


C.A.T. Mews

• A Nonprofit, No Kill Shelter

SUMMER 2003

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If stretching were
wealth, the cat
would be rich.

African Proverb

STOMPED YOUR FEET...RUBBED YOUR HANDS...DROPPED SOME CHANGE... AND ATE A DOUGHNUT!

February 15 dawned cold and damp...rain, sleet, wind. Typical Kansas weather (if such a thing exists!). Nonetheless, at 5:30 a.m. two of C.A.T.'s volunteers, Tawnya McNeal & Tammy Antweiler, headed to Kansas City to pick up 100 dozen Krispy Kreme doughnuts for our Presidential Coin Drop event. Aaron Vail bundled up and hawked doughnuts for hours in the parking lot, before taking a break (!) to hang sheetrock

in the new shelter!

Business was slow but steady. People took advantage of the 25% off sale to come inside the shelter, donate some loose change, pick up some pet supplies, and visit with their favorite cats.

Katy and Malcolm of V100 were on hand for a remote broadcast and did a great job of informing people about the shelter.

By day's end, over \$600 had been raised for the building fund. To all those



Katy of V100 and Mocha

who worked tirelessly for the cats on that very long, very cold day....THANK YOU for your efforts on behalf of all your furry friends.

THE WISHING GARDEN

Now that most of the details on the inside are taken care of, it's time to turn our attention to beautifying the outside of the new shelter!

Borrowing an idea from Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, we'd like to grow a Wishing Garden at C.A.T.'s new shelter.

Spring is here & we're planting this year's crop of

special wishes for the new shelter and the cats, as well as for you & your pets at home. Janice Evans will design a Wishing Garden to be located at the new shelter. Each wish is written on rice paper, which nourishes the earth and then planted with a flower seed.

Just send in your own special wish & Janice will sow a seed of good fortune

for you.

And thank you for helping to make C.A.T. a dream come true for all your furry friends here.



NEW SHELTER UPDATE: CLOSER TO MOVING IN



The windows are in and the screened porches are nearing completion.



Hallmark employees generously donated their time to put up drywall.



These are some of the tiles that will decorate the entry way.

Bit by bit, step by step, and sometimes even inch by inch, the new shelter gets closer to completion. If you've only been watching from the outside, you've been missing some of the other big changes.

The gutters have now been hung, and all of the outside windows and doors are installed. If you've driven by recently you will have noticed that the shelter is also changing color. That's right, the painting has begun. There is still some work to be done on the outside, but the real paint job is just beginning on the inside.

The electricity and lighting is almost done. The new shelter also got quite a bit of help from Hallmark employees. Several came for many days to help put up drywall, donating their time to help C.A.T. save some money.

More wonderful volun-

teers have stopped by in their spare time to help with the painting. The ceilings are being painted white, while the walls are being primed. This is all in preparation for the bright colors to be used throughout the shelter. Linda Lee, who has very kindly donated her interior design skills, has taken direct inspiration from the book *The Cat House* by Bob Walker. The shelter will be warm and inviting to all cat lovers! And more help is needed. It will take many hours and willing hands to put all those bright colors up.

C.A.T. has also received a great deal of help in the way of material donations, free labor, and discounts from companies like Hale Security Pet Doors, Schwerdt Design Group, and Kelly Construction. The building of this wonderful new home

for the cats could not have been done without them.

Several people with talent and patience, and a sense of fun, came to help paint commemorative tiles that will decorate the entry way. Lots of fun and laughter filled the studio at Potwin Pottery as cat themes were drawn and painted on the pieces of ceramic. Another session is planned on May 8 at 6:15 p.m. to finish them up. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come!

With the work progressing, we hope to move in by mid- to late June. But, even though much has been completed there is still more to be done. Additional funds are still needed to help pay for the building costs. Even after it is done, C.A.T. will always need support to continue providing care and love to these wonderful furry angels.

Cat Association Of Topeka

Retail Hours:

Tue-Fri 10 am to 6:00 pm

Sat 10 am to 4 pm

Kennel Hours:

Tue-Fri 11 am to 6:00 pm

Sat 11 am to 4:00 pm

THE PEOPLE BEHIND C.A.T.

