



StreetCats

CHAAT FALL 2021



Approaching a Cat Safely
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Volunteer Heather Harrod
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Did you know a cat's preferred sleeping position can provide insight into how they are feeling? Even though cats can literally sleep anywhere, it is not about where they sleep but the way they position their bodies. On average, cats will sleep 15-20 hours in a day, which means we can learn a lot by watching them sleep.



Belly Up - Cats who choose to sleep on their backs with their bellies up are confident and feel secure in their environment. This vulnerable position exposes the feline's vital organs and is harder to jump up from, so cats who sleep this way have complete trust in their owners. Friendly indoor cats

Cat Sleeping Positions

are often seen napping this way. It is almost as if they are begging for a belly rub.

Curled Up - Felines who curl up in a tight ball with their tail wrapped around their bodies are doing what comes natural to them. Cats in the wild will sleep this way as it offers protection and conserves body heat. It is one of the most popular sleeping positions for domestic cats, especially for cautious or nervous felines.



Half Shut Eyes - Cats who are on high alert or unsure of their surroundings may sleep with half-shut eyes. They are not in a deep sleep and awoken at the smallest noise. Newly adopted cats or cats in noisy households will often sleep this way until they become familiar with their environment.

Side Sleeper - Relaxed and confident felines will sleep on their sides with their legs stretched out. If you see your cat napping on its side then it is in a deep sleep and should not be disturbed. Cats that feel safe will nap in this common sleep position.

Burrower - Have you found your cat napping under a blanket, behind a pillow, or inside a box? Cats love comfort and being warm and this position provides both. While any cat can burrow from time to time, if your cat always naps under something, they may be chilly or seeking security. Shy cats will often find a good hiding spot to nap and prefer to be left alone.



Loaf - Cats who rest with their paws underneath them and appear to look like a loaf of bread are simply relaxing. They are not in a deep sleep and are ready to respond at a moment's notice.

Contortionist - Felines that look like a twisted pretzel when they sleep are very comfortable in their surroundings, even if they don't look like it. There is no real reason as to why cats will sleep in what appears to be uncomfortable positions, unless they are truly comfortable with their heads hanging off the edge of the chair. These weird cats love attention and maybe that is why they choose this position.



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A word from our President

I think we would all agree in welcoming Fall after a long hot summer. I want to thank everyone who gets involved helping your neighbor with a cat situation, using your free time to volunteer in a shelter or supporting one. StreetCats desperately needs foster homes because of the unique way we access our kitties. Many come from the streets but the previous owner is unknown and they have treatable conditions, so are placed in foster homes to be medicated before being brought into our Adoption Center. Call our message line, 918-298-0104, and I will respond with the info you will need to foster. Thank you again for all you do for StreetCats.

Kathy Balsiger, StreetCats President

If You Haven't Started Your Holiday Shopping

A really great place to start your shopping is our booth located at **Jade on Main** in Broken Arrow located at 1639 S. Main St. They are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. In our booth we have lots of unique vintage items.



Another great place is our **Boutique and Adoption Center**. We are located at 6520 East 60th Street behind Charlie's Chicken. We are open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For kitties we have lots of toys and other items your kitty may need. For humans we have so much variety of items for sale, that we're not going to begin to list them. We're pretty sure you will find an item or items you'll not be able to resist for yourself, family or friends. Therefore, we are recommending you drop by and check out our wonderful merchandise. All our sales go to feeding and taking care of our cats that are waiting for their fur-ever homes.

So, while shopping in our Boutique be sure to play with and pet our adorable babies. Maybe you will fall in love with one and adopt it into your home.

We gladly accept donations of cat related items.

Any questions you have about our merchandise or donations of merchandise, email

Linda Duckworth: linda8238@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you!

Linda Duckworth
Merchandise Manager

Tips for Approaching a Cat Safely

When approaching a cat, it is best to let it make the first move and approach you. Some cats are friendly and will come to you readily while others may be shy and standoffish, but you always greet a cat on its terms. Imagine yourself faced with a 50-foot-tall giant and then you can start to understand a cat's perspective. Do not approach an outdoor cat if you are not familiar with it. This will protect you from potential bites, scratches, and infectious diseases.

Following are some tips for things you can do to appear less intimidating:

1. Avoid loud noises and abrupt movements that might startle the cat and trigger an aggressive response. Speak slowly and softly.
2. Try inviting the cat into your space instead of moving into its space. Sit down on the floor or a chair to put you closer to its level.
3. Gently reach your hand forward. Ball your hand into a fist or offer a few fingers, keeping it below the

cat's head level. The cat will then decide whether to sniff your hand or rub on it. These are both signs of acceptance.

