

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, or on Amazon, go through AmazonSmile and designate StreetCats, and we'll get a percentage of your purchase.

# A Tribute to Katy

by Ruth Ann White

We don't know about your early life, but your life with us began on February 4, 2013, when we adopted you from StreetCats at the age of nine and a half years old and brought you to our home. We learned quickly that your simple name of Katy was really a nickname, that you were actually Katherine the Great and would rule over your new domain and its staff and not welcome the intrusion of other cats or, in particular, any dogs whatsoever. You were quite regal at 15 pounds, with robes of very long tortoiseshell fur and big yellowgreen eyes. We had seen your picture in the Tulsa World, advertising Street-Cats' upcoming annual fundraiser, My Furry Valentine, and you were the perfect cat to represent the occasion-and we knew we had to have you!

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You brought us so much love and joy for seven years, Katy, with your ready purr and your funny little quirks. You turned out to be quite the traveler, going camping with us and making our fifth wheel camper your home away

from home just as it is ours. You traveled with us to the mountains of Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana, to lakes in Oklahoma and Missouri, and to the woods and deserts of Texas and New Mexico. As long as you had your special blanket and us to pet you, you were just happy to be where we were and made it clear you didn't want to be left at home. At night, especially, you wanted to be where we slept, often curling up between us while we read in bed, then retreating to your own blanket nest or other favorite spots.

Over the past year you began to lose weight and you wanted more attention from us than ever, spending lots of

time on our laps being stroked. You began to neglect your elegant fur and rarely played with your mousies or other toys and we knew we wouldn't have you with us much longer. We are grateful that until your last day you could still jump into our chairs or onto our bed, and that when the end came, it came suddenly and without pain.

We have gathered all the things we bought for you and have taken them to StreetCats to be put to good use by the volunteers there as they rescue other



kitties. Our hope is that your special blanket will accompany the next adoption of an older kitty, and that the adopted cat will bring its family as much joy as you have given us these past seven years. RIP Katy. We will miss you so much.

### A word from our President

I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and well. As you know, this has been an unprecedented season with the coronavirus. StreetCats is doing everything we can to take care of our kitties and keep our volunteers safe. Unfortunately, we have had to close the shop, but we will open again as soon as it is deemed safe. You can still check out the new cats on our website often. If you are interested in adopting, please call our message line at 918-298-0104 to make an appointment to see the cats. We have had phenomenal adoptions so far this year thanks to our dedicated volunteers. All cats deserve to live out their lives in a wonderful, loving home and we are happy to help them find one.

Kathy Balsiger, StreetCats President

# Tell Your Cats You Love Them

Most pets are considered valued family members so here are ways to show your cat how much you love her.

- Clean the litter box daily. You wouldn't go days without flushing your toilet and they have to walk in theirs. Respect your friend's personal space and she will be more likely to respect your wishes to use it properly.
- Protect your cat from situations that will cause her to be afraid. Whether it is a houseful of guests, little grabby hands, or busy family members running in and out, make sure your cat has a quiet place to escape and feel secure. Even though my cat is very social, the noise from extra people can be overwhelming so I sometimes put her in the bedroom to preemptively protect her when a lot of company arrives.
- Make sure she gets "Me Time." Find time every day to interact with your cat in the manner she likes. That might mean lap time watching TV together, playing with favorite toys together, daily brushing, cuddling in bed, etc. Every cat has a different tolerance and need for interaction, but they all need some attention so they know they are loved. Just putting food and water in their bowls is not enough.
  - Pay attention to her health. Take your cat to the vet for regular checkups and vaccinations. An annual rabies vaccination is the law even for indoor kitties. Also pay attention to any changes in eating, grooming, or other behaviors that might signal a problem. They can't tell you, so you have to be observant to show them you care enough to keep them healthy.

Contrary to popular belief (mostly by non-cat lovers) cats are often very loving people-oriented creatures and respond to your love with dedication and loyalty. At StreetCats we see that the cats in our shop get lonely and want our attention when we aren't there as much on Sunday and Monday. You may have had a long hard day, but your cat has been alone waiting for you. Make sure your cat gets demonstrations of love daily.