Board of Directors:

Susan Schmitz, President

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Janine McCartney

Janice Evans

Diane Barnes

Retail Manager:

Mary Tonar

Kennel Manager:

Krista Miller

Finances:

Darrell Schmitz

Facilities:

Jeff Griffith

Technology:

Dennis McCartney

Newsletter:

Diane Barnes

Susan Schmitz

Web Site:

Diane Barnes

Veterinary Consultant:

Mike Esau, Companion

Animal Clinic

This publication is produced four times a year and is distributed through a membership list. It is also available at the shelter during normal hours of operation.

Please keep us up to date on any address changes or discontinued service notices by mail or phone at the shelter.



GIANT MOVING OUT SALE!

Attention all cat lovers, volunteers and wanna-be volunteers!

Now that spring is finally here our thoughts turn to.....GARAGE SALES!!!!

Is your basement overflowing with things you no longer use but are too good to throw away?

Are you no longer able to get your car in the garage?

Then we've got the solution to your problem.

On July 25th and 26th the Cat Association of Topeka will be having a garage sale.

The sale will be held at the old shelter at 5324 SW 17th from 8:00 am to 4:00

pm both days.

You can benefit yourself by getting your basement and garage cleaned out plus its also good for a tax deduction on your 203 tax return.

This will benefit CAT by raising funds to pay the day to day operating cost of the new shelter.

If you have items to donate please drop them by the shelter on Gage Blvd. after July 8th or bring them to the old shelter July 19th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. If you are unable to come to the shelter or have more than your car will hold, please call the shelter at 272-

4735 or Bill Compton at 273-7615 (after 5:00pm) to arrange for pickup.

When getting your items ready for the sale, we have a few requests: (1) No clothing except for infant or toddlers clothing, cleaned and in good condition (2) No broken toys (3) Kitchen appliances or electronic items should be in working order (4) If you can go ahead and price your items we would appreciate it as this will save us time setting up.

We also need volunteers to help during the sale. If you can help, please call the shelter or Bill Compton.



CATTY SHACK CHAT: NEW PRODUCTS!

Bach's Rescue Remedy

Our pets have emotions too. They feel fear, anger, jealousy, depression, etc. just like us.

Animal rescue groups, sanctuaries, and shelters (including C.A.T.!) have long known about the benefits of Rescue Remedy and its powers to soothe and calm anxiety-related behaviors. Because so many people have asked about it, we decided to start carrying it at the Catty Shack.

Come on in and ask Mary for a brochure about the benefits of using Rescue Remedy with your pets at home.



Sticky Paws

Don't declaw - Get Sticky Paws! Stops cats from destroying furniture. Helps control inappropriate urination; safe for furniture and cats; non-toxic, odor free, easy to apply.

Also available... Stop cats from using houseplants like a litterbox! Cut strips to desired length and place sticky side up around base of houseplant. Sticky Paws for Plants is safe, effective and non-toxic.

Keeps Cats Out of Houseplants—Won't Harm Cats or Plants

Non-Toxic and Odor Free—Cut to Fit Any Size



Happy Tails



One month later Well on her way to health at last.

PATCHES: A RESCUE FROM THE SEWERS

We see a lot of sad cases here at C.A.T., but Patches pulled at our heartstrings extra hard!

She was rescued from the Kansas City sewer that had been her home for who knows how long, by a wonderful lady who lived near that sewer and had seen Patches scurry in there. She was little more than a bag of bones, weighing less than five pounds, covered with her own waste and maggots. Her rescuer brought her to Companion Animal Clinic, where she was bathed, shaved, and tested.

She then brought Patches to C.A.T. where the staff fussed over her, doing whatever was possible to help this fragile soul. Because

she was too weak to stand on her back legs and was unable to regulate her body temperature, it was soon determined that she needed more intensive care.

One of the shelter's volunteers took Patches into her home where she was kept on a heated bed, fed high-calorie warm food every six hours, and allowed to recuperate under watchful eyes and loving hands.

Nearly a month later now, Patches has gained two pounds and is a beautiful little girl. Her dilute calico coat is slowly growing back, and she takes pride in grooming herself. She's gaining strength and likes to jump up in her window seat to watch the purple martins

swoop outside. She is wonderfully affectionate, has an incredible purr and a joyful meow that sounds like a lamb's bleat! As soon as she undergoes surgery for a hernia condition, Patches will be ready to go to the long overdue loving home she so deserves.

Because this precious one is totally deaf, she would be happiest as a single cat in a quiet environment. She will be cared for as long as it takes for her to find that home.

