Caper sponsor, commitment levels range from \$100 to \$5,000. If you know of a business that might support our 5K, please contact Karen Ramey at cwacatcaper@gmail.com or 614-402-5756.

Thank you to Patti and her team at Magic Cruises & Tours for supporting Cat Welfare Association and creating this lovely window. We are thrilled to be the recipients of the "It's a Wonderful Window Contest" Bronze Window trophy. A total of \$1,049 was donated to support our mission and the cats in our care.

Meet Our New Volunteer Coordinator, Alexandra Scarborough

Hello CWA supporters and volunteers! My name is Alexandra Scarborough, and it is my pleasure and honor to join the team at Cat Welfare Association as your new Volunteer Coordinator.

Perhaps like a cat, I've had about nine lives' worth of experiences and careers, but most recently, I completed two terms as an AmeriCorps VISTA: first for Legal Aid of Western Ohio (LAWO) in Toledo, and then as a VISTA Leader at Ohio Association of Foodbanks in downtown Columbus. I became confident during my experience with AmeriCorps that I wanted to dedicate my life to service--and when service is combined with kitties, well, I know I've found my home! As for my connection to felines, my love of them has been life-long. In grade school, I would buy cat and kitten posters from *Weekly Reader* and hang them all over my room. I have been the caretaker of dozens of cats over the years, including my current clan: Iliia, Astraea, Marmalade, Mr. Tabs, Niko, Harry Dean and Poesy. They are my children, and my friends!



I look forward to getting to know this community of caring people and to furthering our longtime mission of helping needy cats in Columbus. Thank you for your support of CWA!

For the kitties,
Alexandra

CWA Happy Homes



I adopted these crazy girls, **Daphne and Chloe**, almost four years ago. I had just lost both of my cats (six weeks apart) about four weeks earlier. I didn't think I'd adopt so quickly, but I frequent Cat Welfare, and as soon as I saw them I knew they were for me. Love them to the moon and back!

Susan Smith

Squiddy and I are beyond happy together! She's an adorable, well-mannered kitty who enjoys purring and kneading in my lap at all opportunities. Thank you so much, Cat Welfare, for introducing me to Squiddy! I am so grateful to have her in my life!

Cassie



I came into Cat Welfare to visit all the cats, but once I found **Momo** I couldn't put her down. She was a small kitten that was all fluff. She had giant ears with even longer hair. She's grown into her ears now, but she's still small and a fluff ball. She's lovely. I am so happy that I got her. She makes me very happy with her kitten antics.

Beatrice

I've had **Yoko** for almost two years now and she quickly has become my best friend. She's such a great cat! Cat Welfare is wonderful, and I'll definitely be going back if I ever want more furry friends.

Cassie



We went into Cat Welfare to visit and drop off some donations. When I (**Beatrice**) took my mom (**Amalia**) back into the kitten room, she immediately fell for a little tiny black kitty that wouldn't leave her alone once she drew him out of the corner. She decided she had to get him. We thought about changing his name, but we decided that **Wilson** fit him. He's a year old now, and he is doing fantastic. He is a very large boy; he's not fat, he just has a ton of muscle. We call him "Sumo-guard Wilson" because he likes to walk the perimeter before he lies down, and he runs to the door and growls when someone knocks on it. He is the sweetest cat ever, though. He will crawl into the bed next to you and purr his head off. He is also amazingly patient with the rambunctious little kitten we got from you. Thanks, Cat Welfare!

Beatrice & Amalia

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

Crime Cats Mystery Club Wraps Up Another Fun Reading Season



We hosted a pizza party for our Crime Cats Mystery Club readers, and a good time was had by all. Author Wolfgang Parker attended and talked with the kids about reading a cat's body language and behavioral cues. Then the kids got to be super sleuths during a scavenger hunt.

Do you have a young reader who lacks confidence with reading aloud or who just may need a nudge to enjoy reading? The Crime Cats Mystery Club (CCMC) is a super-powered shelter reading program created thanks to an alliance between Cat Welfare Association and Crime Cats author Wolfgang Parker! The program offers children an opportunity to connect with homeless cats in a meaningful way through reading. We will begin a new participant session on March 25. The commitment is eight weeks, and we ask that participants plan to come for at least one 15-minute session each week. To enroll in our next session or for additional information about the program,

please send an email to cwacrimemysteryclub@gmail.com and include the following information: Adult's Name, Adult's Best Contact Phone, Adult's Best Email, Reader's Name, Reader's Age.