# **Warm and Fuzzy Stories**

**Hemingway** is a gorgeous Siamese-mix fellow that was adopted by Terri and Dean Collins. While he may have been named for the famed author Ernest Hemingway, this mischievous feline is affectionately known as "Ornery Ernie" (even by his veterinarian). Terri says that they adore Ernie, who is funny and charming. Some of his favorite things to do are "helping" make the bed by slapping and tunneling under the sheets, napping between the printer and laptop, and enjoying their screened-in back porch. Ernie loves sleeping in their walk-in pantry so much that they put a cat bed in it for him to be more comfortable. While



Hemmingway

in the pantry he has been known to chew up cardboard boxes and leave little bits of chewed up cardboard all around him. Terri says that their lives have changed for the better since his arrival.

**Ripley** is a beautiful orange-cream colored tabby that was adopted by Linda and Tom Weeks. They decided to keep her name since Ripley is the name of the hero character in the Alien movies. Ripley was



Ripley

a very timid girl that spent most of her first two days in her new home under the bookcase. It has taken a lot of patience getting her adjusted to her new life. Linda says that she is a sweet cat and they love her to death. She likes to snuggle with Linda. Ripley also likes to run out and jump on the couch to watch TV with them. Another activity she enjoys is sitting in a window catching some sunshine. They put catnip on her toys so that she can enjoy playing with them even more. Linda says she is not a lap kitty yet, but they are working on that. What a loving, patient family Ripley has found.

**Bitty**, a pretty Siamese tabby mix, and **Liliana**, a lovely white and calico Van, were both adopted by John Engle. They have been renamed, respectively, **Lily** and **Florence**. Lily was adopted first and then Florence joined them a few days later. They are very good about waking John up early in the morning. Even though the two don't love each other, they occasionally are nice to each other. These spoiled ladies even had their own stockings for Christmas. They played all night with the toys they found in their stockings. John says that even though the food bowls are near each other, the kitties give each other their space and eat at different times. Another favorite activity is sitting in the window to watch birds. John says they are both awesome and he's glad he has them. These two fancy felines are even on Instagram. You can follow them at: real\_housecats\_of\_tulsa.



Lily







### Newsletter Contributors

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### Get ready for Summertime shopping!!

The time is almost here to do all that shopping at **"Affair** of the Heart of Tulsa" located at River Spirit Expo, July 10-12. We are again in booths 463 & 464. Please come see our booth from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Friday & Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

### We have lots of great items we're pretty sure you'll not be able to resist.

**For Kitties:** Our very popular DaBird and refills, a variety of balls, mice, and catnip pillows in a variety of cat designs, Zoom Groom for kitty massages and more.

**For Humans:** A variety of new towels; Laurel Burch purses, cosmetic bags, umbrellas and scarves; a variety of jewelry, socks, unique vintage cat curios and more.

If you absolutely cannot wait until "Affair of the Heart" you can shop in our booth at **Jade on Main** located at 1639 S. Main St. in Broken Arrow. They are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.



Another absolutely great place to shop is our **Boutique and Adoption Center** located at 6520 E. 60th St. behind Charlie's Chicken. We are open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. We have many more items for sale other than what's listed above such as: pictures, books, cards, cat carriers, scratching posts, cubby hidey holes and much more.

All our sales go to feeding and taking care of our cats that are waiting for their furr-ever homes. When you come into our boutique to shop, be sure to play with and pet our adorable babies.

Hopefully you will fall in love with and adopt one of them into your home. Looking forward to seeing you and talking cats!



Linda Duckworth, Merchandise Manager

# LOOKING FOR HOMES: Garfield, Yeller and Monkey

Because of virus restrictions for people to come into StreetCats, we have been limiting the number of cats available for adoption. We look forward to having more cats available to find their forever homes, but at time of publi-

cation we still have these special kitties waiting for love from a new family.

#### Garfield

My name is Garfield and I'm a handsome 4-year-old red tabby with four white feet and white on my chest and stomach. I had a home but, sadly, my dad died right before Christmas. Fortunately, I made it to StreetCats and the volunteers here are helping me find a new home. I am quiet and reserved. I spend my days napping in all sorts of cozy cubby holes. I love to be petted and especially love belly rubs. Please come by and visit me.



Hello, I'm Garfield.

#### Yeller

My name is Yeller but not because I yell. Rather it's because I have "yeller" fur with beautiful markings I'm told. I am 6 years old and my story is like



Hi! My name is Yeller.



so many others; I was found on the streets. Lucky for me, my rescuer was able to get me into StreetCats. Life here is really comfortable. There are windows to look out and plenty of toys to play with. I really enjoy playing with the fuzzy blue stick toy. You might be surprised to see how high I can jump to grab it! And I love to be petted. But I'm really looking for a home of my own. Perhaps it's with you?

