

StreetCats FALL 2013



Looking for a new feline friend? Pretty **Miss Molly** would love to meet you. Turn to **page 3** to meet more of the adorable kitties



who are staying with us while they wait for their forever homes.

Did you know you can shop on the Internet and benefit StreetCats at the same time? Log onto www.igive.com, designate StreetCats as your charity, and we'll get a percentage of the purchase. Igive has over 2,000 merchants in more than 40 different categories, so you're sure to find something you love!

See what's new on our website!

Volunteers redesign site, launch new blog

Ever find yourself wishing you could find something uplifting, lighthearted and beautiful to read on the Internet as you have your morning coffee or evening nightcap? Look no further, as we have the answer!

Two of our amazing and talented volunteers, **Rita Woodall** and **Vickie Sanborn**, have teamed up to bring you a blog all about StreetCats filled with fantastically told stories from the viewpoint of **Lulu**, a very special long-term resident, accompanied by stunning photos of the cats.

Just before this issue went to press, Lulu found a forever home, so a new cat will



StreetCat Lulu whispers a new blog idea to volunteer Rita Woodall so she and Vickie Sanborn can put it online.

be taking over her blog. Give it a read at www.streetcatstulsa.blogspot.com or access it from our Facebook page (www.facebook.

Read more about volunteer Rita Woodall. p. 5

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com/streetcatsinc) or from our new website (www. streetcatstulsa.org).

How long has it been since you

looked at our website? If it's been a while, please check it out, as we went live with a new site in September 2013.

Drew Robinson, a Broken Arrow teacher, volunteered to develop this for us, and we are very grateful.

She has redesigned everything and has worked with **Jim Wirtz**, our long-term IT volunteer who keeps it running.

We are all very excited about our new website, and we hope you'll enjoy accessing it frequently to keep up with kitties we have for adoption, upcoming events, etc.

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Wanted: Barn homes for ferals

Needed: Safe outdoor homes for relocation of feral (or unsocialized) cats!

StreetCats is consistently asked for help in relocating cats that are not socialized cats or "pet quality" cats.

Many times these cats need to be relocated because of a building project that takes away these cats' habitat, or the living conditions have become unsafe for them to continue to survive.

Cats can prove invaluable for a rancher or farm in a rural

area, or even a business park warehouse where rats and mice tend to be a problem.

Hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars can be saved for the property owner with the cats keeping the rodent population under control!

However, it is not as easy as just taking the cat to another location and dropping it off.

Cats have a strong homing instinct, which will cause them to travel miles and miles to return to their original territory.

In order to relocate cats, the

following guidelines need to be met:

• The cat(s) must be kenneled in a cage, tack room, shed, or the barn, etc. in a safe, temperature controlled environment for a minimum of two weeks. The older the cat, the longer it should stay kenneled, as it will need to relearn what "home" is. The purpose of kenneling is for them to get used to the sights, smells, sounds of the barn home. It also helps

See BARN CATS, p. 2

Page 2 Fall 2013

Memorial contributions

Melanie Abczynski in memory of Jan Woolverton

Maegan Askew in memory of Dr. Dorothy Turetsky

Patsy Baker in memory of her daughter Joan

Andres Buonanno in memory of Dr. Dorothy Turetsky

Pat Clark in memory of Ming-li

Barbara Cohen in memory of Heather Harrod's special kitty, Isabelle

Bill and Karen Copeland in memory of Lucy, beloved feline companion of Paula Strunk

Richard Coursey in keeping the memory of Glynda

Desai Anand in memory of Dr. Dorothy Turetsky

Gail Fites in memory of Shadow, beloved cat of Vic Powell and Greer Fites

Bill and Sherri Griggs in memory of Jakey

Victoria Guagliardo in memory of her sister, Susan Morris

Tom and Sylvia Howard in memory of Barbara Lamer's birthday

Judi Huitt in memory of Jim and Carolyn McGhay's very special kitty, Skye

Linda Duckworth, Barbara Roberts, Lindsey Dickenson, Bettie Oliver, Sheila Chenoweth, Samantha Polen, Evelyn Gaser, Marilyn Roach, Lou Anne Burns; Dr. Jennifer O'Cain, Carol Benway, Linda and Jim Holland, Habitat Tuesday Morning Miracle Workers, Angie VanDyke in memory of Connie Hutchinson

Sylvia and Jess Insall in memory of Michaela

Frank Lindner in memory of his kitty, Lucy, that gave him 24 years of happiness

Pat Loyd in memory of her kitty

Bill Mildren in memory of his wife Marie, who loved cats and taught him to love them also

