



# StreetCats

## CHAAT FALL 2023



Conner Correctional Center

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Cats and Medicine

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Beamer's Poem

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# Let's Adopt Another Cat!

So, you want to add another cat to your family, what should you consider in your planning? While you will be looking for a cat that seems to get along with you, you should also think about what your current cat might want. Is your current cat active and needs someone to play with? Or, is it an older cat who likes to lie around looking beautiful? Do you have a stand-offish cat but you're looking for a lap cat? How much activity are you looking for in a cat—even if it's to be your only cat?

Cats run the gamut in personality from getting along well with others to selectively social to loners. There is no evidence to support myths about whether male-female or adult-kitten pairings will be more successful. At StreetCats our cats get to roam free in our facility so we get to know their preferences and personalities if they are there for a little while. We can usually tell which cats want to be in solitary cat households and which would be tolerant or eager for other cats. Some cats are

dominant cats and others may be more laid back and accepting of whatever comes. We can also tell which are the cats who are most active. We take time to visit with potential adopters to see what they are looking for and what their home situation looks like so we can help make a perfect match.

Once home, you can facilitate a good pairing by isolating the new cat in a room by itself for a period. Your current cat and the new cat may

**Cats run the gamut in personality from getting along well with others to selectively social to loners.**



Credit: iStockPhoto-e181am

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hiss and smell each other through the door but there is no danger to either. Little by little you could trade their blankets and toys so they get each other's scents and get comfortable. Then you can try letting the new cat out into part of the house while the older cat is confined and finally some supervised meet-and-greet dates. With a slow and

deliberate introduction, they will set their own rules of engagement according to their personalities. They may become friends and playmates or they may just be house mates that tolerate each other. Either way, both you and your cats will be more likely to enjoy each other's company in the new family.



## A Word from our President

I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and the beauty Fall brings. Our cats in StreetCats are looking forward to finding their forever homes. As we adopt out our cats, we bring in cats from our waitlist. Sometimes the waiting time on the waitlist takes longer than expected because we also take back any cat that has been adopted from us that needs to be rehomed. This is often a very hard decision and we try our best to be helpful. Please check our website at [www.streetcatstulsa.org](http://www.streetcatstulsa.org) to see who is available so you can hopefully give them a new home. Every home deserves a cat and every cat deserves a home. I want to thank our dedicated volunteers and contributors who make all this possible.

Kathy Balsiger, StreetCats President

## StreetCats Helps Correctional Center Cats

The Dick Conner Correctional Center in Hominy needs our help for the cats and kittens they are helping. In return, these kitties provide therapy for the inmates and help them to become more caring and responsible while recovering and rehabilitating for mistakes that have been made. This facility is close to a casino where many people abandon cats and the cats make their way over to find food and water. The Center learned about our organization (in their words) through the amazing mother and daughter duo that wrote the superb House of Night book series.

Joe and Connie Newell took seven 32 lb. bags of Meow Mix that we purchased from Sam's Club up there in August, but right now they have 36 cats, so our donation won't last long. We plan to take them food once per quarter. Most of the cats also need to be spayed or neutered and vaccinated.

We're happy to accept dry food donations (unopened bags) and money that we can pass on to this Center to help them find someone who will sterilize and vaccinate the cats and kittens (they probably need flea medicine too since this facility is in a large field). If you drop off or mail us any donations, please be sure to designate if they are for StreetCats (we exist on donations also) or for the DCC Center in Hominy. We'll be sending you a thank you letter for your donations if you want one so be sure we have your name and address.

Donation purrs of thanks to S. Hudson and B. L. Wilson who made monetary donations after our first announcement of this program in August on Facebook, Instagram and our website.

Thank you for all the support you give us.



Look for our booth #407/408 in Section C East end, at An Affair of the Heart-Tulsa in the Sagenet Center at Expo Square on November 17-19. Hours are Friday & Saturday 9:00-6:00 and Sunday 11:00-5:00.