#### Monkey

Monkey is a tortie female who might be a little shy at first. Her estimated birthdate is 4/13/16. She was adopted in 2018 but returned a year later when the young man who adopted her had a life change and couldn't keep her. She will do best as a single cat in a home but may be OK with dogs (she was with a lab mix & a chihuahua mix). She is independent, enjoys being petted, but probably not a lap cat, and may have "tortitude."



# **Cats – Special Needs**

StreetCats, Inc. receives no public funding but relies solely on donations. Since ours is an entirely volunteer staff, all monies received are applied directly to the care of the cats. Sometimes we have the pleasure to help cats in a special way to find a new home. A couple of examples with cats we've taken in are Sam and Juliana.

**Sam** - A lady contacted us about a cat she found in her neighborhood after noticing she was homeless for a while. On the flyer she brought in, it said the cat was a spayed female with an injured eye. She could not keep her or afford to take her to a vet to get checked out and so the cat was put on our waitlist for intake. When we took her in to Feline Specialties, they found that the eye was underdeveloped and badly infected. They also said "she" was a neutered male cat. The best decision for this cat was to have his eye surgically removed and the area treated. Once he recovered, he was a handsome one-eyed male cat named Sam and he found a wonderful mom to give him a home for the rest of his life.

**Juliana** – When she was adopted, she weighed 14 lbs., but when she was returned four years later, she only weighed 6+ lbs. Feline Specialties diagnosed her with hyperthyroidism (over-active thyroid gland) and the decision was eventually made to do the Radioactive Iodine Therapy Surgery in hopes of giving her a great chance to live a healthy life. While the cost of this surgery and isolation was expensive and took a while, the result was a total success and she found a special person to become her mom.

We also appreciate all the support that Feline Specialties gives us. These are just a couple of examples of how your donations help us to afford special procedures that cats need for healthy lives and enable them to find wonderful forever homes.







### StreetCats Sponsors

We value every donation received, 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 "purfect" homes for the rest of their lives. Listed below are those who made monetary or in-kind donations valued at \$100 or more between 10/1/2019 and 3/31/2020.

Come in soon to get your purrs of thanks from our kitties for thinking of them.

G.&A. Adwon	Chelsea Gallery	C. Hayes & W.Lawson	S.&H. McKinley	J. Raper	Employee Giving Target
Aetna Foundation	R. Cobb	S.&P. Hess	D.&K. McNeill	R. Rountree	Corporation
N. Ahmed	ConocoPhillips	В. Ноор	M. Miller	J. Ryan	J. Thisler
A. Alcorn	J.&S. Cosa	D. Jepson	S. Moldenhauer	C. Rybacki	S. Trent
P. Alred	L. Dickenson	L. Johnson	C.&J. Newell	M. Schaub	W. Trepp
V. Anderson	Dynamic Audio	N. Jones	NSU Pike Alumni Assoc.	V. Shindell	B. Vann
S. Arnold	J.&E. Eager	J. Kellogg	ONEOK Foundation	Silver Service of Tulsa	J. Voskuil
C. Ashworth	T. Fausser	M. Kurle	M. Perkins	M. Smedley	C. Weaver
A. Bartoloni	M. Foldberg	T. Lamb	J. Persson	Smith Family Trust	D. Webber
D.&C. Beard	T.&T. Foster	Lambrusco's	Pfizer Foundation	K. Smith	Williams Companies
D. Beeson	P. Friend	C. Lane	L. Pinedo	State Farm Companies	V. Williams
M. Binstock	B.&A. Gardner	T. Lucido	K.&R. Piqune	Foundation	J.&M. Wofford
M.A. Blackburn	K. Gray	M.& C.MacLeod	D. Price	F. Stellerine	J. Wood
G.&N. Bracken	K.&L. Gray	D.J. Malone	D.&J. Promowicz	R.&K. Stimson	D. Wright
D. Buchanan	T. Hamer	L. McDaniel	G. Quiggle	В. Тарр	S.&H. Wylie
A. Capps	G. Hangs, Jr.	N. McDonald	S. Rabon	P. Terhune	P. Yelton

