



STREETCATS CHAT

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 700 merchants in more than 40 different categories, so you're sure to find something you love!

Fall 2011

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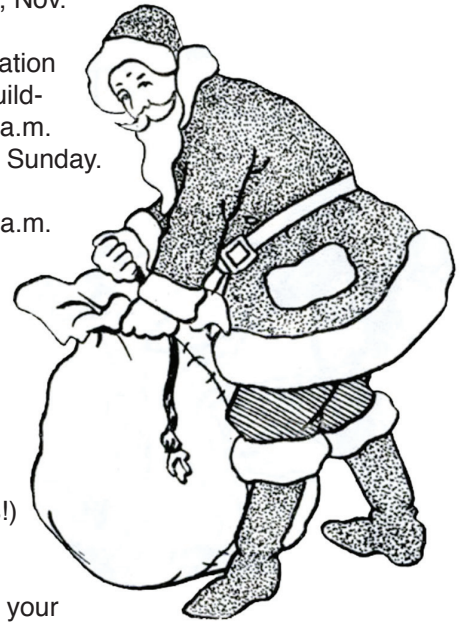
HELP STREETCATS AS YOU DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

An Affair of the Heart of Tulsa event will be Friday, Nov. 18 through Sunday, Nov. 20 in the QT Center at the Fairgrounds. Once again, we will be in our great location (booths 383 and 384), which is close to the south building entrance behind the Golden Driller. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The **Darnaby Arts and Crafts Show** will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Union Intermediate High School, 7616 S. Garnett. This is another very popular show, and we hope you'll come by our booth there as well.

Shop both these events for unique holiday or anytime gifts for you, your kitties, or your friends! As always, we will have the highly-sought-after **Laurel Burch** merchandise (StreetCats has the best prices!) and other holiday gift and home decor items.

We look forward to seeing you and helping you with your holiday purchases!



SPOTLIGHT VOLUNTEER: BARBARA ROBERTS



Barbara Roberts volunteers on the Intake Committee.

Barbara Roberts has been a volunteer for more than eight years and currently works a Thursday morning shift at the Adoption Center. She is a board member and was previously recording secretary but now is a volunteer on the Intake Committee.

StreetCats has a bulletin board for people to post flyers of cats needing homes, and Barbara does an excellent job keeping our intake list current from the posted flyers. Unfortunately, our list is usually between 20 and 30 cats waiting to come in, but Barbara loves to hear when cats have already found a home when she calls and is excited when we are able to bring in another StreetCat.

At home, Barbara has Grayson, who is 10; Sophie, who is 11; and Groucho, 5. Both Sophie

and Groucho are former StreetCats! Some of you may remember Groucho, who is a big black and white cat with a mustache. Barbara is currently fostering Clem, a young black kitten a neighbor found. Hopefully he'll come into StreetCats when he is older. If you are interested in adopting him, call the StreetCats phone line, and Barbara will call you back!

Barbara is wonderful about helping at all the fundraisers and whenever an extra hand is needed. When she's not volunteering, she enjoys reading mysteries, getting together with friends, and being proud of her grandsons, who went to Bixby High School and then OU and OSU.

We all appreciate Barbara and her dedication and hard work in everything StreetCats!

Mission Statement: StreetCats, Inc., believes that all cats deserve a home. StreetCats wishes to reduce the population of unwanted cats by maintaining "A Stitch-in-Time," a spay and neuter program for feral and stray cats, and by sheltering cats who no longer have people to care for them. We seek adoptive families who value animals and will love and protect our StreetCats.

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT, KATHY BALSIGER

Hello again to all of you! Finally, our hottest summer ever is behind us. We are hoping for adoptions and sales to pick up now that the weather has cooled off a bit. We really appreciate all the support we have continued to receive this year when we know that the economy makes it harder and harder to keep up charitable giving.