### Adoptions 4/1 thru 9/30/2023

Basil – B Vann	Nile – C Lindsey
Callie – D Woodward-Frost	Nosey – S Hobia
Carmen – M Miller	Oswald – N Langan
Chester – T Rinker	Otis – D Rundo
Cinder – D Milton	Otto – C&K Boilla
Diamond – T Miller	Petey – D Ryhal
Elwood – J&C Newell	Rosemary – J Christian
Eni – S Hobia	Ruby – J Ball
Gypsy – I Sumpter	Sammy – R Watters
Jake – J&C Newell	Samson – J Threlkeld
Kallie (Katie) – V Sanborn	Scarlett – D Rundo
Kate – R&G Strakoulas	Sheridan – C Duncan
Kitty – RA Davis	Theona – K Bissell
Leo (Ember) – R&V Opitz	Tony – K Cuevas
Levi – M Ramsey	Trevor – J Davis
Lola – K Olywatoyin	Van (Ash) – R&V Opitz
Miss Kitty – H Hoffman	Vinny – T Barnett

# Warm and Fuzzy Stories

**Rosemary** is an elegant, beautiful long-haired calico. Joan Christian adopted this little sweetheart and she says it almost surprises her how much she loves Rosemary.



Rosemary

Joan says she has not had any problems at all with Rosemary and the two of them have become good friends. She really seems to like being the only cat; she loves all the attention. Rosemary is the “queen” of the house. She likes to crawl up on Joan’s lap to snuggle and she sleeps on the foot of the bed at night. Since Rosemary has such long hair, it’s a good thing that she adores being groomed. Joan said that when she first saw Rosemary’s picture, she instantly fell in love. She says that Rosemary is a real calm, self-disciplined lady and that the two of them suit each other. We’re so happy for this purr-fect pair.

**Omar** is a handsome, portly red and white kitty. He was adopted by Nancy Still. They live in a 4th floor apartment and he loves watching the birds from the window

sill. He also loves his “sun time” and he moves from window to window chasing the sunshine. Although Omar seems a little lazy during the daytime, he loves playing at night after Nancy has gone to bed. She has to get a flashlight in the morning to look under furniture and things to find his toys. Omar also brings a toy mouse into the bedroom and leaves it beside her bed every night. I guess he is trying to thank her by leaving her a “gift.” Nancy said that after her last kitty passed away, she didn’t think she wanted to adopt another cat, but after seeing Omar she changed her mind. Nancy says Omar is wonderful and that he is a blessing.



Omar



Leo and Van, now Ember and Ash

**Leo**, a black and white tuxedo, and **Van**, a blue tabby, are two lovely brothers that were adopted together by Mitchell and Vanessa Opitz. These bonded brothers are now named Ember and Ash. Mitchell says that they have been such a welcome addition to their home. In the morning Ember and Ash go from room to room snuggling with everyone for about 5 minutes before it is time for the family to get up. Mitchell says the boys love their kids. Mitchell works from home and he says that one of the boys will sit on his laptop while the other brother will sit on the back of his chair. Although they are bonded, they are completely opposite of each other. Mitchell says they are like yin and yang and they even sleep curled up next to each other like the yin and yang symbol. He also says that Ember and Ash are absolutely wonderful.



## Shop Something New!

We would love you to visit our kitties and our gift boutique this Fall! We have done some reorganization of the shop in order to make room for more items and have new merchandise arriving weekly. Christmas items will soon be on display. Some examples of new items are new Laurel Burch purse designs, socks, locally

hand-made soaps and greeting/Christmas cards. We also have a new long-sleeve StreetCats T-shirt color.

We’re getting ready for **An Affair of the Heart-Tulsa**. It will take place November 17-19 at the Tulsa fairgrounds. Hours are Friday & Saturday 9:00-6:00 and Sunday 11:00-5:00. **New booth location will be #407 & 408 at the east end.** We will have many of our new items from the shop at the show and also bring some of our short-sleeve T-shirts in case you missed them in July.

Don’t forget our booth at **Jade on Main**, 1639 S. Main St. in Broken Arrow. We often change out new items weekly. It is open 10:00-6:00 Monday through Saturday, 12:00-5:00 on Sunday.

We’re looking forward to seeing you soon and hope we can provide some unique Christmas gifts for your felines, friends, and family! And our kitties will give you purrs of thanks when you stop in at our boutique.