4. Wait until the cat starts to rub against you before you start petting it. The cat will do this to share its scent with yours. Once this happens, most cats will let you gently pet them under the chin and on the forehead and cheeks. Don't pet any other part of its body until the kitty gets to know you a little better but take your cue from the cat. Also, don't try to pick up the cat until you two are more familiar with each other. Stop petting if the cat's body starts exhibiting any of the behaviors listed below that mean the cat is really stimulated and could possibly attack.
5. Give the cat a slow blink. This will communicate that you're comfortable and trust it and it can trust you. You might get a slow blink in return.

6. Avoid chasing after the cat because this can cause it to become fearful, an experience that can negatively affect future interactions with you.

Certain cats will become aroused when you pet them for extended periods of time. The best remedy for this is to avoid reaching that tipping point by reading the subtle cues in the cat's body language. Signs that you should leave the cat alone are:

1. Twitching of the tail in jerky movements.
2. Nipping. They will often nip or catch your hand with their claws in warning when they have reached their limit.
3. Its ears might be slightly lowered and to the sides and sometimes its back will ripple a bit.

Using the above tips will give you a better chance to have a positive first meeting with a cat.



Warm and Fuzzy Stories



Little Mama, now Lily Rose

Little Mama, now Lily Rose, is a pretty little blue and white tabby that was adopted by Judy White. Lily Rose was an extremely shy kitty who has really blossomed. Judy thinks the world of her and says that she knows it! Judy promised her that this is her forever home and said that in the past month she can tell that Lily Rose has decided that this is her permanent place. Some of Lily Rose's favorite things to do are sunbathing, hanging out on her cat tree, playing with her toys, and "camping" inside in a cute little tent. Lily Rose, despite being so shy in the past, now walks up to visitors when she used to run and hide. Lily Rose has been very affectionate lately and

has even slept in the bed with Judy. We are thrilled to know how Lily Rose has become so comfortable and happy.

Ollie is a red and white tabby that was adopted by Paige English. Ollie has a lot of hobbies that keep him entertained. He has fun chasing his 65 pound "sister" dog around and hugging her neck. Ollie is fascinated with water (he tries to jump into the shower!), so Paige got a drinking fountain for him. Another activity he likes is chasing ice cubes. Ollie is working on weight loss; he is currently on special food and he is slowly losing weight. Ollie has also learned to walk on a harness. Good for you Ollie!



Ollie

Shadow, a large handsome black cat, and **Paula**, a beautiful tortie, were adopted together by Diane Flanagan. Before coming to StreetCats Shadow had lived with Paula since 2016 when he found her as a



Paula and Shadow

tiny kitten and brought her home. Shadow is very attached to Paula and thinks he is her "mother." Diane said they are doing great. Shadow warmed up quickly to his new family while Paula warmed up a little more slowly. Shadow likes sleeping next to Diane and has become a lap cat. While Shadow is definitely the dominant cat, he is very sweet and playful with Paula. Diane says Paula is also a very sweet cat that likes playing with toys and loves belly rubs. She will also touch her nose to Diane's to wake her up. Wonderful to hear that these two great kitties are doing well in their new home.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT – Heather Harrod

We are so fortunate to have had Heather Harrod as a volunteer for over ten years and on the Board for the last two. You will find her working on Saturday morning shifts. Growing up she always had animals. Once she even had a crow and a raccoon. When she moved back to Tulsa to be near her mother, she visited StreetCats when it was located in the Farm Shopping Center. Sometime later she decided to do some kind of service in the community, so she reconnected with StreetCats and became a volunteer.

She likes working at StreetCats to help give the cats another chance at a good home. She especially appreciates how much vetting we do to match the adopter to the cat and what kind of home is best for each cat.

As an animal lover Heather has several animals at home, too. Her young dog Gretel is a Great Pyrenees/Anatolian Shepherd mix. She is thin and about 5'4" when standing tall, which means Heather has to be careful what she leaves on the counter

if she doesn't want Gretel to eat it. Gretel tolerates her other roommates, who are three cats that have been diagnosed with FIV. Linus was the first, a stray she was feeding who decided he needed to be inside and the other two have come through StreetCats. Snoopy (now Dobby) was on the list to come into StreetCats but Feline Specialties discovered he was FIV positive. We are unable to bring FIV positive cats into our facility, but Heather agreed to take him since she already had one cat with FIV. Sylvester is a recently returned cat who had contracted FIV sometime since he left StreetCats, so Heather added him to her family as well.

