

# Feline Forum

The Cat Welfare Association Newsletter

December 2023/January 2024

## Mr. Andy Shows Sometimes Love is the Best Medicine



We are blessed to see our fair share of inspiring stories. The transformation of Mr. Andy is one such delightful tale.

We received a phone call from an attorney's office informing us that we were named the beneficiary of an estate. The crown jewel of the estate was a nearly 20-pound cat named Mr. Andy!

Mr. Andy was close to his former owner, and a case of depression, along with a respiratory issue, had begun to settle into this poor, confused cat. We tried to make him comfortable as we dealt with his health issues, but his condition steadily declined due to his refusal to eat. We began to fear he might not make it.

Enter Sandy, a kind-hearted volunteer who made it her mission to comfort Andy. Sandy came in daily. Soon, Andy began to once again show interest in eating and responded by beginning to explore and seek attention from others. There were tears of joy as we witnessed his metamorphosis.

Sandy continues to visit daily. For Andy, kindness was the antidote to what was ailing him.

## Mega Match Making Progress with \$40,000 Raised



Exciting news! Thanks to your generous support, we have already received \$20,000 in donations, plus a matching \$20,000 gift from our Mega Match donor for a total of \$40,000 in this campaign! Have you donated yet? This is a great way to double the impact of your year-end donation. The first 78 Mega Match donors who contribute \$150 or more will receive one of our limited edition Capital Campaign T-shirts in Peach or Ice Blue.

Gifts can be made through PayPal at [catwelfareassoc.org/capitalcampaign](https://catwelfareassoc.org/capitalcampaign), GoFundMe at [gofund.me/129ed767](https://gofund.me/129ed767) or by mailing a check to 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH, 43214. Every dollar counts. Please help us Come to Their Rescue.



## Catique Prepares to Close Its Doors

The Cat Welfare Association's resale shop, The Catique, will be closing its doors on January 27. Increasing operational costs and other factors have driven this difficult decision.

Many thanks to our dedicated and friendly staff, Celeste & Sharon, our many generous donors, our caring volunteers, and all of the fabulous customers who have supported The Catique throughout the years.

Donated merchandise will be accepted only through December 1. Be sure to join us for the huge close-out sale starting January 4. Everything must go!

We will continue to look for a suitable space closer to the shelter. Stay tuned!

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Jenny at the shelter at 614-268-6096 or [JenniferCatWelfare@gmail.com](mailto:JenniferCatWelfare@gmail.com). We thank you for your support of The Cat Welfare Association.

## Bring Holiday Cheer with CWA's Famous Handmade Catnip Toys



Our holiday motif catnip toys are now available for \$3 each. Last year we made \$3,744 from these popular pillows! You can pick them up in the shelter entryway between 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. daily (7 p.m. on Wednesdays) or call 614-268-6096 to have them shipped for an additional \$1 per pillow. Get them quickly because they go fast!

## 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://www.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

Katie Thomas, President  
Jay Mathew, Vice President  
Lisa Strickland, Recording Secretary

Sue Godsey • Brenda Martin •  
Amanda Powell



## Read the Board Candidate Statements

### ***Rose Ann Ballangee***

As a member, volunteer and donor I believe in the mission of Cat Welfare. The organization has always strived to take the best care of the cats, be financially stable and forward looking. As a Board member, I would work to complete the Capital Campaign and build the new addition, increase the spay/neuter program and research and begin to work with others on the feral cat problem in the community. Over the years I have volunteered in the shelter, the Catique, organized the Christmas Bazaar and fostered kittens. I now serve as a social secretary and on the Finance Committee.

### ***Amy Blank***

I would like to use my years of experience in animal rescue to help Cat Welfare reach its mission. I've been an active member of Cat Welfare for 8 years and I've fostered cats, worked at on- and off-site events, transported cats, worked spay/neuter clinics and started a youth volunteer program. I think educating young people about the plight of stray/community animals, the importance of spaying & neutering and the part our community plays in it is a long-term investment.

Additionally, I want to increase visibility to raise funds for the new shelter expansion. Central Ohio needs to know about the important and vital role that Cat Welfare plays in assisting our stray/community cats.

### ***Jennifer Cordle***

Hi. I'm a Lifetime Member of the Cat Welfare Association and a Cat Caper volunteer. I also visit the shelter to pet cats. By doing those things, I've learned a lot about the work done at CWA by both selfless staff and dedicated volunteers. I'm so impressed, and I'd love to have the opportunity to support them as a Board member in their incredibly important work. I'm an attorney with nearly 20 years' practice—mostly in public service and currently as a Magistrate in the Franklin County Common Pleas Court. I'm hoping my experience might be helpful to CWA at this critical juncture with the capital campaign and the forthcoming expansion. Thank you for your consideration.