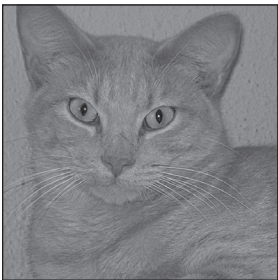
In this letter, I would like to briefly share with you the story of the first StreetCat. As our organization was in its first stages of being organized, I found a teenage black cat in a tree while I was working in the middle of nowhere. He was taken to the veterinary clinic that we were intending to work with (and still work with), Feline Specialties, and it was determined that he would be our first "intake." StreetCats' first fundraiser was an ice-cream social, and we held a contest to name the kitty. He was christened "**Licorice**" from that contest, and I took him home to foster him while we looked for a permanent or "forever" home for him. Well, just as it has happened to so many of you and to our volunteers when fostering, I failed! He stole my heart, and I adopted him.

On August 7, I lost one of my most precious companions. Licorice, who I had called **Ricky** all of these years, died unexpectedly. We estimate that he was only around 15 years old, based on the StreetCats inception year of 1997. But Ricky had had a full, comfortable life, and in those years with me, he helped to "parent" many a foster cat with his nurturing ways and loving, sweet purrsonality and disposition.

Let me remind you that many times when you may consider helping and "rescuing" a cat, the truth is that the animal you bring home may be as much a benefit to you as you are to it!

Have a wonderful holiday season.

SPOTLIGHT KITTIES



Poncho is a charming 1-year-old, light cream male who loves to play. He is friendly and affectionate, and he needs a home

with another cat that he can be friends and play with for hours. A couple of his buddies at StreetCats got adopted, and he's been a bit lonely ever since. We're not sure whether he's been around dogs, but the right dog could also be a fun playmate. He should also be a great cat with children, but he would likely not be happy as the only pet in a house.

Jack and **Jill** are two playful 5-month-old kittens that would be perfect for any family. They are both tabbies, but Jack is a dark brown or gray coloring, while Jill is a brindle with orange in her coat. These kittens are very loving, and both are purr babies. They have been around children, and picking them up and carrying them around gently is fine with them. If you sit for a minute, Jack comes and lets you know he wants to be petted.



We want them to be adopted together because they love each other and want to be together, plus they will make your family complete!



Forrest is a gorgeous gray and white, 7-year-old male with medium length fur. He lived with a lady and a dog for about 5 years, but when his mom got married, he lost his home due to the new husband. He also would do

well as an only cat, although he doesn't seem to have a problem with other cats except when there are so many like we have at StreetCats. He is sweet and loving once he trusts you.

If you adopt from StreetCats, there is a **one-month** time period for you to see if the cat fits well in your household. If it isn't a good match, the cat can be returned to us and your adoption fee reimbursed.

While we never want cats to come back to us, it is important that both the cat and its new family are happy. We also know that every cat and household is different, and settling-in time can vary. These particular cats are quite laid-back and will likely adjust to a home within a week or two. Take one home, and you won't ever regret it. They are very, very sweet and just need a home of their own to prove it.

Kitties featured in past newsletters that are still waiting to be adopted are **Vanna** and **Holly Hope**. They both would do best in a single-cat home. Vanna is currently in foster care and is spending her time as a purring lap kitty.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

MEMORIALS

Amy Adams in memory of Glynda Coursey
 Patsy Baker in memory of her daughter Joan Baker
 Tonya Bull in memory of Bobbie Brown's Dexter
 Nancy Cline in memory of Mimi Heffern's Simone
 Bill and Karen Copeland in memory of Rob and Laurie
 Crowder's kitty Ronnie
 Gary and Pat Crocker in memory of Eliot a much loved former StreetCat, adopted by Rita Rowe over a decade ago (Simba when adopted)
 Patricia Crowe in memory of Cookie and Nestle
 Linda Holland in memory of Lindsey's beloved Sadie
 Ted McClure in memory of Ethel McClure
 Hugh Niewoehner in memory of Glynda Coursey
 Tracy Nyquist in memory of the Eager's Tommy Wayne and her Little Bear
 Osage Land Company in memory of Glynda Coursey
 Sylvia Pike in memory of her cat, C.C.
 Samantha Polen in memory of Zena, a StreetCat who was loved by Dale McPherson and Andrea Spears-Kidwell and many others!
 Samantha Polen in memory of StreetCats Simone and Beeswax, loved by Mimi and Ed Heffern.

