



# STREETCATS CHAT

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Fall 2009

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## MY FURRY VALENTINE EVENT SET FOR JAN. 31

Mark your calendars for **My Furry Valentine!** Our annual fundraiser will be held **Sunday, January 31, 2010** at the landmark **Tulsa Historical Society**, 2445 South Peoria Ave, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. You will receive an invitation in the mail, but plan now to join us for our traditional and fun silent auction and dessert tasting at this special new location.

We will have great gift baskets, pictures, and other items for you to bid on for your favorite Valentine. Our raffle item will be a lovely quilt made by Nancy Adams (which will be available for viewing in StreetCats in December). We'll also have those always wonderful desserts donated from area restaurants and fabulous cooks along with coffee, punch and wine.

We hope to have the biggest crowd ever to help support our kitties, so plan to attend and find an early Valentine present for yourself or someone else!

To help reduce the costs of My Furry Valentine, we can use your help with auction items. We are especially looking for men's items, but any **new** item will be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in donating an auction item or own a restaurant or catering service and would like to donate to our dessert tasting, please contact Karen Moreland at 519-2526.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON JUDY LOYD

That blur you see going by is **Judy Loyd** doing one of her many creative projects for either StreetCats or for her friends.

Judy volunteers in the shop on Friday afternoons and creates our wonderful window displays that change with every season, so be sure to enjoy them the next time you visit us. She also ensures we have lovely flowers or plant arrangements outside our front door to greet you.

Our annual big fundraiser, My Furry Valentine, shows off Judy's talents with the wonderful decorations on the tables and around the rooms. We know she is planning something extra special for our 2010 event at The Tulsa Historical Society! Be sure to come so you can see what she has

done to make this a special event.

Whenever she has some free time, Judy enjoys spending it with her own pets, gardening, writing, and throwing wonderful parties for her friends in addition to reading books by P.C. Cast, particularly the House of Night series that includes StreetCats.

Judy began volunteering five years ago, and it was quickly determined that she'd make a great board member. She has served on the board for four years. One of the perks of being on the StreetCats Board is enjoying the tasty treats Judy brings to all the meetings.

Judy is a wonderful, creative volunteer. All the kitties and other volunteers love her.



**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

I am very proud to be part of this amazing group. Our volunteers are awesome and are the backbone of StreetCats. Our feral/stray, spay/neuter program (A Stitch In Time) is unprecedented in the City of Tulsa. Thank you to all our wonderful supporters who make this program possible as well as our successful Adoption Center and Boutique. We have multiple events coming up that you won't want to miss, so mark your calendar as you read this newsletter!

Another of our "pet projects" in which we would like to include everyone is the daily voting at the Animal Rescue Site: [www.TheAnimalRescueSite.com](http://www.TheAnimalRescueSite.com). At this site, you must first "click to give," which helps to feed shelter animals. And secondly, you can "Vote Today" for Street Cats Inc (shown as three words, no punctuation) for a chance to win lots of dollars if we click the most. You have to confirm your vote on the next screen — just follow the instructions! We are currently second in the state for number of "clicks"! You can even set it up so that you get a reminder to vote every day in your e-mail. It has become a habit for many of us! Thanks for helping us continue our good work for Tulsa's kitties, and don't forget to find us on Facebook (see related article on this page).

## AFFAIR OF THE HEART COMING SOON!

Mark your calendar for the upcoming "Affair of the Heart of Tulsa" craft show, Nov. 20, 21 & 22 at the Quik Trip Center (Tulsa Fairgrounds). Show hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. We will be in booths 343 & 344 just as in the past (slightly to the right of the entrance area on the south side). Show admission is \$6 and is good for all 3 days.

This will be a great opportunity to buy holiday gifts for your family and friends. Also, don't forget your furry friends who love our famous catnip pillows! We hope to see you there!

## FURRY FRIENDS ON FACEBOOK

StreetCats has taken the plunge into the world of Facebook! **Facebook.com**, a user-friendly free social networking website, links friends, family, clubs, businesses and so much more together on one site. If you are not already a member, signing up is very simple. All you need to do is visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), take about five minutes to enter in some basic information, and — POOF! — you are a member. After that, enter in *Street Cats* into the Search box on the top right of your screen, click *become a fan*, and you will then be updated with StreetCats events and such through Facebook! We now have a direct link on Facebook to the StreetCats page if you want to access that way — [www.facebook.com/streetcatsinc](http://www.facebook.com/streetcatsinc).