Patches is just one of the wonderful creatures who is well on her way to a healthy, happy, safe life—because of you. Thank you for helping. Thank you for caring.



DEAR C.A.T.,

Thank you for helping us find a kitten. We think what you do with cats is amazing. You take cats off the street and give them a second chance at life. Thank you for giving Lil' Ricky a second chance. He is a blessing!

Jason Wallace and Jennifer Frost



CAT SPOTLIGHT: TANK & STARLIGHT

Tank is a rather full-bodied, Reubensesque lady. Who needs an hourglass figure, though, when you have a personality like Tank's? Far from sedentary, this little lady can waddle with the speed of light! This long-time resident of C.A.T. is sweet as the day is long, friendly as they come,

quiet (except when it comes to purring!) and affectionate. She also is FIV-positive. That doesn't mean that Tank is unadoptable, quite the opposite in fact! She is the purr-fect friend for a special person who understands her needs. Keep reading to learn more about FIV.



A Tankful of Love

We just know that this beautiful girl has some aristocratic blood in her...one look at that face and you'll agree. She'd like us to remind you that she's beautiful inside and out...being FIV positive doesn't change that a bit! Starlight and her kittens were fostered by one of

C.A.T.'s volunteers. The kittens were pretty feral, but Starlight was a sweetie from day one and very happy to give up her paw-to-mouth existence on the streets. She'd like nothing better than a permanent home with a lucky family. Learn more about FIV below.



Starlight Shines Bright!

AN FIV PRIMER

The Feline Immunodeficiency Virus is a slow-acting virus that affects a cat's immune system over a period of years. FIV-positive cats most often live long, healthy, and relatively normal lives with no symptoms at all. FIV is a cat-only disease and cannot be spread to people or dogs. FIV is not easily passed between cats. In fact, transmission of FIV in multiple cat households where there is no fighting among cats appears to be

quite uncommon. FIV cannot be spread casually—like in litter boxes, water and food bowls, or when snuggling and playing. At C.A.T., we have sheltered healthy, happy cats (like Tank and Starlight!) who test positive for FIV. These cats deserve permanent, loving homes. In fact, it may be their best chance to live a long, stress-free life! But we do add a few extra stipulations when qualifying an adopter. Persons considering

adopting FIV+ cats must not have any other cats (unless they're also FIV+), because even though the chance of passing the disease is slim, why take any chances? If you are interested in learning more about Tank, Starlight, or FIV, please call our kennel manager at 272-4735.

Source: *The Scratching Post, Volume 2, Issue 1, January 2003* A quarterly publication of Feral Friends To learn more about this

Despite what many people think, cats with FIV often live perfectly long, happy, healthy lives with no symptoms at all.
-Rebecca Poling, Feral Friends



KATIE & FRANKIE: A BEAUTIFUL MATCH



If you ask Katie Rego, radio personality of V-100, about her cat, you'd better have some free time to sit back and listen! Katie adopted Frankie from C.A.T. in early 2003, and it's been a case of mutual adoration and love from the start. "He's my best buddy; he's my boy," says Katie, and it's obvious that Frankie returns the sentiment.

Regular listeners of V-100 are well aware of the bond between these two, as Katie proudly speaks of him on the air, as she proudly recounts his latest (and of course, brilliant)

accomplishments and antics.

Dressed in one of his many colorful bandanas, Frankie accompanies Katie to outreach opportunities in the community. Katie generously uses the opportunity to educate people about C.A.T., while Frankie serves as the perfect ambassador.

Katie and Frankie are living examples of what C.A.T. strives for every day: the enrichment of two lives and the meshing of two hearts.

Thank you, Katie and Frankie!

ADVERTISE WITH C.A.T.

Show your support for C.A.T. by placing an ad in our newsletter. Our newsletter currently has a circulation of almost 2500 members.

Since the shelter was first incorporated as a 501c3 in 1987, C.A.T. has found loving homes for nearly 4000 cats. The readership of *C.A.T. Mews* is proud of the impact its grassroots shelter is making among national animal welfare and advocacy

groups. The readership is diverse, but the common denominator is the love of animals and the empathy for the plight of homeless, abused, and neglected cats. C.A.T.'s members believe that kindness toward animals builds a better world.

By placing an ad you can identify yourself or business as one who is committed to kindness and to improving the lives of homeless cats.

GET MEWS IN YOUR E-MAIL!