# **Memorial Donations**

- T.&W. Anderson in memory of Molly Grace, our beloved sweet loving cat who passed 6/18/18
- M. Armes in memory of Tom who is missed so very much
- D.&G. Atwell in memory of Joyce Reisher
- K. Balsiger in memory of Groucho for Barbara Roberts, Kizzie for Linda Holland, and Katy for Ruth Ann White
- S.&M. Beair in memory of Squeaky & StilJo
- C. Blankemeyer in memory of Bobbie
- L.&C. Brooks in memory of Tom on behalf of their daughter Maggie
- B. Brown in memory of Smeigle for Tonya Bull
- H. Brown in memory of Janice Brown and kitty, Mama
- L. Brown & Daniela in memory of Daniel, Lily, & Baluska
- T.Bull&L.Denson in memory of Dexter for Bobbie Brown
- S.&B. Chenoweth in memory of Kizzie for Linda & Jim Holland
- M. Cole in memory of Karen Cole Timbrook who passed away in December 2019
- P.&M. Craft in memory of Church
- G.&P. Crocker in memory of Arlo, beloved cat of Rita Rowe
- P. Crowe in memory of Greg Crowe
- V.G. Dixon in memory of her cousin Jo Ann Teague, an avid animal lover
- P.&E. Franken in memory of Rudy Wisdom for Mr. & Mrs. Rick Wisdom
- R. Gilbert in memory of Lucy & Lucky
- J. Gordon in memory of Tommy Gordon
- J. Greer in memory of Jake, my baby cat
- G.&L. Griffith in memory of Buddy & B.J.
- L.&J. Holland in memory of our special Kizzie who was adopted from StreetCats 7/2003 and left us 3/22/2020

### Donations made in memory of loved ones between 10/1/2019 and 3/31/2020. We are very sorry for all these losses.

- L. Howard, a memorial donation
- K. Huber in memory of Grayson for Carol Cox
- S. Insall in memory of her husband Jess
- M.A. Jennings in memory of Katie, beloved companion of Cathye Rennie
- S. Jones in memory of Bob, 2001-2015
- F. Jost in memory of Kitty Black (died 2019) & Patches (died 2016)
- Mr. & Mrs. C.P. Leininger in memory of Kimberly Fairchild for her father Ronald Fairchild & her beloved cat Cruzz
- M. Mancini in memory of Elizabeth Ketrick, mother of Cassandra Bizzaro
- J.&M. Martin in memory of Steven J. & his beloved cat Coco
- C.&M. McGrath in memory of Cali Kitten
- M.&J. McLean in memory of Savannah
- C.& K. Melnick, Jr. in memory of Andrew, Annie, Callie, Mollie, & Willie, all loving cats who filled our life with joy
- G.&S. Mitchell in memory of Elijah Bo who died in 2019
- D. Morse in memory of Patricia Morse
- The Estate of Patricia Noren, Memorial Trust
- N. C. Phillips in memory of Rose Dempsey
- S.&D. Polen in memory of Kizzie, a StreetCats kitty, for Linda & Jim Holland
- J. Polkinghorne in memory of Louann
- T. Ritterhouse in memory of Bear who died in 2017 and in memory of Terry Wilson
- B. Roberts in memory of my beloved Groucho
- B. Rumore in memory of Karen Denise Minton, mother of Jennifer Minton
- N. Thornton in memory of Kat Williams

# **Appreciation and Honors**

- D.&J. Broyles in honor of StreetCats from The Wolek Group-KeysToTheCity program
- R. Burke in honor of her daughter Vickie Ludiker for her birthday
- A. Churchill in honor of London, a former StreetCat, adopted by Pam Terhune, SC volunteer
- C. Cox in appreciation of and Merry Christmas to Kathy Huber & Bella
- S. Eubank in honor & memory of Hagrid, who went to the Rainbow Bridge 1/2019 for Martha Williams
- B. L. Faubion in appreciation of Joe, who she adopted 1/31/19 from StreetCats
- Feline Specialties and clients in appreciation of StreetCats via their 2019 Angel Tree
- C A. Fleming in appreciation of Max who she adopted on 2/1/13 from StreetCats J. Hawkins in honor of Rowdy
- V.&G.Hopkins in honor of Andrea Spears' (SC volunteer) birthday
- R.&A. Horn in appreciation of Jandra Smithen (SC volunteer) who is the best cat mom ever!
- M.&P. Hunter in honor of Linda Johnson & Allie
- M.&P. Hunter in honor of a Merry Christmas and happy & healthy homes for all kitties
- M.P. Hunter in appreciation of Audrey Alcorn for taking care of all the animals she cares for
- A. Kidwell in honor of Austin Wade's 1st birthday, son of Ashley & Aaron Wade