## StreetCats' Sponsors

*We value every donation received and we thank you! However, we are unable to recognize all donors in this newsletter. Everyone has our grateful thanks for your support that keeps our organization going helping wonderful kitties find "purrfect" homes for the rest of their lives. Additionally, we appreciate the support of our "A Stitch In Time" program to get homeless cats on the streets spayed/neutered/vaccinated to reduce the population of street kitties. Listed below are those who made money or in-kind donations valued at \$100 or more between 4/1 and 9/30/23.*

M Abczynski	R & B Cohen	Carol Johnson	J Newell	R & K Stimson
G & A Adwon	J Cooke	Cindee Johnson	Oil Capital Vinyl	Target Corp Employee Giving Campaign
N Ahmed	J & S Cosa	T & K Lamb	ONEOK Foundation	The Hodges Survivors Fund
J Ahrens	L Daugherty	C Lane	K & R Pique	J Thomas
A Alcorn	P & S Dooley	J Lawrence	W R Poudrier	United Way of the Bay Area
M Allen	D England	E Mahaffey	J & D Promowicz	W Wakefield
P Alred	W Gleason	O McCool	S Rabon	M Wasseman
Anonymous (3 different ones)	K & L Gray	J Meyers	A & A Ramseur	D Webber
V Bellinger	J Hanson	P Middleton	J Raper	K Wightman
G & N Bracken	D Hart	H Minter	J Ryan	G Wilkins
K Bryan	S & D Hill	D Mitchell	N Seidle	G Winfield
P & K Bryden	J Hobart-Bell	S Moldenhauer	Smith Family Rev Living Trust	
L & A Christian	B Hoop	D Morse	K Smith	
R & R Claybourne	M Humes	B & D Murphy	F Stellerine	
R Cobb	D & T Jamison	K Murphy	R Stevenson	

## Finding the Secret to Cat Medicine

"Cats are incredibly difficult to medicate and there are just not a lot of good options," says Amy Nichelason, a board-certified canine and feline practitioner and assistant clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

Cats can go from sweet and cuddly to stubborn and sassy with a mind of their own—especially when they need to take medicine orally. Because of this, pills sometimes must be forced into a cat's mouth and throat – a method called dry swallowing. This approach can negatively affect the human-animal bond, increase inflammation of the esophagus and make cats more apprehensive about future treatment. Liquid forms of medication are typically easier to administer to cats, but their acceptance of these formulations depends on the flavor and type.

Nichelason and colleagues recently studied ways to increase medicine acceptance among cats by comparing flavor acceptance in liquid medications. They published their findings in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. Although general cat flavor preferences are known – for example, they tend to enjoy fish, liver and meat flavors in food and treats – this was the first study to examine the acceptance of differently compounded flavors for cat medications.

"Compounding is where we take a prescription drug and add or change its

formulation. One reason to do this is to enhance compliance, meaning the animal will more readily accept the medicine," Nichelason says. "In this case, we were compounding it to a liquid form."

In the study, healthy pet cats received a variety of flavorings, like chicken, beef and fish, in unmedicated oil- and water-based formulas. Owners gave the cats different flavors at home and observed which their cats ate. However, no flavor stuck out as the favorite.

One interesting finding was that cats don't like sweet flavors in water-based formulations. This surprised Nichelason and her peers because cats can't taste sweetness.

"They lack the gene to taste sweetness, so it's interesting that they actively disliked the sweet flavor," she notes.

Another standout finding was that owners struggled to accurately guess which compounding flavor their cat would like. Owners' perceptions of their cats' preferences in the study were only moderately associated with flavor acceptance. Often, veterinarians use a client's judgment to determine flavor preference for medication, but this study suggests that owners might not be the best predictors of what their cats will prefer.

Although no individual flavor stuck out as a winner overall, cats favored oil-based

flavorings over water-based flavorings. That said, cats remain picky. Sixty percent of cats didn't like any of the oil-based flavors, compared to 85 percent that disliked the water-based flavors.

"The moral of the story is to try something that has the best odds of working," Nichelason says. "What I took home from this as a veterinarian is that I should avoid sweet flavors and use oil-based flavorings when possible."

In the meantime, Nichelason offers a few general recommendations for lessening the stress of giving your cat medication: Try different formulations – chews, liquid or tablets – based on what your cat likes.

If you aren't sure of their preference, many compounding pharmacies and veterinarians have unmedicated samples owners can try giving their cats before adding the medication.

Additionally, rewarding your cat after any medication with a treat or extra affection can reinforce a positive outcome. However, being honest with your veterinarian is most important. If the formulation isn't working and it is creating stress, let them know so you can work together to create a better medication plan.