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Miller in memory of Molly

Dennis Morris in memory of Susan Morris on her birthday

Frank Lindner in memory of Mary Alice Neal

Mike and Bettie Oliver in memory of Cindy Henry's Sweet Louie

Samantha Polen in memory of Skye McGhay

The Polen Family in memory of Pam Witte's sweet little kitty from Romania, Zoe

Samantha Polen in memory of Chad and Nancy Cline's beloved dog, Ginger

Samantha Polen in memory of Nedean Guerin's lovable Tigger Samantha Polen in memory of Dale McPherson's sweet Petey Bob and Marion Richardson in memory of Brother on what would have been his 23rd birthday

Carlton Rowton in memory of Janice Rowton on their anniversary

Arlene Thomas in memory of her cat Tri-State Utility in memory of Sherry Donohue

Ailsa Vojvoda in memory of Kim Vojvoda's Gus

Lisa Wall in memory of Syd Vicious and Capt. Hook

Adrienne Watt in memory of Kitty Figgins

Diana Wells-Gotwals in memory of her mother, Katherine Hughes

Sharon Welvaert in memory of the Galbierz' Snoopy

Debra White in memory of Samantha, who was loved by Gene, Cathy and Shadow Beaver

Connie Wong in memory of Susan Morris on her birthday

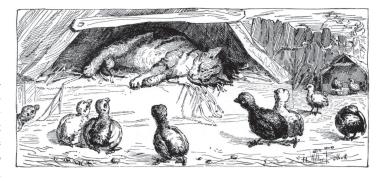
BARN CATS

from page 1

them learn that they have a caretaker, and that caretaker is the one that provides food/water/shelter. They learn to trust that caretaker. Although the caretaker may never be able to handle the cat, the cat will still know this is home.

• The cat(s) should be provided with fresh food and water at all times throughout their life at the barn home.

Never should one assume the cat will be living on the rodents it catches. In fact, the cat will be a better mouser and



more likely to stay in the new home if it is fed and can depend on a balanced diet.

• The cat(s) should be provided shelter at all times throughout their life at their barn home — shelter being the barn, or someplace that is safe

for them to get in out of the weather (heat or cold or rain).

- All barn cats should go to the barn home already spayed/ neutered with a rabies vaccination; no pregnant cats should ever go to a barn home.
- No declawed cat should ever go to a barn home.
- It is preferable to have ears notched or tipped to identify the resident cats in case others show up uninvited.
- No special needs cats should ever go to a barn home, unless the problem is not using a litter pan and it is behavioral and not medical; however, a vet should be consulted to verify it is not medical.

It should be understood by

everyone that the life of a barn cat may not be long; but a safe shelter from predators, a safe distance from a busy street or road, a good diet, fresh water, and protection from the elements will go a long way in providing quality of life.

Many farm or barn cats live long, healthy lives with good caretakers.

Something to consider is having a plan for the cats should the property be sold or new people move onto the property.

The cats won't likely move with you; so someone needs to be committed to maintaining the colony.

If you are willing to go this extra mile and give a home to some cats that may never be "pets," per se, please contact StreetCats.

We have many contacts to put you in touch with that are needing help with cats that through no fault of their own are needing to be relocated.

Remember to spay and neuter so this problem will not continue to be so widespread!

MOBILE PET VET



Carolynne Cash, DVM (918) 346-0823

Email: drcash@mobilepetvetok.com mobilepetvetok.com FALL 2013 PAGE 3

Need a feline friend? Meet these charmers!

Donald

Once in a great while, an incredible cat comes along with looks, brains, and personality. That would be me!

Hi, I'm Donald, not "Duck" or "Trump,"



though I could have been. I'm a brown tabby, about two years old, and I'm a lean, mean (just kidding, since I'm very sweet) kitty machine.

I'm smart,

as all the volunteers will tell you, I'm handsome, and I light up a room. I love to play with all those great toys at StreetCats, and I'll have to admit, I'm a bit of a showoff.

My former owner hated to give me up but had to due to the economy; however, she assured me StreetCats would find me someone special.

Are you that special person? I can't wait to meet you.

Miss Molly

If you're into beautiful white fur, then I'm the girl for you. I am perhaps somewhere between eight and 13 years old,

though a lady doesn't usually tell her age.

I'm sure I must have some royal blood, and if you stop by StreetCats, I'll let you see the silvery mark-



ings on my forehead that could be a crown!

I'm a little reserved (as is most royalty), but once I get to know you, I can be very affectionate, as I love to be petted and fussed over. Left at a veterinary clinic but personally rescued by a StreetCats volunteer, I am sure to be the girl of your dreams.