Spend a lot of time on your computer? Why not start receiving *C.A.T. Mews* in your e-mail? C.A.T. currently mails out its newsletter to nearly 2500 members. That's a lot of stamps! Though we don't begrudge the cost, and we love to tell everyone about how the kitties are doing and bring you news that interests, you can help us save some of the money by signing up for e-mail service.

E-mail subscribers will receive the newsletter in PDF format, an easy to download and view document that can be opened with the free Acrobat Reader program. It's efficient, received sooner than regular mail, and it's in color!

To join the e-mail newsletter list, just send a request to the webmaster, Diane Barnes, at:

kaliko88@yahoo.com

C.A.T.SIFIED ADS



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A TRIBUTE TO AN OLD FRIEND

Frequent visitors to C.A.T. knew Calvin well. He and his best friend Tortie greeted guests to the shelter for years, always with dignity and class. Calvin was one of the very first cats rescued by C.A.T. in the late 1980's. His story was a tragic one prior to coming into C.A.T.'s care, but his life afterwards was one of love and comfort.

Calvin went peacefully over the Rainbow Bridge recently. We mourn, as does Tortie. It hurts to lose a friend and beloved companion. Our tribute to Calvin is to redouble our efforts to make sure that no cat coming into C.A.T.'s care will ever again be alone, afraid, hungry, or in pain. That's our promise to you, Calvin. Thank you for sharing your precious life with all of us.

CALVIN



Another cat?
Perhaps. For
love there is
also a season;
its seeds must be
resown. But a
family cat is not
replaceable like
a wornout coat
or a set of tires.
Each new kitten
becomes it's own
cat, and none is
repeated. I am
four cats old,
measuring out
my life in
friends that have
succeeded but
not replaced one
another.

~ *Irving
Townsend*



FINDING THE RIGHT COMPANION FOR YOUR HOME

By Krista Miller, Kennel Manager

Adding a cat or kitten to your household can be a truly wonderful experience for all involved if each are accepting of the other's lifestyle. Personality, or temperament, plays a big role in how you will get along.

It is important to have all, who will be sharing their living space with the new cat or kitten, involved in the selection process to find one that will work with everyone.

Longhaired, shorthaired, energetic, laid back, shy or nervous, a real talker or one not so vocal, independent or likes to be the center of attention. These are all things that should be considered.

If you are contemplating having more than one cat in your home, planning is essential. If you already have a cat at home, it is generally easier to introduce someone younger such as a kitten, who will not pose such a threat as a full grown adult might. Sometimes, opposite sexes may work better reducing the chance of competition. Males are usually thought of as being highly territorial, but the females can also be very defensive of their territory and more reluctant to share their space with a newcomer. It's natural for our pets to want to protect their environment. Keep in mind, all cats are different just as we are, and there are always exceptions to the general ideas noted above.

Two kittens are worth a thought if you are absent most of the day. They will keep each other company, whereas, a single kitten left alone all day might get quite lonely. Siblings usually get along well as do two adult cats that have lived together in the same home. Cats and dogs can be good friends when introduced properly. It helps if the cat or kitten has met dogs before and didn't have a negative experience. Anytime new cats are introduced into new territory, it requires planning and patience.

The health of your new cat or kitten is also important. Before taking your new family member home you should be able to handle it and look it over for

yourself. It should be bright eyed and alert. Its eyes, ears and nose should be clear. Nice coat and teeth are also things to look for. An examination by a veterinarian should be one of the first things on your To Do list for your new pet.

Physical attraction is something we all can react to when choosing a new pet. But, remember, your new companion may be living with you into their teens or longer and personality is very important in order for both of you to be happy.

The staff at C.A.T. will share all the information they have on the cats and kittens in their care in order to place them in a home where they, and all in the household, will be content.

C.A.T.'S GREEN ANGELS

Representatives of Girl Scout Troop 375 were at PetCo recently to sell their cookies at the C.A.T. outreach table. They are shown here with Susan Schmitz.

This wonderful group of young ladies has adopted

C.A.T. as a service project. Besides serving at the November Soup Supper, they made cat beds for the kitties, and have donated profits of their cookie sales to the cats! Their kindness makes such a difference!



(l to r) Brianna Wilson, Bethany Hughes, Taryn Eby, and Megan Cowan. Their troop leaders are Carol Hill, Mary Beth Klecan, and Laura Sidlinger.