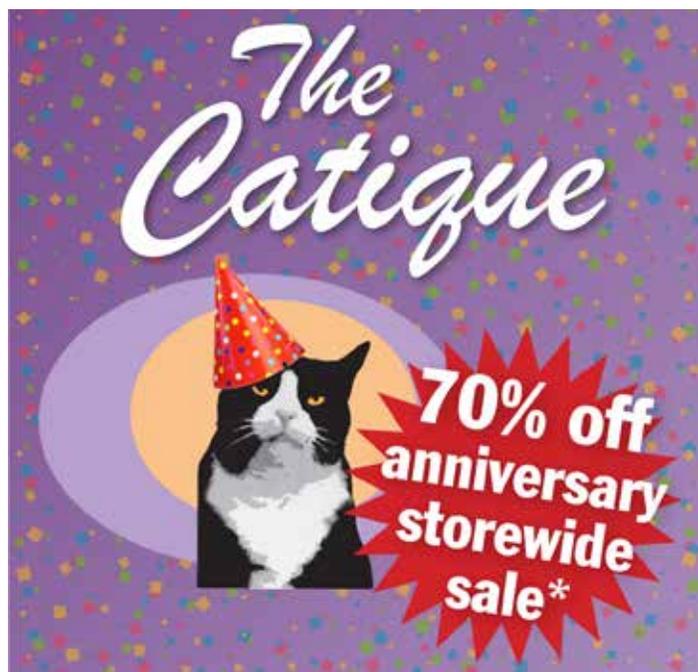
Foster Care Families Needed

Our 2017 adoption success would not have happened without the dedication of our spectacular foster team! Being a foster care parent or family for Cat Welfare can be a rewarding experience. You have a chance to provide a shelter cat or kittens with the necessary TLC they need until they are ready to live in the shelter and be considered for adoption.

Kittens, once approved for shelter intake, go into foster care if they are not old enough to be spayed or neutered when they arrive. Some litters have a mom, who accompanies them in foster care, while others arrive motherless. An adult cat may be placed in foster care if he or she needs time to recover from an injury and would fare better outside of the shelter.

Foster care commitments can range from one week to a couple of months. We do ask that you have a room in your home where the foster(s) can live without interacting with any of your pets until they are fully vaccinated and have been approved for interaction by our shelter veterinarian. This important requirement is not only for the sake of the foster but for your fur babies, too. We will provide you with food, litter, a litter box and any required medications for the fosters. Our foster care commitment and application form can be found online at catwelfareassoc.org/volunteer. A new foster training session will be held on March 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Catique Celebrates Four Years



We would like to extend sincere gratitude to all of our Catique Resale Shop donors and faithful shoppers. Please join us during our anniversary sale February 15-17. Our celebration includes a 70% off storewide sale with the exclusion of furniture and catnip toys. Refreshments will be served on Saturday.

Many Thanks, Birthday Girls



Thank you to Audrey and Rowan for thinking of our shelter and the cats when celebrating your recent birthdays! You are very thoughtful young ladies.

Apply for a CWA Board Position

Do you have extensive knowledge of the shelter, or skills in organizational management, finance, fundraising, marketing, computer technology, cat care or other areas that might be beneficial to Cat Welfare? If you have any of these attributes and want to make a difference, please consider submitting an application to serve as a Board member of Cat Welfare. Board members are required to participate in scheduled meetings, work on committees, raise funds and act as ambassadors for the organization.

Prospective Board members must be Active Members or Life Members for at least two consecutive years immediately preceding the election, with evidence of ongoing involvement with the organization. Members will be elected to fill Board openings at the membership meeting on May 15, 2018. Board members must be at least 18 years of age.

Please download an application at catwelfareassoc.org or contact the shelter to have an application mailed to you. A completed application, accompanied by a resume, should be emailed to boardresumes@catwelfareassoc.org or mailed to the shelter, Attn: Helen DeSantis, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214. The deadline for submission is March 14, 2018.

Information about each candidate will be posted on Cat Welfare's website on or about April 16. Please contact the shelter if you would like the candidates' information mailed to you.

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 2017:

Melanie Adams, William C. Aldrich, Sheri Bill-Mayo, Amy Blank, Michelle Buyer, James & Nancy Chodorow, Jocelyn Curry, Leslie Dellovade, Susan Duderstadt, Judith Dunn Fisher, Maggie Erwin, Mark Fullmer, Heidi Garinger, Emily Ginther, Karen Jennings, Jon's Auto c/o Kristen Strzelinski & Jon Hamilton, Molly Lex, Autumn Martinez, Mary McCafferty, Kristi Milano, Daniel & Amy Pearse, James Pinkham, Paula Porter, Stephanie Preston, Jim Puchan, Alan Ritzert, Vikki Smith, Liz Swain and Cynthia Williams.