Miss Molly and **Donald** are just two of the sweet StreetCats available for adoption. To see a current list of available cats, visit *www.streetcatstulsa.org*.

IGive lets you help StreetCats while avoiding crowded shops

Have you ever read the words underneath the title *StreetCats Chat*?

If you haven't, it is a brief explanation about ordering items online through **IGive**. So many people order items online these days instead of fighting the crowds at the mall and driving all over

town to find just what they wanted when a click will do it all for you.

IGive is a way to order items but to also donate to your favorite charity without any additional cost to you but you do have to sign up listing StreetCats as your charity to receive the donations.

Did you know?

When you make online purchases through IGive, a percentage of the price is donated to the charity of your choice, so you can help StreetCats while you shop! IGive now has over 2,000 businesses that you can order from, and when you do, a percentage of your purchase price will be given to StreetCats, your charity of choice.

We have received quarterly checks from IGive, so we appreciate those of you

who have been using it to order your online products, but for those of you who haven't, just go to *www.Igive.com* and sign up and start ordering.

What could be better than staying at home and ordering your purchases and giving to a great organization at the same time?

A word from our president

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the fall weather while looking forward to the holiday season.

Be sure to visit us at **An Affair** of the **Heart of Tulsa** and the **Darnaby Craft Show** for special gifts — even if they are for you!

Our wonderful facility that houses our gift boutique and kitties is my subject today.

There is a new Oklahoma law to eliminate puppy mills and facilities with poor care for the animals.

Breeders, as well as adoption organizations with 10 or more animals are subject to state inspection plus a \$200 annual fee before we can be approved as a licensed adoption facility. We have passed our state inspection and are now licensed.

Cleaning thoroughly has always been a high priority every day at StreetCats. It is important for our kitties' health as well as for having a nice facility for people to visit.

Thank you to **Linda Holland**, our volunteer coordinator, for being diligent in keeping up with this task as well as all our non-paid dedicated morning and afternoon shift volunteers that make this happen.

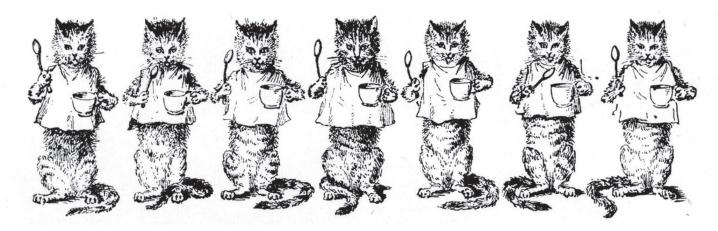
We do get compliments on a regular basis about how great our facility smells and looks. This is a source of pride to everyone who makes this happen. All the volunteers make StreetCats the nice, clean, safe and enjoyable haven it is for visitors and residents.

If you haven't been to our Adoption Center and Gift Boutique yet, I hope you will take the time to stop by and visit our waiting kitties, maybe buy a few things, and say thanks to whoever is volunteering that day.

Kathy Balsiger

StreetCats president

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Vouchers can reduce overpopulation

Spay, neuter strays with 'Stitch in Time' program

"That cat is back here again looking for food."

"Oh, dear, here's another one, and this looks like a male that hasn't been fixed. I wonder if the other cat is a female that hasn't been spayed."

"Looks like we need to help out the neighborhood and get these cats spayed or neutered before we have kittens running around, too!"

"Kittens are sure cute, but they can multiply very quickly, and then there will be toooo many cats in this neighborhood."

"Where did these cats come from?"

"I think someone three houses away moved and put their cats outside to live on their own."

"Oh, and then there is a declawed cat also in the neighborhood that hasn't been fixed because his owner didn't like the idea of neutering a male but was afraid his claws would scratch up that nice leather furniture."

"Now the cat is outside because of behavioral problems. He obviously didn't know that unneutered males get in more fights and are likely to mark territory with urine spray. Of course, they also keep a close eye for females that haven't been spayed. What are we going to do?"

If this sounds familiar, you will be happy to know that one solution is to call StreetCats and sign up for spay and neuter vouchers so these cats can either find homes more easily or can continue to live outside and help control the small crit-

ter population but not reproduce. (Of course, a declawed cat should never be left outside because of its lack of self-protection.)

Our program "A Stitch in Time" has been a great success with the help of generous, concerned vets: Best Friends Veterinary Hospital, Cedarwood Veterinary Clinic, Kindness Animal Hospital, The Mobile Pet Vet, Riverbrook Animal Hospital and — with special authorization — VCA Woodland Broken Arrow.