The three cats have a special play area in the catio she created. When she bought her house, it had a screened-in porch but it needed to be renovated. She painted, re-screened and added extra fencing on the inside of the posts to create a secure catio for the cats. It has a daybed and chairs with a shelf for climbing. Sounds like these animals have a pretty sweet life with Heather.



When not volunteering at StreetCats Heather does payroll for Kruse PEO. She also enjoys gardening, reading, playing tennis, and DIY, as evidenced by the catio she created.



Adoptions 4/1/2021 through 9/30/2021

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

Annie – TA Mellons	Diamond – L Tippeconnic	Liz (Lizzie) – L Ball	Silver – C Mountford
Annie (2) – D Wood	Dobie Grey – D Parris	Mocha – DJ Malone	Skippy – G Acosta
Aries – L Mize	Feather – L Elias	Peaches – L Phillips	Smokey – M Fain
Ava – J Sherrill	Honey – L&S Wallis	Penny – K Bowlby	Spencer – TA Mellons
Big Boy – A Bumgarner	Jack – C Baxter	Precious – M Reese	Stump (Bellamy) – M Delo
Blackie – G Acosta	Jackie – S Hughes	Preston – A Laird	Sylvester – H Harrod
Buddy Boy – P&J Fernhoff	Libby – E Palmer	Sabrina – J Cedeno	Taffy – C Bowdle
Christopher – T Webb	Little Mama – J White	Shadow – J Sherrill	

Why Cats Drink from the Faucet

Cats sure can be finicky when it comes to their water! We've all seen kitties come running to sip from the kitchen tap or wait patiently outside the shower to lap the fresh droplets from the tub. Our shop cat Beamer always runs to the faucet when we arrive to clean in the morning. It turns out there are some very good evolutionary reasons why cats prefer running water over the supply in their bowl.



- Our domestic felines' oldest ancestors hailed from desert climates and were able to subsist on little water. To this day, our cats' bodies conserve water by producing relatively dry stools and highly concentrated urine.
- It's instinctive for them to avoid standing water, which in the wild has a much higher risk for harmful contaminants than water in a flowing stream.
- Felines have good night vision, but their ability to see the standing water in their bowl is poor because their vision is not as sharp and clear as humans. Rather than relying on sight to locate a still pool, cats prefer to use their excellent hearing to find the familiar sound of running water.

- Most owners tend to place food and water bowls against a wall, making cats feel vulnerable to a rear attack. Although there probably aren't too many predators waiting to ambush your cat in the kitchen, it's a natural tendency for them to avoid being cornered.
- Water from the tap tends to be cooler, cleaner and more oxygenated, improving the taste for our finicky felines.
- Many cats simply dislike the way their sensitive whiskers brush against the rim of their bowls.

- Aside from all these practical reasons, some cats just really like to play with running water! They love creeping into the shower or batting at the stream from a flowing sink.

The problem with cats drinking directly from the faucet or tub is that our tap water tends to contain minerals and heavy metals that could contribute to urinary tract infections, bladder stones, and kidney issues. The concern mainly is fluoride in the water, but the amount in

the water that is safe for humans may be ok for our cats since it would take a significantly higher dose and higher water consumption to cause damage. However, we truly don't know the long-term impact of fluoride in the water.

If your cat has a flowing water fetish, you might try a high-quality pet fountain filled with filtered or distilled water. An added benefit of fountains is that cats tend to drink more water than those who have standing bowls, thus improving their health. The key, however, is to clean it at least once a week.



LOOKING FOR HOMES: Sassy and Toby



My name is **Sassafras** or **Sassy** for short. I am a 7-year-old black female. My original family took me in as a kitten but earlier this year they had to move out of state and their new living situation would not allow them to keep me. Losing my family and coming in to StreetCats was a difficult adjustment for me, especially since I don't particularly like other cats (and maybe not dogs or children). The volunteers here have been very nice and patient with me but I really need to find a new home of my own. I do like to play, explore and drink from the faucet. And I have found some laps that I like to sit in for short periods of time. Would you consider giving me a chance in your home? It will take me time to adjust to another change but, if we work together, we could be great companions.



My name is **Toby**. I am an 8-year-old blue and white long-haired male and everyone says I'm gorgeous. I am looking for a home with no other pets, children or elderly adults because they say I can be aggressive sometimes. While here at StreetCats, they discovered I had bladder stones which can be painful and might have affected my behavior. I am now on a special diet and medication and everyone has noticed that I'm much friendlier with people although I still don't like the other cats! I enjoy looking out the window, lounging on a cat tree and sleeping on my chair. I also enjoy having you near me as company but I'm not a lap cat. Perhaps you could stop by and visit me? Maybe we could be friends.



