

# Feline Forum

Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

February/March 2023

## Come To Their Rescue: Help Us Expand Our Facility

Since 2000, Cat Welfare has rescued more than 30,000 cats and kittens. We're a safety net for homeless, abused, injured and abandoned felines in Central Ohio. Currently, the shelter is operating at full capacity, and limited space forces us to turn away many cats that need our help. To address current demand and keep more cats off the street until they find their forever homes, we are excited to announce the Come to Their Rescue Campaign. Campaign funds will increase the shelter's size from 5,600 to 11,000 square feet and provide:

- Dedicated space to take in more kittens that have fragile immune systems and need to be isolated from the general population.
- More visitation areas to allow cats and kittens one-on-one time with individuals and families. This interaction is crucial for successful adoptions.
- Isolated space to respond quickly to disease outbreak, so that we are not forced to euthanize at-risk cats and kittens.
- Protected space for cats with feline leukemia. Thanks to advanced medical treatment these cats can live happy lives and make wonderful companions. However, in a communal environment, their compromised immune systems can suffer.
- Multipurpose rooms for acclimating shy cats that need a stress-free environment. Our goal is to familiarize these cats with the shelter surroundings, promote trust and match them with a suitable home.
- Educational space for community outreach programs, cat care seminars, pet advocacy and donor and volunteer recognition.
- Storage space for critical donations, such as medical supplies and food.



An architectural rendering of the expanded shelter.



## Let Remy tell you how you can help!

To donate to this important venture, visit [catwelfareassoc.org/capitalcampaign](https://catwelfareassoc.org/capitalcampaign). To request an informational booklet or schedule a shelter tour, please call Jenny at 614-268-6096, ext. 102.

## Looking Back: Points of Pride for 2022

Hats off to our members, volunteers, donors, friends of Cat Welfare, amazing staff and Board of Directors. Your commitment, encouragement and inspiration made 2022 an amazing and productive year in rescuing as many cats as possible and shaping the future.

### IN KEEPING WITH OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

- 871 cats and kittens were admitted to the shelter, many with life-threatening injuries.
- 759 cats and kittens were adopted into loving homes.
- An average of 274 felines were cared for daily.
- 2,800 altering surgeries were subsidized through Cat Welfare's low-cost spay and neuter programs.
- 66 companion cats received emergency medical treatment, paid from Joey's Good Sam Fund.
- We ended the year with a soft launch for a Capital Campaign.
- We conducted a survey to help inform a strategic plan.
- A record number of people participated in the Cat Caper 5K.

## Our Mission

The Cat Welfare Association is dedicated to the care of and education about cats and kittens. Our pledge is to cherish, nurture and provide veterinary care for homeless, abused, injured and abandoned felines. We strive to find each cat an appropriate, safe and loving home, allowing those not placed to live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.



741 Wetmore Road  
Columbus, OH 43214  
614-268-6096

[catwelfareassoc.org](http://catwelfareassoc.org)

[facebook.com/catwelfareassoc](https://facebook.com/catwelfareassoc)

Helen DeSantis, Executive Director

## Hours

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays  
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. all other days

Closed the first Thursday of each month and all major holidays.

The adoption fee of \$40 (\$25 for senior and special needs cats) includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations, testing for feline leukemia and FIV, microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.



## Board of Directors

Sue Godsey • Brenda Martin • Jay Mathew • Amanda Powell • Lisa Strickland • Katie Thomas

Treasurer: Judi Lang



# The Catique

## Shop the Sales at The Catique

Stop by The Catique, 1005 Mediterranean Ave., from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each Thursday through Saturday to snag some good deals during these upcoming sales:

February 9-11 - 50% off Jewelry

February 16-18 - 70% off Storewide

February 23-25 - 50% off Lamps

March 2-4 - 50% off Artwork

March 9-11 - 50% off St. Patrick's Day Items

March 16-18 - 50% off Storewide

## Vote on Changes to Bylaws

Modifications to The Cat Welfare Association's Bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on November 15, 2022. The proposed changes authorize a mail-in or electronic ballot for the election of Board members. Also, a few procedural changes are addressed. The current Bylaws, a summary of the proposed changes and the proposed Bylaws are posted on our website and can be accessed on the "Get Involved" tab under the "Board" category. Paper copies are also available at the shelter.