### ***Sue Godsey***

I am sincere in my goal to be true to our mission and keep our various funds healthy so that we can help as many cats as possible. As long as I am able, my home will always be open to temporary visitors (four-legged!) waiting for a new life.

### ***Brenda Martin***

I have served on the Cat Welfare Board for a number of years. I believe my experience can help maintain the mission of Cat Welfare now and as we move into the future. I feel that the shelter already does an amazing job helping the cats in our community.

### ***Amanda Powell***

My wife and I have two adorable, cat-loving pit bulls, but everyone knows our cats are my favorite. I was an appellate attorney for children for nearly 15 years, working for an agency overseen by a commission; and, more recently, I have worked with a national non-profit and several state-wide agencies that are also overseen by Boards. In my initial term as a CWA Board member, I have learned so much about CWA, the Board, and the vital support board members can provide to CWA's mission. My commitment to CWA and my dedication to the Board's work has grown stronger, and I would be honored to serve for the next term if I am fortunate enough to be reelected.



# CWA Happy Homes

My husband and I made a trip to Cat Welfare to see if we wanted to add a new addition to our little family. We first saw this girl, **Biloxi**, sticking her paw out of her cage, trying to play with us, and of course we thought that was super cute. We wanted to see if any other cat would try to get our attention, and none did. They all just kind of looked at us! When we went back over to Biloxi, she was still trying to play with us, so we decided we should get her out and play with her. At first she wanted nothing to do with us, but after about 30 minutes she came out and smelled us before going right back in the corner! When we took her home, she hid under the couch for most of the day. We let her be so she could get used to it, and later that night she came out and cuddled with us! She hasn't stopped cuddling ever since. She is our little angel. We love her so much! We are so thankful to have her as part of the family and for how well we were taken care of by the employees at Cat Welfare.



*Brooke*



Little **AmberLee** (left top) has fit into our household beautifully. It has been the easiest transition of a new family member ever! She is affectionate and has bonded with her brother Dustin amazingly. They are best friends. Siblings Hollie and **Tessla** (left bottom) seem to love watching them play "Grab-Head" and wrestle. AmberLee, Dustin, Tessla (and Hollie!) are truly gifts and we love them so much.

*Stacie & Robb*



We have gotten two kitties from Cat Welfare, and they have both been such a success! After two weeks of a slow introduction between resident cat Onyx and new cat **Meeko**, they are the best of buddies. Meeko has brought us so much joy, as he has been the cuddliest, sweetest boy. Two cats really are better than one!

*Bobbie*



**Teddy** is super happy, energetic (when she's not sleeping) and playful. Although she is timid at first, she warms up to her visitors super quickly and is very sweet. She is very curious and loves to watch RuPaul's Drag Race with me! She's getting a lot of love every day.

*Maya*

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



# Thanks for Another Successful Caper!

THANK YOU to everyone who made the 2023 Cat Caper 5K run/walk to benefit The Cat Welfare Association such a success! Overall, we had 397 participants, and the event brought in more than \$22,000 after expenses.

**FEATURED Sponsor: Ohlinger Studios**



**RACE DAY Sponsors:**

Cats Only Veterinary Clinic    O'Shaughnessy CPA  
Civista Bank    Rick & Peggy Kaplan Fund

**GOLD Sponsors:**

Worthington Woods Animal Care Center

**SILVER Sponsors:**

All Critters Veterinary Hospital    DJ for All Occasions  
Baise Quality Printing    First Merchants Bank  
Beechwood Veterinary Hospital    Veterinary Dentistry & Oral Surgery of Ohio  
J.S. Brown & Co.    WesBanco

**BRONZE Sponsors:**

April's Flowers & Gifts, Comfrey Corner of Heath, The Disarray Doctor, The Hair Raizers, Sarah McLean LLC, Edward Searle of Cutler Real Estate, Ty Tawel Memorial Farm and Worthington Psychological Associates

**Race Day Table Sponsor:**

JavaMomo Breakfast Cakery

We also want to thank the businesses and individuals who donated over 70 raffle prizes for the post-race raffle!



# Members: Vote on Four Open Board Seats by Jan. 19

The Cat Welfare Association's Board election will be held on January 19, 2024, with voting by mail. If you are at least 18 years of age and have been a paid member of The Cat Welfare Association for at least the 12 months preceding January 2024, you are eligible to vote. To vote, cut out this ballot or print it from our website. Send the completed ballot to CWA Board Election, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214. Please write your name and address on the envelope so that your voting privilege can be verified before the ballots are opened and counted. Processes are in place to ensure the confidentiality of your vote. Only one vote per membership, please. Votes must be received no later than noon on January 19.