*Excerpted from University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, December 19, 2022*

**"Cats lack the gene to taste sweetness, so it's interesting that they actively disliked the sweet flavor."**

## LOOKING FOR HOMES: Gemma, Patty & Selma and Smitty



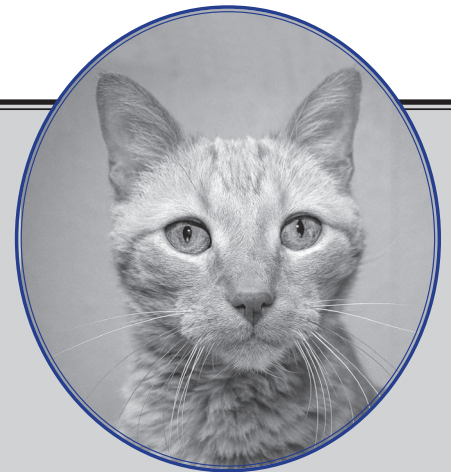
My name is **Gemma** and I'm a beautiful 2-year-old blue cream. My kittens and I were rescued from an apartment complex and now I'm here at StreetCats looking for my forever home. I am kind of shy. It takes me time to adjust to new people and places but I love tummy rubs and I was playful in my foster home. I've never lived with dogs and I don't mind other cats but I really just need a human companion. If you think that might be you, please come by and visit me.



We are sisters **Patty** and **Selma** and we are looking for a home together. Our mom was rescued when she was pregnant and we were born 7/16/2022 so we just celebrated our first birthday this summer. We are brown tabbies and look very much alike at first glance, but when you get to know us, you can tell us apart. We are very busy girls. We love to play with all kinds of toys, especially stick toys, and we run all over StreetCats. If you think you can keep up with us, come by and play!



I'm **Smitty** and I'm a handsome brown/grey tabby with white. My fur is a little bit longer than short and it's very soft. They think I'm about 2 years old. I was living outside but a nice person let me move inside where I loved to sleep on the bed. When I came to StreetCats, it took me a little time to adjust, but now I feel comfortable roaming about. I don't mind the other cats here, but I do my own thing. I do like my front petted, but not my back. If you need someone to share your bed, please come by to see me.



### BEAMER

May 3, 2023

Beamer's gone to the Rainbow Bridge  
we've lost his golden light  
as he waited by the door  
and made our spirits bright

His sunny disposition  
and his gentle winning ways  
made everyone he greeted  
have a very special day

But shed no tears for Beamer  
for he leaves such love behind  
and let it be his legacy  
for others of his kind



We will miss you Beamer  
J. Loyd 5/2023

# Memorial Donations

*Donations made in memory of loved ones received between April 1 and September 30, 2023. We are very sorry for all these losses and our kitties send many purrs of comfort.*