Be prepared to play around with Facebook; it's easy to get hooked! Becoming a "fan" of a page is exactly the same thing as adding someone as a friend; you will receive updates, can make comments, view photos and see upcoming events. These types of pages are wonderful for organizations such as StreetCats, so we're working on getting it out there more. Also, you can suggest that your friends add the StreetCats page by clicking "**more**" underneath the logo, clicking "suggest to friends," and selecting which friends you think would like to be a fan.

To make donations, access the **Cause** page at <http://www.causes.com/StreetcatsInc> or at [www.facebook.com/streetcatsinc](http://www.facebook.com/streetcatsinc) and then scroll down the page, look on the left-hand side to the "LINKS" box and click there.

Share the information with your friends and family who are already on Facebook. See you virtually!

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## SPOTLIGHT KITTIES

**Garfield** is a 2-year-old orange tabby. He is very laid back, but sometimes he would prefer not to share his space with other cats. He loves to play with toys and to snuggle next to you. He'd be a wonderful new man in your household but should probably be the only cat.



his advanced years. He is a medium-haired black and white tuxedo, front declawed, with a sweet face, who'd love his own home. He talks, but he's saying, "Pay more attention to me, now. I'm important, too!"

**Missy** is an older Ragdoll mix, and what a beauty she is. She looks like a little raccoon with her mask on. She is very quiet and shy and came from a single cat home with an elderly owner. She misses having someone focus just on her with petting and attention. She



does take high blood pressure medicine, but it is easy to give.



**Libby** can be a talker, particularly when she wants to get up in our cabinets with the clean cat beds and towels. She is estimated to be 6 years old, and she is front declawed. She will sit in your lap forever as long as you keep petting and brushing her. She would be a great cat in an adult household.

If you are interested in adopting a kitty, please call StreetCats at 298-0104.



**Speedy** was named just right. He is faster than a speeding bullet, and can run through a door before you can blink, despite

## GIFT WRAPPING AT BORDERS

We are all looking forward to gift wrapping Borders purchases in December for tips, since this is such a fun project as a fundraiser. We already have dates and times for the Borders at 8015 S. Yale, and we should be hearing soon from the Borders on 21st. The first shift at the 81st Street store is on Friday, Dec. 11 from 5 to 9 p.m., and other week days will also be the same times up until Dec. 24, when the hours are extended. Weekend shift times vary from around noon until 9 p.m.

There is a sign-up sheet at StreetCats on the volunteer bulletin board, so please drop by or call if you would like to work a shift or you have any questions. You can contact Kathy Balsiger at 521-4039 or Linda Holland at 492-8887 to find out what shifts are available.

Come join the fun and get in the holiday spirit — Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa!

## MEALS ON WHEELS THANKS STREETCATS

**Meals on Wheels** extends its thanks to **StreetCats, Inc.** for its support of the **Meals 4 Paw Starz** project. The project provides pet food for the pets of homebound elderly and disabled persons in the Tulsa area. It operates through donations of pet food and uses volunteers to help with the delivery to homebound recipients and their pets. StreetCats is supporting the project with monthly donations of cat food.

Most homebound individuals have limited social contacts. Pets can be very important to their well-being, and **sometimes pets are their only companions**. For these people, owning a pet can be especially meaningful; it provides companionship, keeps them more active, lessens the likelihood of depression, and even gives a reason for living. The daily responsibilities of pet ownership, however, can be difficult. Meals on Wheels noticed clients who felt a need to share their own home-delivered meals with their pets because they were unable to provide appropriate pet food. When this happens, neither the person nor the pet receives adequate, healthy nutrition. Meals 4 Paw Starz was begun to address the problem. Meals 4 Paw Starz seeks to ensure that quality, nutritious food is available for the pet. **The goal is keeping homebound people and their companion pets together** by helping with proper pet care. This helps to make a healthier life for both homebound people and their pets. Meals for Paw Starz currently delivers over 800 lbs of food per month and is providing for 38 dogs and 22 cats.

**Stacie Wilson,**  
Director of Development and Community Relations  
Meals on Wheels of Metro Tulsa  
Providing Food & Friendship for the Homebound

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WITH STREETCATS

If you are looking for the perfect cat-themed gift or unique kitty Christmas decorations for your home, our gift boutique may have exactly what you're looking for. This year, we are featuring artist-designed ornaments and figurines by Blossom Bucket, a company known for fresh, unique designs. We also have an array of cat-themed Christmas stockings for Santa to fill and soft, plush, Christmas kitty cats to give as gifts or to place around your home.