Samantha Polen in memory of Lindsey Dickinson's dear dog, Sadie
 Kathy Potts in memory of Beau
 Marion Richardson in memory of Chris Raupp
 Sandy Schimmel in memory of Joan Baker
 Donna Swaffar in memory of Donald Carey's father Leroy
 Janet Thomas in memory of Dr. Cheryl Kilpatrick's beloved cat, Callie
 Janet Thomas in memory of John Thomas' kitty angel, Roxie
 John Thomas in memory of Callie

HONORS

Secular Franciscan Order in honor of Saint Francis
 Barbara Chapman in honor of John Terral's birthday
 Dr. Rick and Barbara Cohen in honor of Tyson, the parking lot cat they rescued
 Gary and Pat Crocker in honor of Phil Marshall's birthday
 Gary and Pat Crocker in honor of Rita Rowe's birthday
 Darrell Loyd in honor of Judy Loyd
 Jandra Smithen in honor of Heffti's 7th birthday
 Susan Snow in honor of a friend's birthday
 Gregory Thomas in honor of Jeff and Carol Reese

SPONSORS

Sponsors have made contributions of \$100 or more.

Lynn Ackerman	Darcy Golden	Old Village Cleaners
Nancy Ahmed	Deborah Goodson	Osage Land Company
Audrey Alcorn	Diane Gotwals	Marion Richardson
Becky Bell	Sherrri Griggs	Mary Schaub
P.C. Cast, Cast LLC	David Hamm	Inge Scholz
Ben and Sheila Chenoweth	Linda Harden	Susan Stankeivicz
Dr. Rick and Barbara Cohen	Joan Hatley	Donna Swaffar
Jose and Sheree Cosa	Connie Hayes	Miki Swenson
Gary and Pat Crocker	RT and Ellen Jones	Mr. and Mrs. James Swindler
D.C.P. Midstream	Sara Kelly	Linda Teter
Jamie Dailey	Geneva Lewis	Gregory Thomas
Richard and Kay Davis	Frank Lindner	Janet Thomas
Kathy Balsiger and Jeff Earthum	Judith London	Top That! Pizza
Terry Fenner	Helen MacKay	Martha Williams
Debra Foote	Christi McLelland	Kimberly Woffard
Sharon Garvin	Susan Moldenauer	Yaffe Metals

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DONATIONS NEEDED FOR MY FURRY VALENTINE

We are returning to the beautiful facility at the **Tulsa Historical Society** for our annual **My Furry Valentine** event on Feb. 12, 2012. This is our most popular and largest fundraiser. It includes not only a fantastic silent auction, but also a scrumptious dessert tasting, Starbucks coffee, punch and wine. Invitations will be mailed in early January. Once again, we have a beautiful cat quilt created by **Nancy Adams** as our raffle item. Everything is donated to make this event possible and to help us with our expenses, since we exist solely on donations and the help of wonderful volunteers. No one in our organization is paid.

Unfortunately, a number of generous restaurants that have donated desserts to us in past years have fallen victim to the economy and are no longer in business. **If you have a favorite restaurant that you think would be interested in supporting us** with a dessert, we'd appreciate you talking with them to see if they would be willing to help our "kitty cause," then just let us know who to contact so that final arrangements to obtain this dessert from them can be made.



We always send out a thank-you note that will allow them to take a tax write-off for anything that they donate. If you are a great baker and wish to donate a dessert, we would be very grateful as well! We've had requests for more salty treats, such as cheese and crackers, in addition to our sweet stuff, so we're hoping to fulfill these requests also.

We thank so many of you who have generously donated items for our silent auction in the past, and we hope you will consider doing that again. The volunteers who create the fantastic gift baskets in the auction love to have either complete baskets donated or special items that they will use to make this year's auction the best ever. All items must be new and unused unless they are an antique or collectible.

If you would like to donate anything for this event, please contact **Linda Holland** at 918-492-8887, and she'll make sure that the right volunteer gets back with you.

We thank you for all your help with this event, and we look forward to having the best My Furry Valentine ever in 2012.

CHILI'S TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR STREETCATS

Chili's at 51st and Harvard is sponsoring StreetCats for a "give back" day from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, Nov. 16**. We will have fliers at our shop to give out and for you to distribute.