Please select up to FOUR:

- Rose Ann Ballangee
- Amy Blank
- Jennifer Cordle
- Sue Godsey
- Brenda Martin
- Amanda Powell

Need help deciding? Candidate statements can be found on page 3, and the candidates' full Board applications can be found at [catwelfareassoc.org/board](http://catwelfareassoc.org/board).

## Cat Welfare 2024 Calendar

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State ZIP

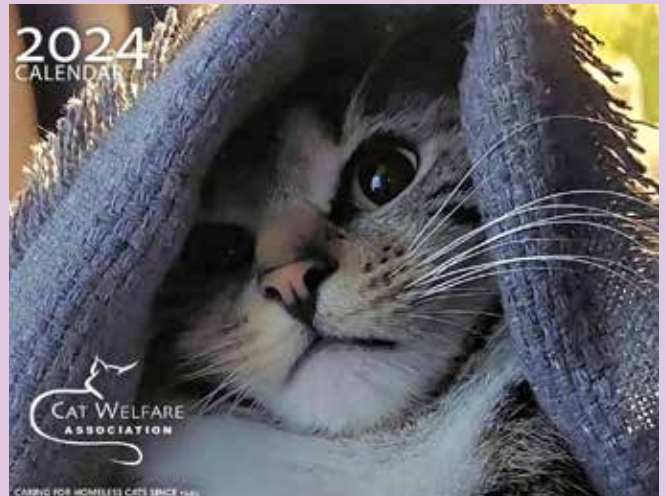
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Number of calendars \_\_\_\_\_ at \$17.95 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Total cost

Cost includes tax and shipping

Make checks payable to The Cat Welfare Association



Visa  Mastercard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# We Love Our Donors

## Ishie Memorial Fund

for long-term care of shelter residents

Rita Burns "In memory of Eileen Ansley," Richard & Lynne McWherter "In memory of Martita Dougherty," Steven Puckett "In memory of Emily Foster," Martha Schellkopf "In memory of Dewey, beloved pet of Linda Schellkopf," Marlinda Iyer "In memory of Eileen Ansley," Regan Scholl and E. Gail Kalbus

## Altering Fund

to subsidize community low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

Patti Hayer, Pamela Frissora, Edwin & Ulla Wagers, Lindy Ferrell, William Hout and Gregg Jabarisidiki

## Vincent Fund

for emergency care for shelter cats

Marjorie Obrist, Dale & Marty Keener, Linda Schellkopf "In honor of Brenda Martin," Eric & Cynthia Earhart "In memory of Omar," Linda Schellkopf "In memory of Dewey," Shawna & Shelly Davis "In loving memory of our sweet Josie," Leon & Patricia Cohan Jr.



We never know their full back story, but because of our generous donors, we are able to serve our mission.



From January through October 2023, we **adopted 611 cats** into loving homes and **subsidized 1,595 spay and neuter surgeries** through our various Altering Fund programs.

## Joey's Good Samaritan Fund

for medical care of owned cats

Mary Mancini, Sam Carol, Ann Bradley, Jen Burkein "In memory of Cleo, Gus and Nami from the Varveris Family," Mary Jo Kilroy "For Melanie Gannon and her cat Ralph Clyde Rex," Randall W. Hertzner "In memory of Doug Buhner and Jasmine Boots"

## Willard's Village Babies Fund

for care of feral cat colonies

Richard Austin, Deborah Hunter and Penny Popper

## Thank You, Troop 7159!



First-grade Daisy Girl Scout Troop 7159 from Worthington collected newspapers from their families and neighbors for Cat Welfare. At the meeting where they earned their Considerate and Caring badge, they sorted through the papers and took out all of the glossy inserts that Cat Welfare can't use to line cages. Although newspapers may not seem like an exciting donation, it's something the shelter really needs, and that makes it very considerate to collect them! Thank you, girls!



# Feline Forum

December 2023/January 2024

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, stainless steel scrub pads.

Order directly from our Amazon Wish List at [goo.gl/eLNYhd](http://goo.gl/eLNYhd) or our Chewy Wish List at [bit.ly/35PLR1s](http://bit.ly/35PLR1s).



## Hello, Buffalo Bill

Howdy, y'all! I'm Buffalo Bill, the cutest little kitty this side of the Wild West. I've got a playful spirit that just can't be tamed, but it's all in good fun! I'm like a cowboy at high noon—quick on the draw and always ready for a challenge when it comes to drops of water falling from a faucet. My favorite game is catching those elusive droplets as they tumble down. I'll sit and wait, watching each one intently, then throw my paw out to snatch it. It's a game that requires speed, precision, and a true love of adventure—and let me tell ya', I've got all three! I've got big dreams of having a big ol' fountain of my own someday.

Truth be told, what I really want is a good ol' home with good folks who will care for and love me. Waddya say, partner? Let's ride off into the sunset together!