Written comments will be accepted through Tuesday, April 18, 2023, via email to [bylaws@catwelfareassoc.org](mailto:bylaws@catwelfareassoc.org) or by mail to The Cat Welfare Association, Attn: Helen DeSantis, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214.

The Bylaw changes will be voted on at a member meeting on May 16, 2023, at a location to be determined.

## Remembering Sherbert

Our precious Sherbert peacefully crossed the Rainbow Bridge on November 30, in the comforting arms of her close friends. Sherbert had called our shelter her home since September 2015 and was honored with the duty of being a Guardian Angel kitty. Sherbert knew no strangers and perched comfortably on laps of all shapes and sizes. She brought us tranquility on turbulent days with the humming of her purrs. In her younger years, you could find Sherbert playing in boxes with catnip mice or getting sassy with cats that would trespass on her territory or insert themselves into her human lap time. In her last years, she led a more reserved life, retiring to a quieter area due to vision and hearing loss. Sherbert was charming, drawing many admirers with her bright yellow eyes and long black and chocolate-colored fur. Her presence and companionship are greatly missed, yet we take solace in knowing she can once again see and hear on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge.



## Honoring New Life Members of The Cat Welfare Association

All members of The Cat Welfare Association receive discounted tickets to events, a subscription to the *Feline Forum* and eligibility to vote at the annual Board Member elections. In addition to these core benefits, life membership affirms your long-term commitment to CWA and its mission. A life membership badge signifies your participation in this elite group of contributors. Supporters can become life members with a donation of \$250. A single payment is preferred; however, installment payments can be arranged by contacting the shelter. We would like to thank the following supporters for becoming life members in 2022: Mark Blood, Ted Chamberline, Connie Cline, Jennifer Cordle, Jack & Lynn Giljahn, Wesley Ginway, Shirley Brooks Jones, Art & Janet Lofton, Lorinda Ostapuck, James Ramey, Marcy Samuel, Martha Schellkopf and Barbara & R. Gordon Snyder.



# FeLV+ Cats Need Love and a Happy Home

Feline leukemia (FeLV) is a viral infection that infects ONLY cats. Humans and other animals cannot contract this virus, and it is not airborne. Cats under one year of age are much more susceptible, but because it is transmitted by sharing toys, water dishes and litter boxes or through close physical contact, like fighting, grooming and sleeping together, FeLV+ cats should live only with other FeLV+ cats or as only cats.

FeLV+ cats can live healthy lives with no symptoms if they're given the right support. They need the same things most cats need from a good guardian: indoor-only living; good and consistent nutrition; regular preventative healthcare, including a complete physical exam once or twice a year; routine vaccinations; flea and other parasite protection; and a low-stress existence.

Cat Welfare places our FeLV+ cats as fosters. You provide an appropriate home and love for the cat, and we oversee all medical decisions and take care of all of the medical needs. Would you be able to give a FeLV+ kitty a place to call home? For more information, please give us a call or send us an email at [adoptions@catwelfareassoc.org](mailto:adoptions@catwelfareassoc.org).

## Meet Some of Our Available FeLV+ Cats



Scar

Scar is large and in charge! A former alley cat, this big beast is truly a gentle giant. Scar thrives on being the center of attention and a loyal friend. Scar does not allow the double whammy of being FeLV+ and FIV+ affect his health or his can-do attitude. Things he can do: provide quality snuggles, be a buddy to other FeLV+ kitties you may have in your home and magically make any cat treat placed in front of him disappear!

If adopting an FeLV+ cat is something you can consider, please visit Scar. A staff favorite, we'd love to see this incredible cat live long and prosper in a forever home.