The day of the event, you can tell your server you are there for Street Cats, and 10% of your purchase will be donated to StreetCats. We also will be passing out flyers to all the vets we use so that anyone who loves Chili's and StreetCats can pick up a flier in lots of places. You also can call Jean Turnage at 918-496-3253, and she'll let you know how to get one for yourself or several to distribute. As everyone knows, "There's No Place Else Like Chili's," so "Pepper In Some Fun" and join us at 51st and Harvard from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO TOP THAT! PIZZA

We want to say a special thank you to **Top That! Pizza**, 8393 S. Memorial Drive, for hosting us for three fundraisers and to all the supporters who attended. We made a total of \$617 from these events, which is wonderful and deserving of many kitty kisses — so come by our facility to get your rewards!

STREETCATS HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE

Are you on Facebook? Did you know that StreetCats has a Facebook page that you can "like"? Like our page, and you'll be updated with cats available for adoption, all of our upcoming events, sweet photos and stories from former StreetCats that have found their forever homes, and Facebook-only giveaways.

To find our page, go directly to www.facebook.com/streetcatsinc and simply click "Like" to become a fan.

ASK THE VET: FELINE DIABETES

Diabetes is a serious disease that results in an excessive amount of sugar (glucose) in the bloodstream. **Insulin** is the hormone made by the pancreas to regulate the flow of glucose from the bloodstream into the cells for use by the body.

Diabetes develops when the body does not make enough insulin, resulting in insulin dependent (Type I) diabetes, or when the body does not utilize the insulin it makes, resulting in non-insulin dependent (Type II) diabetes. It is a disease that not only affects the health and life of your cat, but can also affect your relationship with your cat.

Many people are afraid of giving injections, afraid they are inflicting pain on their cat and afraid their cat is not going to love and trust them anymore if they have to poke them with a needle twice a day.

What would life be like if you really didn't have to treat your diabetic cat with insulin injections for the rest of its life? It takes a new way of looking at the dietary needs of cats and getting back to the basics of feeding cats the way they were born to eat, but it is becoming the norm in my practice for cats to be "treated" rather than just "managed" for their diabetes.

Although not all, most cats develop Type II diabetes, meaning their bodies are making insulin; they are just not using it well. If Type II diabetes is the non-insulin dependent form, then why is it that we, as veterinarians, have been taught to treat diabetes in cats as if they were insulin dependent by putting them on insulin injections twice a day?

Since this is what we were taught, that is what we often recommend and what you do, because you have come to trust us with the lives of your precious pets. However, if we really stop and think about it, why are we recommending that we put an animal on insulin for the rest of its life when it is already making it on its own? Why aren't we helping the animal to utilize what it was already created to do in order to help it live a longer, happier, healthier life with you?

Basically, it all boils down to nutrition and how we feed our cats. Cats are obligate carnivores, making them very different from dogs and people in their nutritional needs.

In the wild, cats consume a diet containing high levels of protein with high levels of moisture and only about 3-5% carbohydrates. The average dry cat food contains 35-50% carbohydrates, and only about 7-10% water. Even the diets specifically formulated to target diabetes contain up to 15% carbohydrates.

Cats lack the proper physiological ability to utilize the nutrients they consume by eating the highly processed, high carbohydrate, plant-based, dry cat foods that are so often fed to them because of the marketing and convenience that we, as their caretakers (and veterinarians), so often succumb to. As a result, they are constantly overloading their systems with excess carbohydrates which are nothing more than simple sugars.

Couple that with the obesity that often results from feeding these diets, throw in a little genetic tendency toward diabetes, and eventually, their bodies cannot compensate any longer. This concept of feeding cats the way they were born to eat, with a canned-food-only diet that matches most closely their natural nutritional needs, makes so much sense to me that over the last 3 years, I have changed the way I treat diabetes in cats.

As a result, in just the last 6 months, I have had 8 cats go into remission and no longer need to be on insulin injections. Some have gone into remission as early as after 6 weeks of diet change and low-dose insulin therapy, and others have taken up to 6 months. The diet change alone makes a huge difference in the insulin requirements of these cats and could be all that is needed to lead to remission.

Of course there are those cats that don't respond or provide us with a huge challenge in getting them to eat canned food only, but I see this working more often than not, and I see the increase in the quality of life of these patients, and in you, as their owners, and that makes it worth everything!

For more information about your cat's dietary needs, whether diabetic or not, please talk to your veterinarian about the best plan for your cat.