Let's not forget our cats at Christmas time! We have numerous toys for cats, from tiny catnip mice and cat videos to interactive "fishing wands" and catnip pillows. You can fill a special Christmas stocking or create a gift basket with toys and grooming tools for our feline friends.

For those special cat lovers on your Christmas list, StreetCats is a treasure trove of wonderful gift items, including socks, coffee mugs, jewelry, and Laurel Birch items, including some new wonderful leather handbags, car mats, kitchen items and apparel, to name a few.

We also have magnets, stationery, books, puzzles, picture frames, and more. We might just have the purr-fect gift you've been searching for.

New to the Boutique is an assortment of beautiful ceramic tiles to display or put to good use in various sizes. These are true works of art, as each tile has been specially designed by an artist, with rich colors, beautiful cats, and raised textured accents. They will make wonderful gifts and are reasonably priced.

StreetCats gift boutique strives to offer you (and your cats) nice things at affordable prices. We are an all-volunteer organization, and, as always, 100% of the profits go to the care of our cats. When you purchase an item, not only do you get something special, you help a rescued kitty find a new home. What a wonderful Christmas gift! StreetCats is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are located at 60th and South Sheridan Street on the east side behind Charlie's Chicken. We look forward to having you come in to shop and visit our kitties!



### Kitties for a Cause

*Special Boutique items were created and displayed for Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. StreetCats calls it "Kitties for the Cure"!*

## ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

The **Chili's Fundraiser** on June 16 raised **\$210**, and surely everyone enjoyed Chili's delicious food in addition to supporting StreetCats.

The **Elvis Presley Fan Club** fundraiser on June 6 gave us a donation of **\$270**. They said we were a great group, and they were impressed that Joyce DeBoard and Mary Taylor attended their auction and "Elvis in Vegas" party.

**Old Village Cleaners**, 4637 S. Peoria, continues with its generous support and donations from their treasured patrons. They have collected **\$432** for StreetCats in 2009 to date!!

**BOK Center:** Volunteers continue to work concessions stands at various BOK events. While we don't know very far in advance what events will be worked, please keep your eyes out for us. We've raised **\$3,125** with this effort this past year! If you'd like to volunteer for this project or have any questions about it, please call the StreetCats' message line at 298-0104 and request for either Kathy Balsiger or Cassie Willbourn to call you back.

**National Feral Cat Day** was Oct. 16, 2009, and is an event sponsored by **Alley Cat Allies**, which promotes trap/neuter/spay/release (TNR) programs all over the world. StreetCats recognizes this day by taking edible goodies to the veterinarians that help us offer our low-cost spay and neuter vouchers for feral and stray cats on the Tulsa streets. These vet clinics are **Best Friends Veterinary Hospital, Cedarwood Veterinary Clinic, Horizon Animal Hospital, Riverbrook Animal Hospital, South Memorial Animal Hospital, Valley Glen Veterinary Hospital, and VCA Woodland Broken Arrow**. Please remember to say thank you to these clinics when you use our vouchers or their services. Together, we are helping to reduce the unwanted cat population in the Tulsa area.

## STREETCATS, INC. SPONSORS

Melanie Abczynski	Catnip Cottage	Anna Norberg & Joe Kestner	Mary Schaub
Audrey Alcorn	Ben & Sheila Chenoweth	Heidi Kiser	Inge Scholz
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Andrea Calvin	Kara Jones	Celia Safford	Jessica Yaden

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### Memorials

From Aunt Anni in memory of Jen's Oreo  
 From Carolyn Harmon in memory of Betty Mellette's tuxedo, Jezebel  
 From Tonya Bull in memory of Bobbie Brown's Dexter  
 From Ted McClure in memory of Ethel McClure  
 Margaret Lowry in memory of Junior  
 From George Suppes in memory of Amber  
 From Dorothy Donaldson in memory of Julia Bishop  
 From Kacee Taylor in memory of Sassy and Pookey  
 From Robert and Carley Hefley in memory of Tiffany Friedl  
 From Janice Rowton in memory of Rusty  
 From Andrea Kidwell in memory of Norma McDonald's beloved cat  
 From Melanie Abczynski in memory of Jan Woolverton  
 From Mary Ann Smith in memory of Ruth Ann and Jerry Field's StreetCat, Henry  
 From David Morse in memory of Patricia Morse  
 From Marion Richardson in memory of Brother cat on the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of his passing  
 From Robert Moore in memory of Kathy Borchardt  
 From Sheila Chenoweth in memory of Jean Turnage's cats, Nate and Sweet Pea  
 From Norma Pfeiffer in memory of Freda Cooper