Thor is a friendly guy around 6 years old. He showed up in a colony in Franklinton this past December and clearly needed some medical attention. After extensive dental work, including the extraction of 17 teeth, he healed up nicely and began grooming himself and eating enough food for his frame. Now healthy and happy, Thor will greet you with a purr that sounds like a Ford Mustang. A bit timid around other cats, we think Thor might do best in a home where he can be your one and only or where just one other gentle FeLV+ cat resides.



Thor

## Meet Some of Our Adopted FeLV+ Cats



**Edgar**

Sally loves how social Edgar is with anyone who enters their home. When she was reminded that they've been together for nearly three years, Sally responded that it feels longer because he's just brought so much companionship.

**Hamilton**

Hamilton has been in his forever home for just over three years. He is an attentive assistant to his beloved papa, Pavan.



## Lap Up the Kitten Snuggles on Our Foster Team



Our adoption success would not happen without the dedication of our spectacular foster team! Won't you please consider becoming a member?

Kittens, once approved for shelter intake, go into foster care if they are not old enough to be spayed or neutered when they arrive. Some litters have a mom, who accompanies them in foster care, while others arrive motherless.

Foster care commitments can range from one week to a couple of months. We do ask that you have a room in your home where the foster(s) can live without interacting with any of your pets until they are fully vaccinated and have been approved for interaction by our shelter veterinarian. This important requirement is not only for the sake of the foster but for your fur babies, too. We will provide

you with food, litter, a litter box and any required medications for the fosters. Our foster care commitment and application form can be found online at [catwelfareassoc.org/volunteer](http://catwelfareassoc.org/volunteer).

# CWA Happy Homes



We went looking for a new best friend for our home and ran into **Pierre** the Couch Potato! As soon as we came home, he upgraded to the BIG couch!

*Gavin*

I was devastated when the cat I'd had for 18 years died. I always knew I wanted another cat, so I spent time volunteering at Cat Welfare until I was ready. The second I took **Matilda** to the visitation room, I knew she was my cat. She settled in easily. She sleeps in my bed every night, loves to sit with me on the couch, is sweet to my niece and nephew, and she's playful and silly. I just love her so much. It's only been two weeks, and we are already bonded. Thank you, Cat Welfare! She is the best.



*Jess*



When we first met **Nox** she was in really rough shape. Now she's acting like a kitten. She loves to run at full speed through her tunnel, play with every toy she's given and cuddle with her mom and dad. Thank you, Cat Welfare, for looking out for her and getting her healthy again!

*Julia*



**Jake** is my son, my permanent foster. He is so amazing and loving. I am so happy he got to come home with me. He's a perfect, healthy, happy cat, even with cerebellar hypoplasia. And one of his many nicknames is SpiderJake.

*Patti*



**Masha** is doing great. She and her new sister are still exchanging top secret cat information under the door. We discovered that this kitty is ALL ABOUT PLAYTIME. We have already broken two kitty toys in our quest to tame the playtime beast inside of her. This week we will try to get these two fur balls to learn to love each other. **Benga** is our other rescue from Cat Welfare seven years ago, and she has not seen another cat in that amount of time, so we are being patient. In the meantime, Masha has huge windows to watch the birdies from and she loves to spoon in bed at night. Thanks to everyone at Cat Welfare for taking care of her before she found her forever home.

*Amy*

Got a Happy Homes story? Upload it at [catwelfareassoc.org/submit-happy-homes](http://catwelfareassoc.org/submit-happy-homes) or mail it to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214.

# We Love Our Donors

## Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

Richard Austin "In memory of beloved Maggie," Richard Austin "In loving memory of Sherbert," James & Mary Criswell "All the Criswell Kitties," Cherry Hafey Berthalhnat, Tammy & Eric Jones "In memory of Don Millirons," Karen Kaiser "In memory of my sweet baby Sherbert," Anita Knoechel, Antonio and Beth Libertini, Debra Lipkowitz "In memory of Dilly, beloved pet of Ann Heineman, and in honor of her new cat Mesut," June McComis "In memory of Maggie," Joyce Purcell, Heidi Sherer, Judith (Judy) Tomblin "Tara-Zoe-Ari-Jack-Lexie & Socrates," Samuel & Diane Van Schoyck "Ruby, Amanda, Lump," Nancy Vincent and Sandra Wolf

## Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Philip & Janice Arnold, Nancy Betz, Annette Boer, Cassandra Clancy, Leon & Patricia Cohan Jr., James & Mary Criswell "All the Criswell Kitties," David Crombie "In memory of Ivory," Anita Knoechel, Carol May "In memory of Shiitake," Linda Schellkopf "In memory of our friend Sherbert," Heidi Sherer, Jackie Tam and Sandra Wolf

## Cat-A-Lack Chow Club

for food for the shelter residents

Michelle Buyer, James & Nancy Chodorow, Elizabeth Langford, Lorinda Ostapuck, Heidi Sherer and Robert & Patricia White



Photo credit: Joy

## Joey's Good Samaritan Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Roseann Ballangee "In memory of Curtis Stumpf," Carol Ann Bradley, David Crombie "In memory of Ivory," Cynthia Earhart "Always & forever in memory of Omar," Randall W. Hertzner "In memory of Doug Buhner and Jasmine Boots," Jennifer Howell "In memory of little Carmen," Jeff Perlman, Heidi Sherer, Patricia Sweeney, Julie Tragesser and Sandra Wolf

## Willard's Village Babies Fund

for care of feral cat colonies

Richard Austin "In memory of Baby Cat," Deborah Hunter, William Noel "In honor of our cat Atticus J. Finch," Sandra Pearson, Heidi Sherer, and Carol & Dennis Smith "In memory of Maggie and Michael, beloved by Anne and Wilma"

## Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

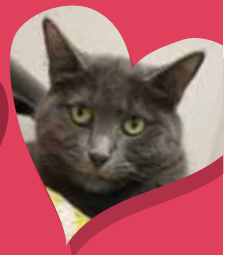
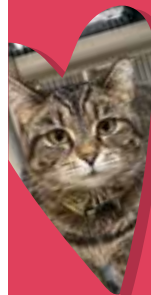
Jennifer Howell "In loving memory of Samuel," Andrea Johan "In memory of George, T.O.M., Necco, Magnet, Lucky and Buddy," Gregory Knopf, Robert Mason, Vikki Smith, Judith St. Germain, Mary Tobin and Sandra Wolf

# For the Love of our Cats

February 14

1:30 - 5:30

Come pet, play with and talk to the wonderful cats and kittens in our shelter.



We'll have tasty baked goods for sale and reduced pricing on CWA merchandise.



Can't make it but would like to show the kitties some love?





# Feline Forum

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NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
COLUMBUS, OH  
PERMIT NO. 407

741 Wetmore Road  
Columbus, OH 43214

[catwelfareassoc.org](http://catwelfareassoc.org)

Incorporated Under Law: As a non-profit, charitable organization

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Shelter Wish List:

Purina Cat Chow, Purina Kitten Chow, moist cat food, Temptations treats, brown paper grocery bags, clay litter (non clumping), bleach, Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, laundry detergent, stainless steel scrub pads.

Order directly from our Amazon Wish List at [goo.gl/eLNYhd](https://www.amazon.com/wishlist/ref=wl_cr_text) or our Chewy Wish List at [bit.ly/35PLR1s](https://bit.ly/35PLR1s).



## Hello, Homie

Homie is seeking his new best friend. Well, actually, he'll take a few! A human to call his very own and a couple of gentle cat friends would be ideal. We believe he would do best in a quieter home without high-energy dogs or children. He's a bit shy at first but is very affectionate if you're patient with him.

Homie's only other request is a large window. While he has no desire to return to a life outdoors, he sure does enjoy keeping watch and soaking in the sunshine.

Does this sound like the purrfect cat to you?

Homie is currently residing in a foster home, but please call 614-268-6096 or email [adoptions@catwelfareassoc.org](mailto:adoptions@catwelfareassoc.org) to schedule a visit with him.

*Cat Welfare has nearly 270 cats available for adoption. Find your new feline friend by visiting [catwelfareassoc.org](http://catwelfareassoc.org) or stopping by our shelter. The kitties would be happy to see you!*