StreetCats only charges \$20 per voucher, which covers a spay or a neuter and a one-year rabies vaccination, along with one dose of pain medication. Then StreetCats pays the balance of the veterinary bills for the surgery.

These vets do have a lot of costs involved in performing these surgeries, but they also discount their services to us so that more cats can be sterilized to reduce overpopulation. This is a great way to help the kitties on the streets that no one else is taking responsibility for.

Your donations help us afford to issue more vouchers on a monthly basis because, as noted above, the \$20 doesn't cover all the veterinary expenses incurred.

If you want to help kitties in your neighborhood, please call the StreetCats message line at (918) 298-0104, and Lindsey Dickenson will call you back and talk to you further about our program and get your vouchers reserved.

We do suggest you call two to four weeks prior to the next month for vouchers since our demand is so high.





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Meet volunteer Rita Woodall

Rita Woodall has been volunteering with StreetCats for a year and a half.

She volunteered because she had a little time on her hands and wanted to do something for animals, but she continues to volunteer because she is having so much fun!

Rita is retired from the Department of Human Services, where she worked for over 30 years.

She was born and raised in northeast Oklahoma, and although she has lived on both coasts of the US, she considers herself a true Okie.

She spends the time she is not at StreetCats volunteering with her church, All Souls Unitarian Church; vis-



Rita has enjoyed spending time with Lulu at StreetCats.

iting her daughters who live out of state; reading; watching sports; playing computer Scrabble and working jigsaw puzzles.

She and her husband,

Steve, are movie geeks and spend a lot of time at Circle Cinema as well as other theaters in town. They also share their love of books and attend many BookSmart Tulsa events. For Rita, retirement is both busy and fun!

In general, StreetCats volunteer work is fun for Rita.

The most fun she has had at StreetCats is helping **Lulu** write her blog. She loved spending the time with Lulu that was needed to conspire about what they should write next!

Getting to know the cats that come to StreetCats is a huge treat and she has loved meeting other people with "cat passion."

Honoraria

Donald and Paula Allen in honor and appreciation of Gracie

Dorothy Clark for the kitties to celebrate Linda Holland's birthday The Coleman family in celebration of

Aunt Martha Williams' birthday

Melvin Craft in appreciation of his

StreetCat, Church

Gary and Pat Crocker in honor of Rita Rowe's Birthday

From friends of Neal Franklin in celebration of his 10th birthday

Steve Hester in honor of a great organization

Beverly Hill in appreciation of Stan and Delinda Hill

Betty Long in appreciation of her new kitten, Tyrone

Karen Mahaffey in honor of Fluffy Jeff & Carol Reese in appreciation of StreetCat volunteers

Susan Savage in honor of Miss Kitty Jandra Smithen in honor of the Spring birthdays of Heffti and Clancy Chester Smithen

Jerry Tiner in honor of Susan Gustafson Tiner

StreetCats appreciates our sponsors' generous support

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Mark your calendar!

It's shaping up to be a busy fall and winter for StreetCats. Be sure to save these important dates so you don't miss any of the fun:

Nov. 22-24

An Affair of the Heart of Tulsa. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Fairgrounds. We will have booths 463 and 464.

Dec. 7

Darnaby Craft Show. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at UMAC, 6836 S. Mingo.

Dec. 8, 9 and 11

Gift wrapping fundraiser. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday; 5 to 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at Barnes & Noble on 41st Street. Monday and Wednesday may be split into two shifts. The gift wrapping is free to their customers, but we'll have a donation jar, and most people are very generous to StreetCats. We'll provide bows and gift cards for the packages. Plus, you get to spend time in a wonderful bookstore. Call Linda Holland at (918) 492-8887 to volunteer.

Feb. 9, 2014

My Furry Valentine. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Tulsa Historical Society. Please call (918) 298-0104 if you would like to donate new items for our silent auction or tasty treats for our dessert tasting.

StreetCats Boutique and Adoption Center holiday hours

Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 28): Closed. Christmas Eve: Close at 1 p.m. Christmas: Closed New Year's Eve: Close at 1 p.m. New Year's Day: Closed

The Meaning of Rescue

Now that I'm home, bathed, settled and fed, all nicely tucked in my warm new bed, I'd like to open my baggage, lest I forget. There is so much to carry, so much to regret.

Hmm ... yes, there it is right on the top, let's unpack loneliness, heartache and loss. And there by my perch hides fear and shame. As I look on these things I tried so hard to leave -I still have to unpack my baggage called pain.

I loved them, the others, the ones who left me, but I wasn't good enough - for they didn't want me. Will you add to my baggage? Will you help me unpack? Or will you just look at my things and then take me

Do you have time to help me unpack? To help put away my baggage, to never repack? I pray that you do — I'm so tired, you see, but I do come with baggage - will you still want me?