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WARM AND FUZZY STORIES FROM ADOPTED KITTIES

Here's an owner update on **Felicia**, who is a brown tabby with some catitude:

"Felicia is quite at home, and although she and the dog aren't buddies, they do tolerate each other. I feel that if the dog were a playful dog, Felicia would play with her. She is very social when friends come. I like that! My husband is very fond of her."

G. K. (Garage Kitty) Whiskers' adopter has also let us know that **G.K.** is loving life with his brother, **Jager**. They seem to spend all their time playing together except when sleeping together, which you can see on our Facebook page. **G.K.** was adopted when **Jager's** brother, **Meister**, died unexpectedly and left a hole in the hearts of everyone.

Mikan and **Kabocha** (our two big red tabby boys with the Japanese names) are doing great. They love to sleep with their new mom, and considering their size, there may not be much room in the bed for everyone. They have broken a few knick knacks during their adventures but have come to a truce with the family dog — they ignore each other.

Arnie (red tabby) and **Lyric** (brown tabby re-named **Miss Kitty**) have moved up in the world. They now live on the 8th floor of a downtown apartment. They have a big glass door so they can see the Tulsa skyline. Miss Kitty likes to sit on top of the fridge when she's not playing with Arnie. Ten-year-old Arnie enjoys playing and must feel pretty good, because he now acts like a kitten!

Adopting two StreetCats at one time is definitely a plus! But, adopting three at one time may be even better, as you can read from the "mom" who adopted **Tortie** (now **Grizabella**), **Snowball** (now **Jedediah**), and **Beepkin** (now **Calliope**):

"**Jedediah** (Siamese mix) is so sweet and affectionate, and he is the welcoming committee whenever we come in! He loves to be petted, loves belly rubs, and sleeps on my feet every night! (*StreetCats note: This kitty was so shy when he came to us that we even made a tent for him to hide in.*) **Grizabella** (dark tortie), whom I call **Bella Bella**, is the old lady of the group and sleeps more than the other two, but her kitten side comes out at least once a day. She also loves to be petted, and she and Jedediah have started rubbing on each other! They both spend nearly all their time on my bed.

"**Calliope** (grey tortie) is more independent and doesn't need as much attention as the others. She used to stay on the bed, but now that the other two stay there all day, she has moved to the chair by the window. She will sing loudly when she wants attention! She isn't thrilled with the other cats, but she tolerates them and keeps her distance. I am so grateful to have these three babies at my home!"

StreetCats Notes: These are three kitties that didn't get along with other cats when they were at StreetCats and we were advised to adopt them separately to single cat households only. As you can tell, once cats get into their forever home and feel safe and loved, their personalities can change.

*We know that all of our adopters are special people, but there are some extra special adopters that are willing to adopt the older kitties that no one else is ever interested in. In addition to the person who adopted Tortie, we had a couple of these other "senior cat" placements this year when **Trinny** was adopted and also **Ripple** and **Zsa Zsa** were adopted together. Trinny came to us with a much younger kitty from a domestic abuse situation and Ripple was returned because her owner in her 90's couldn't care for her any longer. Everyone who has adopted them has found them to be wonderful and loving. They are getting great pleasure from providing warm, comfortable homes for these special kitties that still have a lot of life in them. Thank you!*

LUCKY KITTIES!

(StreetCats adopted 5/1/11 through 9/30/11)

Abby	G. K. Whiskers	Precious	Tommy
Amy	Kabocha	Princess	Tommy T.
Arnie	Lyric	Ripple	Tortie
Beepkin	Maggie	Rocky	Trinny
Callie Sue	Mikan	Salty	Willem
Coco	Mitzi	Sammy	
Emily	Nona	Snowball	
Felicia	Pipen	Tigger	

OUR WISH LIST

Wal-Mart/Sam's gift cards	HP 02ink Cartridges
Tall kitchen trash bags	Liquid Plum'r
Liquid laundry detergent	Dryer sheets
Clorox liquid bleach	Paper towels
Clorox Clean-Up	For Meals on Wheels:
Postage stamps	Scoopable Litter
Cat food – canned & dry	Unopened dry cat food
Bottled water	Canned cat food
Toilet paper	

PET-FRIENDLY HOUSING

Unfortunately, we have had a number of cats returned to us this past year because the adopters are moving and either can't take their cats with them or have more pets than their housing will allow them. While one of the advantages of adopting from StreetCats is the ability to return a cat to us, this is extremely hard on the cat that has been a treasured family member and is now left behind. While we know StreetCats has a great facility for cats needing homes, living with so many other cats isn't always optimal for the pet while waiting for someone else to come along and give it the forever home that was promised initially.