# Donations given in appreciation of or in honor of someone between *10/1/2019 and 3/31/2020*.

- P. Loyd in honor of Woody
- B. Marshall & T. Smith in honor of Darca's adoption
- L. Mayo in honor and Merry Christmas for Lynda Thailen
  - P. Mix in honor of an adoption from her brother
  - L. Moyer in honor of Diva
  - G. Nagengast in honor of Aaron
  - C.&D. Parsons in honor of all the animals at Christmas
  - L.&J. Roberson in appreciation of Zoe
  - S. Russell in appreciation and Merry Christmas to Beth Rumore from the kitties
  - A.&J. Sellars in appreciation of StreetCats Merry Christmas!
  - J. Smithen in honor of her wonderful kitties Felicity & Charity for their 7th birthday and in celebration of the 2nd anniversary of their adoption
  - L. Sparks in honor of Maggie & Joey George
  - The Taylor Family wishing StreetCats a Merry Christmas
  - S. Turner in honor of Judy Loyd

### Adoptions 10/1/2019 through 3/31/2020

(Listed by SC name and then new name if known)

Angel – C McCurdy Baby – DJ Malone Baby Girl - R Davis Belle – D Beeman Casper (Bailey Eugene) – T Lamb Catsa – J Cox Cole - A Beck Cutie – L Hobbs East - J Horlander Easy - (Hannah) - S&T Clifton Frannie – M Hodge Freckles – K&S Moore Georgia - L Christophersen Gray Ray – L Thomas Gracie – P&E Klaassen Greyeyes (Gracie) - C Culhane Hemingway - D&T Collins Ice (Marty) – R Tetzloff Jules – R Baker

KitKat – G Koory Leo – M Foster Lucy – D Hepner Mary – L Hines Max – W Trepp Mitty – J Hanseth Petey – C Watters Ripley – T&W Weeks Romi (Pretty Boy) – R Baker Sam - (Victor) - R Roselle Simon – P Flusche Stan (Attlaus) - D Land Tammy – J Boyd Tiger – S Boller Tori – J Williams Wally - A Pfauth West – J Horlander Woody – R Woodall

## Did you know?

A cat's sense of smell is 14 times greater than a human. They have a scent mechanism on the roof of their mouths behind the incisors called a vomeronasal organ (VMO) or Jacobson's organ. Scientists think it is for detecting pheromones. A cat parts her mouth slightly to open the ducts leading to the VMO and gently inhales, passing air and scent molecules over the VMO. This act is often accompanied by nose lifting, eye squinting and sometimes flattening of the ears that make the cat look like it is grimacing. It's called the "Flehman Response" from the German flehmen, meaning "to curl upper lip."

# STREETCATS WISH LIST

#### For StreetCats:

Wal-Mart/Sam's Gift cards; any denomination

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

Clay litter (we use clay in our facility)

Laundry detergent pods or liquid laundry detergent

**Dryer sheets** 

Mr. Clean Antibacterial Summer Citrus cleaner

**Clorox** liquid bleach

<u>Clorox</u> Clean-Up spray cleaner or refill container

Fancy Feast chicken or seafood small cans in both gravy & pate textures

Friskies chicken or seafood canned food in both gravy & pate textures

Postage stamps

Small bottles of water for volunteers

Bags of dry cat food for voucher customers (opened is OK)

#### Meals on Wheels Wish List

Scoopable Litter Unopened bags or boxes of dry cat food Canned cat food



Each cat's nose print is unique, much like human fingerprints. With the future development of scanners to keep track of individual cats it could eliminate microchips.





# StreetCats, Inc.

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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*.

## **SPRING 2020**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kathy Balsiger, President Linda Duckworth, Vice President Jodi Wise, Recording Secretary Linda Holland, Treasurer Judy Loyd • Barbara Cohen Heather Harrod • Vicki Anderson

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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.

### Little Gray Cats

My heart belongs To little gray cats Striped or spotted Thin or fat

I've had "Shadows" and "Mistys" And "Graysons" galore Who managed to find Their way to my door

I've loved them and cuddled them And laid them to rest For Grays are truly The absolute best

But wait just a minute To be honest with you I really love All the other ones too

Judy Loyd

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