From Roger Smith in memory of Tinker, a German shepherd, who shared "Christ like" love for 16 years.  
 From Patsy R Baker in memory of her daughter Joan  
 From Cindy Byrd in memory of P-Cat  
 From Joe Kestner & Anna Norberg in memory of Topaz  
 From Samantha Polen in memory of Pam and Erica Iacoe's Georgie  
 From Samantha Polen in memory of Dale's Meow Meow and Daphne

### Honors

From Heidi Kiser in honor of "The Old Guys" – Lucky and Caspurr  
 From Gary and Pat Crocker in honor of Betty Marshall's birthday  
 From Gary and Pat Crocker in honor of Rita Rowe's birthday  
 From Janet Thomas in honor of John Thomas' birthday and his StreetCats, Lyle and Roxie  
 From Janet Persson in honor of Kay Lorenzen's birthday  
 From Andrea Kidwell in honor of Norma McDonald's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday  
 From Karen Lamoreaux in honor of her mother, Lynn Tyner's birthday  
 From Kay Lorenzen in honor of Janet Persson's birthday



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## TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

As we go to press with this newsletter, StreetCats is working with **Live Event Trivia** to be the non-profit recipient of a fun event at **Joe Momma's Pizza**, 112 S. Elgin, on a Thursday night in December.

This is a live, interactive trivia contest from 9 to 9:45 p.m. every Thursday. At each contest, they sponsor a local nonprofit group. We are tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 10.

You can confirm this by checking [www.liveeventtrivia.com](http://www.liveeventtrivia.com) and looking for the nonprofit schedule. We will also post something on our Facebook page and the StreetCats Web site as soon as the date is finalized.

One of our volunteers suggested we check into this, and we really look forward to it!

## "TAILS" OF TRANSFORMATION

Recently two male cats came to us at StreetCats: **Bucky**, a young tabby with a lean and muscular frame, and **Caspurr**, an older, gentle, all-white cat. Very different cats indeed, but these two boys shared one similarity: Both were very depressed about their current status. Neither understood what had happened that would cause them to be in a shelter.

Neither Bucky nor Caspurr seemed very outgoing while in the shop, and although they enjoyed the attention of the volunteers, neither ever seemed to purr in complete contentment. All the StreetCats volunteers tried to coax them out of their shells, providing love and attention whenever possible, but to no avail.

A volunteer was smitten with Bucky, and we were all very excited for him when she took him home. It seemed to work beautifully for a while; regretfully, she brought him back to find a perfect forever home, as over time, one of her cats did not appreciate Bucky the way she did.

Bucky's luck took a turn for the better, and a couple soon adopted him from the Center. We understand he is a completely different cat in his new home; as an only cat, he absolutely adores his new family and shows them daily how much he appreciates their kindness.

Our Caspurr was featured in the Tulsa World "Looking For Love" section one day; his handsome charm shone through the newsprint, inspiring several ladies to call with interest in adopting him. He found a loving home with one of these ladies, and like Bucky, has come out of his shell now that he can relax with his new best friend. A quiet home with undivided attention was all Caspurr needed to become more outgoing and thoroughly content.

**Miranda** was abandoned with a note asking whoever found her to find her a good home. It took over a year to find the right person for her, but it was worth the wait. She went to Linda Holland's as a foster, and we quickly learned she was petrified of people and didn't object to being in a room by herself — she felt she was safe if no one was around.

Linda relates: "After approximately a month, she decided to interact with me by batting my hands as I tried to pet her. It turned out she was front declawed." Month after month, she became more trusting, and eventually it was time for her to go into StreetCats, where the process started again. She became the office cat and greeted everyone with a hiss and a bat from those paws.

Many people were afraid of her, but she just didn't know how to interact correctly with people. She learned to be petted and actually reached out to stop a person when they left the office because she wanted them to stay and visit her. She'd also sit in a lap if you'd just sit in the office chair.

Recently, a very nice man came into StreetCats, and he found her saucy attitude irresistible. She went home with him and his German shepherd and is doing great. She still has her own room, and she plays with the dog through the open door.

She's again learning to love and trust, but it's a much faster process this time. The dog shares her toys with her, and we know that one day Miranda will be willing to love and trust unconditionally now that she's got a wonderful new home and a great dog and owner to call her own.