We Love Our Donors

Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

- Anna Teichmoeller “In honor of my Sadie, who arrived at my door on October 30, 1998”
- Joellen Wood “For Dottie Martin’s birthday”
- John & Vicky Lee Schmarr “In loving memory of our feline friends”
- Richard & Lynne McWherter “Martita Dougherty”
- Jennifer Schleppe “In loving memory of my precious Raymond”
- Nancy Hile “Laura Hurst, who loved all animals”
- Fern Hunt “In memory of Jenny & TinkerBelle”
- Debra Lipkowitz “In memory of Zebulon Peters, beloved CWA adoptee of Cheryl Peters – a 14-year partnership”
- Debra Lipkowitz “In memory of Millie Peters, cat lover & mother of Cheryl Peters”
- Lauretta Fisher “In loving memory of Angel Kitty Roqi”
- Dale & Marty Keener “Grant”
- Kathleen Pursley “In memory of Pippin”
- Pat Loyer “In memory of Katherine Larson Zaebst, who passed away 12/26/17. Cats were her heart.”

Janice & Jerry Noltemeyer, Janet Wilson, Samuel & Diane van Schoyck, Alice Kimbell, Sandy Wolf, James & Mary Criswell, Inge Holway, Laura Modisette, Brian Kreger, Shirley Brooks Jones, Megan Saunders, Ann Karpen, Roger Cole, Gerald Allen, Nancy Vincent, Norman Booth & Gail Zink, Julia Williams and Judy Malenick

Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Richard Austin, Linda Schellkopf, Theresa Dean, Jennifer Schleppe “In memory of sweet Jacob Alexander who was so very special to a dear friend,” Nick Petrello “For Ray and his fellow FIV-positive cats and in honor of my fiancé, Hilary,” Angela Gerald Ferraris, Marjorie Obrist, Ilisa Nodelman, Leon & Patricia Cohan Jr., James & Mary Criswell, Karen Gee, Marty Montgomery, Melanie Murnan, Brian Kreger, Shirley Brooks Jones, Patricia Eiben, Robert & Joan Williams, Dick & Linda Hamilton, Irina & Boris Pittel, Helen DeSantis, Julianne Hunter, Ryan Arras “On behalf of Jenny & Bailey,” Erin McConnell, Fern Hunt, Suzanne Larger, Edwin & Ulla Wagers,

Thomas & Linda Kreger, Heidi Sherer “In memory of beloved kitties Will & Grace,” Robert & April Matthews, Judy Pfaltzgraf, Lynne Bonenberger, Vivian Rowntree and Judy Malenick

Cat-A-Lack Chow Club

for food for the shelter residents

Stephanie Shamroski, Kristi Milano, Holly Burkhard, Chizuko Coury, Colleen Nye, Nabeel Khoury, Dave & Betty Maynard, and Judy Malenick

Joey’s Good Samaritan Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Randall Hertzner “In memory of Doug Buhner,” William Hout, Kristi Lekies, Aaron Cottrell in the name of Cliffs, Carol Ann Bradley, Shirley Brooks Jones, Fern Hunt, Megan Saunders, Greg Corson, Steve & Terri Carter, Heidi Sherer “In memory of Sancho,” Norman Booth & Gail Zink, Kathryn Kim and Judy Malenick

Willard’s Village Babies Fund

for care of feral cat colonies

Juanita Woods “In memory of precious Willard – never forgotten,” Rebecca Fleming, Anne Riley “In memory of Pony Boy,” Anita Knoechel, Richard Austin, Bob & Jane Fortkamp “In memory of Blinky,” Erik Diekmeyer, Carol & Dennis Smith, Lawrence Kirby, Molly McHarg “In honor of Kristen McHarg,” Steve & Terri Carter, Kerry Dillon “In honor of Riki Wyant,” Jennifer Parker “In memory of a special feral kitty named Bo and her wonderful caretakers,” and Judy Malenick

Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

Georgeann McCall, Carol & Dennis Smith, Sandy Wolf, Carol Daniels, Kerri Pollet, Esther Humbertson, Marty Montgomery, Shirley Brooks Jones, Patricia Eiben, Mallory Pickard, Fern Hunt, Megan Saunders, Holly Mosier, Laura Modisette, Connie Kellar, Kathryn Kim, and Ardis Bolstad-Methfessel



Hello, Benjamin

Hi, my name is Benjamin (a.k.a. Benny Boy), and I am looking for my forever family. I was forced to live outside for almost 10 years, and it was certainly rough! After my owners moved, a kind neighbor lady found me with a wound on my back and brought me to Cat Welfare. I got wonderful veterinary care here, and I'm all healed up! I am a fun, easy-going, sweet guy that loves attention! I love playing and being with people! I love sitting on laps, being brushed and, most of all, I like being picked up and held! It makes me so happy to feel close and loved! When I came here, we discovered that I am FIV positive, which means I have a decreased immune system. I can live a normal life and do not need special food or medicine. I can also

live with other cats! I get along fine with other cats and with dogs. Our staff here can provide you with more information about my condition. All I want in life is to find that special person to love and care for me. I have so much love to give!

Cat Welfare has nearly 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!

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 scrubbies, and Mr. Clean.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214



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NON-PROFIT ORG
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