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 "purrfect" homes for the rest of their lives. Listed below are those who made monetary or in-kind donations valued at \$100 or more and received between 4/1 and 9/30/2021.

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

Llynda Adams
 Gerene & Adam Adwon
 Nancy Ahmed
 Jackie Ahrens
 Audrey Alcorn
 Vicki Anderson
 Anonymous – 2 different ones
 Shari S. Arnold
 Terrie Atchison
 Kathy Balsiger
 Beverly Barry
 Charlotte Bates
 Don & Carol Beard
 Henrietta Berroteran
 Chuck Bigbie
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 Whitney Wakefield
 Beth & Sherri Ward
 Dorothy Webber
 Katrina Wightman
 Ginger Wilkins

Memorial Donations

*Donations made in memory of loved ones received
between 4/1 and 9/30/2021.*

We are very sorry for all these losses and our kitties send purrs of comfort.

V Anderson in memory of Shirley Stone for her son, Dr. & Mrs. Robert Stone

K Balsiger in memory of Leah Johns for her sister, Sara Jane Senger

C Bates in memory of her sister, Terrie Atchison, and Prissy, Terrie's cat, and now they are together

S&M Bear in memory of Adelaide

B Bland & R Beasley in memory of Aunt Edna who knew Magic (from SC) was very wise

B Brothers in memory of Leah Johns, her dear friend & she will be missed

B Brown in memory of Smeigle & Bobbit for Tonya Bull to keep their memory alive

C&L Brumbaugh in memory of Larry Levy (father), Cody (cat), & Petey (dog) for Carrie Levy

T Bull & L Denson in memory of Dexter for Bobbie Brown

LA Burns in honor & memory of Grayson

A Churchill in memory of Abby for Pam Terhune

A Clemmer in memory of Grant Vendetti – you will never be forgotten; RIP

R&B Cohen in memory of Leah Johns

J&S Copeland in memory of Grant Vendetti for his wife Robbie

N Cox in memory of Jody Chavez

P&M Craft in memory of Church, a former StreetCat named Jake

PM Crowe in memory of Kimi who died 12/19/2020

S Cunningham in memory of my beautiful 14 ½ yr. old baby boy cat Gretzky

J Daly in memory of Terrie Atchison

N Davies in loving memory of Jody Chavez

JE Dittus in memory of our friend Joan Chapman Hatley

DV Doyle in memory of Bentley her beautiful Tonkinese

L Duckworth in memory of Leah Johns for her sister SaraJane Senger

S Easley in memory of Joan Hatley

J Garmaker in memory of Tanner

P&D Goswick in memory of Terrie Atchison for her family

EJ Haddox in memory of Feetsie & Tuxie

J Hamlett in memory of Richard Tunnell

A Hanson in memory of Connie Curry who loved her cats so much

P Harriman in memory of Sassy

M Hartwich made with love for Terrie Louise Atchison; please rest in peace

J&J Hemphill in memory of Lucy

D Hendrickson in memory of our dear friend Larry Swanson who had a love for street cats

R Hobbs in memory of Grant Vendetti

F Jost in memory of Kitty Patches & Kitty Black for the paw prints they left on our hearts

Dr S Kraft in memory of Grant Vendetti for his wife Robbie

C Lloyd in memory of Grant Vendetti from the Boonville High School Class of 1979

L&C Lloyd in memory of Ethan Lilly

DJ Malone in memory of Baby

E McCabe in remembrance of Lu Myers

LA McCullough in remembrance of Grant Vendetti

C McMasters in memory of Grant Vendetti

Miss Helen's Private School in memory of Leah Johns who taught with us

N Mitchell in memory of Lucretia Myers for her husband Ed

S&P Moldenhauer in memory of Smudge as there will never be another cat like you and we'll miss you forever

J Morrison in memory of Jerry Roberson for Lynn & the Roberson family

D&P Moser in memory of our beloved cat Asia

C&J Newell in memory of Leah Johns, StreetCats volunteer, and in memory of Prissy

K&K Owen in memory of Siegmund

R Porter in memory of Ginger George, beloved cat of Stan & Delinda Hill

J Proctor in memory of Little Man for Marcia Ketchum

R Ree in memory of Miss Puss (Chloe) who was adopted from SC 7/30/2015 and died in April 2021

T Ritterhouse in memory of Terry Wilson & Bear

L Roberson in memory of her husband Jerry

A Rose in memory of her dear friend Joan Hatley

S Russell in loving memory of Ree Michie

B&R Scott in memory of Linus who died in 2019

L&R Smith, L Grady & Family in the name of Carol Miller

J Smithen in memory of Heftti Katt & in memory of her precious tabby Clancy Chester