- R & L Alvarado in memory of Lindey McDaniel  
 V Anderson in memory of Beamer, StreetCats shop cat  
 A Archer in memory of Mittens for her birthday  
 D Baab in memory of Jasper, the best "Handsome Man," for Vickie & Steve Ludiker  
 J Baker in memory of Lindey McDaniel  
 P Baker in memory of Joan  
 K Balsiger in memory of Travis, son of JoAnn Flournoy, & Kat Martin's cat, Loki  
 D & C Beard in memory of Nicki who lived with us 20+ years  
 Bellissima Med Spa & Salon staff in memory of Douglas Arthur Weaver for his daughter Lisa Weaver  
 E Black in memory of Luna  
 H Brown in memory of Mama  
 J Buckner in memory of Catty Whompus, the gentlest cat ever, for Jeannie Davies  
 R Burke in memory of JW Burke who died 5/18/2022 and Ernie & Bradford for Connie & Joe Newell  
 D Collins in memory of Ernie  
 J & S Cosa in memory of Roadie  
 R Coursey in memory of Glynda's birthday  
 P & M Craft in memory of Church who died 3/15/2019  
 J Cronoble in memory of Brandon Cronoble  
 R Cruz in memory of Lindey McDaniel for Neal Eckert  
 J DeBoard in memory of Beamer  
 K & B Duncan in memory of Mr. Fluffy for Ryan & Steele Nowlin  
 T & T Easton in memory of Kramer  
 J Engle in memory of my beloved cat Florence  
 Estate of E Frank in memory of Elizabeth Frank
- A & R Farris in memory of Beamer, StreetCats shop cat  
 B Faubion in memory of JoeJoe  
 J & J Holder in memory of Lindey McDaniel  
 L Holland in memory of Hitch for Patti Roberson, in memory of Bradford for Connie & Joe Newell, & in memory of Beamer  
 L Howard in memory of Skipper  
 S Hruska in memory of Scott Muir  
 S Jones in memory of John Engle's cat Florence and in memory of Beamer  
 M Kaiser in memory of Scott Maynard Muir; he and his family sure loved their kitties  
 K Keller in memory of Richie  
 C Knapp in memory of Beamer  
 P Leininger in memory of Sally Leininger & their kitty Star  
 J Loyd in memory of Beamer  
 K Merrill in memory of Lindey McDaniel for Neal Eckert  
 B Miller in memory of Leo & Lobo  
 G Miller in memory of Jim Holland for Linda Holland, StreetCats volunteer  
 L Z Murguia in memory of Lindey McDaniel for Neal Eckert  
 C & J Newell in memory of Beamer, the sweetest cat ever and in memory of Ernie (5/11/23) & Bradford Eugene (7/5/23) who sadly have increased the group at the Rainbow Bridge  
 The Estate of Kathy Olsen & G Olsen in memory of his wife Kathy  
 Dr J Polkinghorne in memory of his cat Bubby, always loved, never forgotten  
 D Porter in memory of Bandit
- T Ritterhouse in memory of Terry Wilson, Jerry Smith, Tempa Sloan, Bear, Sonny, & Nicky  
 M D Robertson in memory of Scott Muir  
 V Sanborn in memory of Beamer  
 J & P Schreck in memory of Sushi for Laurie Schreck  
 B & R Scott in memory of Olivia & Linus, family pets  
 P Sellers in memory of Glenna Blackwelder who spent her life rescuing & protecting animals for her sisters Debi & Patti Blackwelder  
 D Sheets in memory of Bandit  
 R Sigala in memory of Lindey McDaniel for Neal Eckert  
 J Smithen in memory of Beamer, StreetCats shop cat; in memory of Hefft Katt, & in memory of Clancy Chester  
 MB Snyder for Elizabeth in memory of Nala who left this world too soon  
 LA Spahn in memory of her mom Peggy Foster  
 K Stucke in memory of Loretta Stucke  
 C Thomas in memory of beloved Jasper for Vickie & Steve Ludiker  
 J Thomas in memory of John Thomas  
 R A White in memory of Katy, 7 lovely years with her from StreetCats at age 10  
 C Wong in memory of Susan Danette Morris for her 71st birthday on 8/20/23



**Kathy's Petsitting**



Kathy Balsiger



bkathyskats@cox.net  
918-521-4039

## Newsletter Contributors

**Co-Editors: Vicki Anderson, Linda Holland**

**Writers: Vicki Anderson, Kathy Balsiger, Barbara Cohen, Linda Holland, Judy Loyd, Connie Newell, and Jodi Wise**

**Layout and Design: Janie Green**

**Photography: Vickie Sanborn, adopting cat families**

# Appreciations and Honors

*Donations given in appreciation of or in honor of someone or a pet received between April 1, 2023 and September 30, 2023.*

B & C Albert In honor of Beamer's blog  
 K Balsiger in honor of daughter Renee Fuhrman for her birthday  
 R Balsiger & C Mascioletti – Happy Mother's Day to Kathy Balsiger – we appreciate all you do for StreetCats  
 M & L Belcher in honor of Linda Holland's 80th birthday  
 L Christophersen in appreciation of Georgia  
 A Churchill in honor of London and in memory of Abby  
 R & R Claybourne in honor of Cinder becoming a StreetCat  
 D & T Collins in honor of Carmen Pistola on her death  
 C Cox in appreciation of Kathy Huber and Bella for Kathy's birthday  
 M Crawford in appreciation of StreetCats  
 C Fielder in honor of Alice Sprouse for her birthday  
 R & K Fletcher in appreciation of Thomas & Jill, the best cats  
 J R Green in honor of Connie & Joe Newell who introduced her to the good work of StreetCats  
 J Hanson in honor of StreetCats for the wonderful help & compassion for feral cats  
 J Hawkins in honor of Trapper