It all just goes to show what a difference a wonderful home and patience can make for a StreetCats cat!

# NEW PUZZLE BOOK AVAILABLE

A new book, *101 Puzzles, Riddles and Rhymes for Cat Lovers*, by local author Hyla Hope Harder, is now available for purchase at StreetCats' boutique. The following are samples from the book. All samples are © Hyla Hope Harder, Ph.D.

## A "PURR" PUZZLE

Which breed of cat does the following sentence suggest?

"PURRING EQUALS REPETITIVE, SUGGESTIVE, INDIVIDUALISTIC, ATTRACTIVE NOISES."

## A CATTY CRYPTO-GRIN

A "crypto-grin" is a humorous quotation that has been put into a cryptogram; thus, it is a "crypto-grin." The crypto-grin below is based on a quotation by Joseph Wood Krutch. As in all cryptograms, one letter stands for another. Can you decipher the code and learn what Krutch is telling us about our furry friends?

"AKXH KFS FKXBSF JSIZAKXS...TMX Z BKGS DSGSF BSKFJ RY RDS VBR HMYYSFSJ YFRQ ZDHRQDZK."

## KITTY MIXIE

A "Mixie" is a quotation that has been cut into 3-letter segment. The spaces between the words have been removed. Rearrange the 3-letter pieces below to reconstruct a quotation about cats by Jeff Valdez. The dashes show how many letters are in each word. Draw a line under each group of letters after you have placed them in the puzzle.

ART CAT DOG DTH ERT ESM ETE GHS HAN IGH LLA  
NOW N'TG OPU ROU SAR SLE SYO TCA TST UCA.

CAT \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ,  
\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

(Solutions appear at the bottom of this page.)

LUCKY KITTIES!		
(StreetCats adopted 4/16/09 through 9/30/09)		
Abby	Gabby	Nala
Bandit	Groucho	Panther
Big Boy	Happy	Penguin
Bink	Hilda	Peppy
Bucky	Jake	PJ
Burt	Jerry	Princess
Callie	Jesse	Punkin
Casey	Jet	Queenie
Caspurr	Katy	Simba
Cinnamon	Limpurr	Sis
Cougar	Lucky	Sissy
Decker	Maude	Skuttles
Dirk	Micki	Sophie
Ebony	Midnight	Sweet Pea
Effie	Miranda	Tom
Emily	Mocha	Truffles
Fluffy	Morris	

OUR WISH LIST
PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN!
Postage Stamps
Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Wal-Mart/Sam's Gift Cards – Any Denomination
Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
Liquid Laundry Detergent
Clorox Bleach
Clorox Clean-Up Cleaner
Hand Sanitizer
Manila File Folders (8.5 x 11, 1/3 Cut)
Canned Cat Food
Advantage Flea Medicine for Cats
Bottled Water
White Printer/Copier Paper (8.5 x 11)
HP 02 Ink Cartridges – Black and Colors

Answers to kitty puzzles: 1. PERSIAN. The first letter of each word in the sentence, if read in order, spells PERSIAN.  
2. "CATS ARE RATHER DELICATE...BUT I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF ONE WHO SUFFERED FROM INSOMNIA."  
3. "CATS ARE SMARTER THAN DOGS. YOU CAN'T GET EIGHT CATS TO PULL A SLED THROUGH SNOW."



## STREETCATS, INC.

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**FALL 2009**

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

## HAIKU WRITTEN BY CATS

The food in my bowl  
Is old, and more to the point  
Contains no tuna.

So you want to play.  
Will I claw at dancing string?  
Your ankle is closer.

There's no dignity  
In being sick - which is why  
I don't tell you where.

Seeking solitude  
I am locked in the closet.  
For once I need you.

Tiny can, dumped in  
Plastic bowl. Presentation,  
One star; service: none.

Am I in your way?  
You seem to have it backwards:  
This pillow is taken.

Your mouth is moving;  
Up and down, emitting noise.  
I've lost interest.

The dog wags his tail,  
Seeking approval. See mine?  
Different message.

My brain: walnut-sized.  
Yours: largest among primates.  
Yet, who leaves for work?

Most problems can be  
Ignored. The more difficult  
Ones can be slept through.

Cats can't steal the breath  
Of children. But if my tail's  
Pulled again, I'll learn.

So you call this thing  
Your "cat carrier." I call  
These my "blades of death."