A Soderfeldt in memory of Abby who died 9/5/2020

DL Safford in memory of Terrie Atchison for her sister, Charlotte Bates

B Steiner in memory of Mimi Cakes 5/7/2000 – 5/26/21 & Weezer 5/7/2000 to 5/17/2014

J Sugg in memory of Joan Hatley

C Taverner in memory of Terrie Atchison

P Terhune in memory of Joan Hatley

L Vasquez in memory of Leah Johns

Veterinary Dental Center of Tulsa in memory of "Jason" Ketchum for Marcia

K Webber in memory of Tracy Michelle Doby Lile, daughter of my dear friend



Appreciations and Honors

Donations given in appreciation of or in honor of someone or a pet and received between 4/1 and 9/30/2021

- Anonymous in honor of my dad's birthday
 K Balsiger in honor of her daughter, Renee's, birthday
 M Barnes in honor of Jackie who was adopted
 MA Blackburn in honor of her parents, Frances & Chris Kemendo who are gone now
 BA Chapman in appreciation of John and Diane Terral
 A Churchill in honor of London for Pam Terhune
 C Cox in honor of Kathy Huber for her birthday
 B Faubion in honor of JoeJoe
 C Fielder in honor of Alice Sprouse for her birthday
 A&M Frampton in appreciation of StreetCats getting Zoomie fixed
 P Friend in honor of Chloe for "gotcha day"
 R Fuhrman for her mom Kathy Balsiger for Mother's Day
 E Gaser in appreciation of Barbara Roberts & Lindsey Dickenson, co-workers for 11 years at StreetCats
 M Ham in honor of Milo who has gone to the Rainbow Bridge
 A Hanson in honor of Lily for her birthday
 J Howell in honor of Theona Howell's (his mom) birthday to help some kitties
 M&P Hunter in honor of Linda Johnson's birthday and Allie
 N Jervis in honor of CiCi (was Tia), best cat she's ever had & helped her through cancer in 2020
- L Leikam in honor of Sylvester who was originally adopted by her father but then he had to return him to StreetCats
 P Manuel in honor of Annie who she loved but had to give up to StreetCats due to her own medical reasons
 B Mildren in honor of his late wife Marie
 J Minton for her friend Mindy whose birthday was May 4 and she "purr-furrs" gifts to StreetCats
 D Mitchell in honor of Monty
 LV Ozinger & JW Dyer in honor of Joan Hatley
 J Plucknett in honor of Ashley Zimmerman for her birthday
 J Phillips in appreciation of the Stitch in Time Program
 R Porter in honor of Stan Hill's birthday
 A&A Ramseur in honor of Rocky (was Boots) who they adopted 5/7/2019
 L Strummer in honor of her birthday held a StreetCats fundraiser on Facebook
 L Terrell for Andy
 M Tucker in honor & appreciation of Piper for her birthday
 M Warder in honor of her mom and her kitty Claire
 C Wong in honor of Susan which would have been her 69th birthday for the rescued cats that she loved



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
 Clorox Clean-Up spray cleaner or refill container
 Postage Stamps
 Small bottles of water for volunteers
 Paper Towels
 Swiffer Duster Refills
 White printer paper
 Unopened bags of Pill Pockets – Salmon or Chicken
 Disposable Gloves – Size Medium
- ### **Meals on Wheels Wish List**
- Scoopable Litter
 Unopened bags of dry cat food
 Canned (wet) food

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and01319@gmail.com

bird care, mail,

www.andreas-furry-angels.com

plants, administer meds, etc.

918-695-5118 | (please text)

Newsletter Contributors

Co-Editors: Vicki Anderson, Linda Holland

Writers: Vicki Anderson, Kathy Balsiger, Barbara Cohen, Linda Duckworth, Linda Holland, Judy Loyd, Jodi Wise

Layout and Design: Janie Green

Photography: Vickie Sanborn, adopting cat families



StreetCats, Inc.

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

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FALL 2021

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

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

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

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

It's Christmas Every Day

Christmas comes but once a year
I've heard the humans say
And though that never meant a lot
It was the human way

You see I was quite busy
Staying warm and keeping dry
Finding just a little food
Trying to get by

And then one very cold
cold night
As cold as it could be
I sat outside her window
To watch her shining tree

Our eyes met through the
frosty glass
The cold just went away
And soon I found myself inside
Now it's Christmas every day

Judy Loyd



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