SHELTER WISH LIST



C.A.T. appreciates many kinds of contributions, and has compiled a list of needed supplies. Particular brands have been requested where they have been proven to be most effective.

- Laundry detergent
- Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Postage Stamps
- Whelan's trash bags
- Unscented cat clay litter
- Just Born kitten milk replacement
- Hill's Prescription Diet
- canned: a/d and k/d
- dry: k/d, i/d, w/d, c/d, and r/d
- Items for the new shelter: washable toys, beds, scratching posts and climbing trees
- Industrial grade wheeled janitor cart



Pawprints on the heart

We are thankful for these gifts to C.A.T. We wish to recognize the following contributions and honor those being remembered in this special way.



Memorials

Jennifer Adams

Janet Fox

Dean Batesel

Rod & Jan Kennemer

Max Garrett

Janice Evans

Jean Jones

Charlene Jones

Kim Logan

Ron Logan

Lois Lynch

Mrs. Lillian Dawkins

Paul Markley

Joann Markley
Mary & Larry Gibson

Betty St. John

Mrs. Lillian Dawkins

Helen Chavez

Billy & Dolores Lyda
Blue Cross Blue Shield of
Kansas
Brenda Stahl
Kathleen Brosamer
KDOT Office of Chief Counsel
Loretta Ortiz
Mr. & Mrs. Sylvester Negrete
Dr. Don & Jean Miller

Helen Chavez cont'd

Patrick & Audrey Hogan
Richard & Terisa Thomas
Steven & Susanna Hastings

Wilma Stonequist

Clifford & Leroy Keller
Curtis & Joyce Burns
Dennis & Janine McCartney
Donna Totman
Duane & Jacqueline Lindsay
Frank Diehl
Franklin Heck
Jeannie Blanck-Griffith
Joan Rogers
John & Janice Tarlton
John & Sheila Curley

Wilma Stonequist cont'd

Jon & Leroy Whitaker
Marjorie Bolyard
Mary & Steve Tonar
Max & Sharolet Freeman
Mrs. Ernestine Gunzelman
Mrs. John Manager
Nancy Pressgrove
Sara & Ronald Miles
Shelley Sutton
Sonja Irwin
Susan & Darrell Schmitz

Mrs. Taylor

Mrs. Lillian Dawkins

Honorariums

Crystal Bass (Birthday)

Athena Bass
Roger & Karen Viola

Kelly Morse (Birthday)

Stacy Jeffress

Pet Tributes

Tam-Tam & Miss Kitty

Dee Baker

Missit

Ellen Webb

Sylvia, Rosie, Punky

Sarah Kuck

Victoria

A. Brad Frederick

Buddy

Lawrence Kassin

Mad Max

Marilyn Sharkey

Goldie

Wendy Wolfe

George

Stacy Jeffress

Junior

Celia Watson

Millie

Helen Schaake

Hobie

Susan Schmitz

Samson & Delilah

Sylvia Howey

TC and KC

Novella & Thomas Clevenger

Dumpster

William Smith and Bill's Resto
Parts

Crystal & Tyler

Charlene Jones

Kittie, Sammy, Ralph, &

Tunsey
Myrna M. Wegner

Paw Print Partners

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Harold & Patty Stones
Hill's Pet Nutrition

Jayne & Brian Morris-
Hardeman
Jim & Jeanene Hoover
Joey Linder
Judith Shelter



UPCOMING EVENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



For more information , please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator:
Jeannie Blank-Griffith - 836-2404

Moving Sale Coordinator:
Bill Compton - 273-7615

MAY

- 17 PetCo Booth: There will be a bake sale and a special presentation of the Spring-A-Pet fundraiser results. *Volunteers needed!*
- 31 PetSmart Booth: *Volunteers needed!*
Weekends: Projects at the new shelter: *Volunteers needed!*

JUNE

- 7 PetCo Booth: Please join us for an ice cream social! Yummy! *Volunteers needed!*
- 28 PetSmart Booth: *Volunteers needed!*
Throughout the month we will need volunteers for moving projects.

JULY

- 5 PetCo Booth: More goodies at the bake sale! *Volunteers needed!*
- 7 Media Open House at the new shelter.
- 13 Cats n' Gardens: Brunch, home & garden tour, basket auction!
Watch for more details about this exciting event!
- 25-26 Giant Moving Sale! Old shelter parking lot. *Volunteers needed!*



A Nonprofit, No Kill Shelter

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