- Author Unknown

A Pet's Ten Commandments

- 1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
- 2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
- 3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
- 4. Don't be angry with me for long, and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.
- 5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
- **6.** Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.

- 7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet, I choose not to bite you.
- 8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old or weak.
- 9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You, too, will grow
- 10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me, please. Never say you

can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.

Take a moment today to thank God for your pets. Enjoy and take good care

perience without God's critters.

Now, please pass this on to other pet owners. We do not have to wait for Heaven to be surrounded by hope, love and joyfulness. It is here on earth and has four legs!



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Warm, fuzzy tales from new homes



Spots, a.k.a. Venus

gether. Their new owner says they are awesome kitties that are a great addition to the family.

> They are very vocal when it is meal time.

Spots and Bolt (now

Venus and Diana) are two siblings that were lucky to be adopted to-

One of their favorite things to do is to look down on everyone from a support beam in the upstairs loft.



Bolt, a.k.a. Diana

Jerry, a handsome

His owners say he

fellow with shiny black

fur, adjusted quickly to

has made a difference

in their lives, and they

his new home.

adore him.

Handsome Jerry

He loves playing with his stick toy and is sure to remind them when it's time to play.

Lucky kitties adopted May 1-Sept. 30

Fluffy — Joanne Thach

Bolt — Justin Bellatti Booty — Nancy and Nick Bratkovich Buttercup — Johanna Adams Caleb — Tracy Parks Calvin — Kathy Wilhite Cara — Frank Lindner Catty — Margaret Graham Daphne — Roberta Reed Diva — Lynn Moyer Fella — Stephanie Straight Flo - Jill Crites

Harvey — Nancy and Nick Bratkovich Jerry — Deborah Meis JuneBug — Angela Reed Layla — Suzy Binder Miss Kittie — Deborah Crabtree Molly — Sherry Vaughn Okie — Jackie Escobales Princess Snowdrop — Laurie Seibert

Purrcie — Phyllis Buckland Rings — Melinda Smith Sadie — Reba Hettwer Spots — Justin Bellatti Thomaseo — Beth Colvin Violet — Sharyl Landis

We love to get updates on how all our kitties are doing in their new homes. Adopters, please drop us a line and tell us about your new friend!

Princess Snowdrop Miss (now **Pink**) loves to watch the birds that are outside on the bird feeder, and at night, she relaxes on a pillow next to her new owner.



Princess Snowdrop. a.k.a. Miss Pink

with the daughter in his new family.

When she has to leave for school, he cries, and when she comes home from school in the afternoon, he rolls around in front of



Caleb, a.k.a. Teddy

Caleb (now Teddy) has really bonded her to welcome her back home.

OUR CHRISTWAS WISH LIST

For StreetCats:

Wal-Mart/Sam's gift cards, any denomination Tall kitchen trash bags Liquid laundry detergent or detergent pods Clorox liquid bleach Clorox Clean-Up spray Postage stamps Cat food — canned & dry Bottled water

Toilet paper Printer/copy paper 932XL black ink cartridges Liquid-Plumr Dryer sheets Paper towels

Don't forget the Christmas wish list for Meals on Wheels:

Scoopable litter Unopened dry cat food Canned cat food

Did you know?

Cat years in human terms

We often want to think about the age of our cat in human terms. We cannot necessarily say one cat year equals so many human years, since the comparison changes with the age of the cat. The following table provides a comparison of cat and human years.

| Cat Years | Human Years |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | 15 |
| 2 | 20 |
| 3 | 25 |
| 7 | 45 |
| 10 | 58 |
| 15 | 78 |
| 20 | 98 |
| | |

There is no specific definition of a 'senior' or 'geriatric' cat. In general, cats are considered to be 'senior' when they are 8-10 years of age. Cats over 12 years of age would probably be considered 'geriatric' by most veterinarians. These classifications are rather arbitrary; a cat on his 8th birthday is not suddenly a 'senior.' We need to remember aging is a gradual and lifelong process.

The oldest recorded age of a cat is 34 years.

Source: PetEducation.com



StreetCats, Inc.

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FALL 2013

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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.

THE CHRISTMAS WISH

The night was cold and very still As I sat on your window sill

And as the snowflakes softly fell Your eyes met mine and I could tell

There had been others at your door That you had loved and fed before

Then soon you took me in your arms And I knew I was safe from harm

For on this night of hopes and dreams When all is not what it might seem

I made a wish and it came true You see, my Christmas wish was you

Judy Loyd
October 2013