We want to encourage people who are moving to look into pet-friendly housing before making a change. One Web site you can use to find housing that might work for you and your cats is http://www.myapartmentmap.com/pet_friendly/. The free Apartment Locator book is another resource that can be found in many locations around the Tulsa area.

Please consider carefully the future of your cat and any other animals before you adopt. Consider the possibility of a move and whether you might have more pets than you could afford to move comfortably, with regard to pet deposits. Think of your feline or canine family members before you make changes that include giving back or getting rid of them forever. It is very hard on them when they lose their family.

START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH US!

As the scorching summer days become a memory, and the chill of autumn becomes the norm, we are reminded that the holidays are approaching. This year, when times are hard and money scarce, you may be wondering whether you'll be able to give as many gifts as in the past — gifts for co-workers, friends, family, etc.

We might have a solution. The **StreetCats Boutique** offers a multitude of items for under \$10, some only \$5! And, although they are all cat-related, they make nice gifts for everyone, not to mention you'll avoid the nightmare of the malls and get to pet real kitties.

Some of the \$5 items for sale are **Laurel Burch** luggage tags, **Suzy Toronto** coasters and bookmarks, adorable coffee mugs, and notepads. We also have some very cute magnets, such as tiny tiles with designs in relief, all for just around \$5.

We also carry a huge array of **items for cats** that cost less than \$5, including lots of great little toys for \$1 and under, and don't forget StreetCats' exclusive handmade catnip pillows that are at the top of the "wish list" for many Tulsa area kitties. At this time of year, StreetCats catnip pillows are in strong demand, and we even receive orders from out of state!

For just under \$10, we have ladies socks by Laurel Burch and K. Bell in all colors. The Gift Boutique stocks cute kitty knick knacks, home décor items, Laurel Burch makeup bags, cheese cutters, books ... the list goes on.

Don't let the low prices fool you — these are all new, nice, well-made items. At StreetCats, we pride ourselves on obtaining good quality, unique merchandise, keeping the markup low, and making these items available to you. Since we're an all-volunteer organization, we're able to do this. And, as always, all proceeds go toward the care of our rescued cats as they wait for their purrfect forever homes.

Of course, we also have a huge selection of lovely items for over \$10. You will find jewelry, toys, T-shirts in all sizes (including fitted sizes for ladies), and pink ribbon items. Some really cute things are for the house, such as ceramic kitty salt and pepper sets and matching hostess dishes, cookie cutters, pillows, etc.

Our handmade "trash totes" (donated by **Nancy Adams**) are very popular and can be used for managing projects when quilting, scrapbooking or sewing. Some use them for the TV remotes or for bingo scrap bags.

We always have an extensive selection of Laurel Burch merchandise at very reasonable prices, including scarves, handbags, carry-on/overnight bags, wallets, earrings, and, as mentioned earlier, makeup bags and luggage tags. All are beautifully designed with vivid colors and graphics, some embellished with sequins and tube beads.

We will soon be getting Christmas-themed merchandise including adorable hanging stockings for Santa to fill.

Please stop by StreetCats Boutique, at 60th and S. Sheridan on the east side of the street behind Charlie's Chicken, and see for yourself what our Gift Boutique has to offer. You'll likely find what you're looking for!



STREETCATS, INC.

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FALL 2011

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THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

*Christmas is coming
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Peace and good will
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*Special little presents
We're sure you will seek
And the best place to shop
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*Cuddly little blankets
And snuggly little beds
Pretty kitty food bowls
In which they can be fed.*

*Fragrant catnip pillows
Made by loving hands
In many different colors
Are always in demand.*

*But the best gift that we carry
You won't find at any mall
Come fall in love at StreetCats,
'Cause a kitty's best of all.*

*Judy Loyd
October 2011*