K Huber in honor of Carol Cox's birthday & Priscilla  
 M & P Hunter in honor of Linda Johnson's birthday & Allie  
 S James in appreciation of Vicki Anderson from Socks, Mackie, Michah & Malachi  
 E Johnson in appreciation of Kathy Balsiger & Linda Holland  
 S King in appreciation of all the excellent work done by StreetCats' volunteers  
 M Millis in honor of Nile  
 P Moore in honor of my dear friend Carol Fielder for her birthday  
 L Moyer in honor of the 10 year anniversary of Diva's adoption from StreetCats; love this sweet kitty  
 J Newell in honor of David Seres  
 L Paul in honor of her cat Calli  
 R Porter in honor of Stan Hill for his birthday  
 A Sprouse Happy Birthday Carol Fielder!  
 R Thrun in honor of Smitty  
 D Webber thank you, StreetCats, for all you do  
 S Wilkins in honor of Flower  
 L Winsworth in appreciation of Vicki Anderson



## STREETCATS WISH LIST

**Most Needed – Wal-Mart/Sam's Gift Cards any denomination**

**Postage Stamps**

**Non Clumping Clay litter (we use clay in our facility)**

**Paper Towels**

**Tall strong kitchen size trash bags – prefer Glad, Hefty or Sam's Club**

**HE laundry detergent pods or HE liquid laundry detergent**

**Clorox liquid bleach**

**Clorox Clean-Up spray cleaner or refill container**

**Small bottles of water for volunteers (Neighborhood Market or Wal-Mart)**

**Fancy Feast canned food both pate and grilled; various flavors**

**8 ½ x 11 white printer paper**

**Letter size (4 1/8 x 9 ½) white envelopes**

**Large & XL size vinyl gloves (we do have men who volunteer with us)**

Caring for your pets in their home



## Furry Angels Pet Care

dog walking, kitty care,

and01319@gmail.com

bird care, mail,

www.andreas-furry-angels.com

plants, administer meds, etc.

918-695-5118 | (please text)

### CAT FACTS: *Did you know...*

- Kittens are born with closed eyes but they are blue when they finally open.
- Cats' collar bones don't connect to their other bones, as these bones are buried in their shoulder muscles.
- Cats have the largest eyes relative to their head size of any mammal.
- Felines walk like camels and giraffes moving both of their right feet first, then moving their left feet. No other animals walk this way.
- Male cats are more likely to be left-pawed and female cats are more likely to be right-pawed.



# StreetCats, Inc.

6520 E. 60TH ST.  
TULSA, OK 74145  
(918) 298-0104  
WWW.STREETCATSTULSA.ORG  
E-MAIL: CATS@STREETCATSTULSA.ORG

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Tulsa, OK

Permit No. 1957

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, are receiving it in error, your name is misspelled, or would prefer to receive it by e-mail, please call (918) 298-0104 or e-mail [cats@streetcatstulsa.org](mailto:cats@streetcatstulsa.org).

**FALL 2023**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## VETERINARY AFFILIATES

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Feline Specialties  
Kindness Animal Hospital

StreetCats, Inc. • 6520 E. 60th St.  
Tulsa, OK • 74145 • (918) 298-0104 (message line)  
[www.StreetCatsTulsa.org](http://www.StreetCatsTulsa.org)  
E-mail: [Cats@StreetCatsTulsa.org](mailto:Cats@StreetCatsTulsa.org)

Gift boutique and adoption center located on  
the east side of South Sheridan at 60th Street.

Hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tuesday through Saturday.

StreetCats, Inc. is a 501(c)(3)  
tax-deductible nonprofit organization.

## Another Word for Love

*I've curled up by the fireplace  
on a pillow of my own  
and though everyone has gone to bed  
I know I'm not alone*

*Over in the corner  
stands a fragrant Christmas tree  
with softly colored twinkling lights  
for everyone to see*

*I remember how it frightened me  
when somehow it appeared  
but of course I could not run away  
no matter what I feared*

*You see I had my kittens  
such tiny balls of fur  
they were my world and I was theirs  
with every little purr*

*For at last we had been rescued  
and soon were warm and fed  
the kittens curled up next to me  
on a blanket for a bed*

*Time went by so magically  
they went to loving homes  
where each could have a family  
and never want to roam*

*And though there's much I'll never know  
about this world above  
of one thing I am certain  
adoption just means love*

Judy Loyd,  
October 2023

If you are looking for previous poems or articles, our newsletters are on our website under Resources, Past Newsletters.