



C.A.T. Mews

Cat Association of Topeka • A Nonprofit, No Kill Shelter

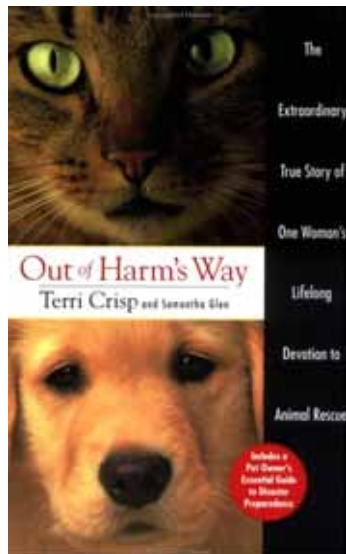
WINTER 2004

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Inside Story	2
Inside Story	2
Inside Story	2
Inside Story	3
Inside Story	4
Inside Story	5
Inside Story	6
Inside Story	6

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

No one likes to think of bad things happening to us or our pets. With the dramatic events in the past few months with hurricanes Frances, Charlie and Ivan, the reality becomes clear that disaster can strike at any time. Would you be prepared?



If you do a search on the internet you can find thousands of web sites about emergency preparedness, disaster kits, and stories and articles. Lots of practical advice has been put together by many people who have been through bad ordeals.

The sad truth is when emergencies occur, many pet owners find themselves unprepared, and pets end up left behind in dangerous situations. One book

dramatically illustrates this. In her book "Out of Harm's Way," Terri Crisp talks about her many years of animal rescue, and tells many inspiring tales. From this, and other resources, a general idea of how to prepare can be gathered.

1. **Have a plan.** Unfortunately, during emergency situations, Red Cross shelters will not accept pets. Check ahead of time which hotels allow pets, or which vets and boarding kennels to contact for temporary shelter. Also make sure you have enough carriers to evacuate your pets. Always move your pets early; you should never wait to the last minute, especially with cats. Cats can sense approaching danger early, and as the situation becomes unsafe, they'll hide.

2. **Have an Emergency Kit.** First aid kits should be in any household with some basic items. But having a disaster kit with extra supplies can be a big help. Along with first aid supplies you should include food for your pets, water for several days, litter for cats, cleaning supplies for

crates or litter boxes, medications, grooming supplies, toys, and of course some kind of cage or kennel.

3. **Gather your information.** Make sure you have your documentation in order for your pets: ID tags, veterinarian information and records, photographs and descriptions.

With these preparations made, you should be able to handle any situation. Whatever the emergency, of course, always take time to comfort your pets. They will be just as scared as you.

For more information try these websites:

- www.cyberpet.com/cyberdog/articles/general/artad1d.htm
- www.sniksnak.com/ac/disasterplan.html
- www.hsus.org/ace/18732
- familysafety.com/safety/disast.shtml/

A home without a cat—and a well-fed, well-petted and properly revered cat—may be a perfect home, perhaps, but how can it prove its title?

~ Mark Twain

"I realized that if something happened to me during a disaster that prevented me from taking care of my own animals, I could not count on my local Humane Society to step in and provide them with temporary care. It was a scary thought."

~ TERRI CRISP, author of "Out of Harm's Way"



NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: JOIN THE FUN!



Venture out on any given weekend, visit virtually any part of town, partake in community events or activities—and the chances are good that Cat Association of Topeka will be there!

C.A.T. is in the enviable position of having a dedicated Fundraising Committee, a group of people whose mission it is to help provide the funds to keep

the shelter's doors open so that we can continue to help as many homeless cats as possible. In the past 4 months, the Fundraising Committee has raised over \$6700---money which went directly to help the cats.

This dedicated group of folks puts the FUN in fundraising with a variety of innovative and creative approaches. Among the latest projects:

- Community events, such as the Holton Pet Fair, Paws in the Park, Cat Fanciers' Cat in the Hat Show, Lawn and Garden Show
- Sponsorship of the *Catwoman* movie premiere

- Raffles (Marolf Quilt, KU/KState tickets, KState/Layfayette tickets)
- Daylily Sale (*see photo*)
- Candy bar sales
- Outreach booths at local retailers
- Mega Garage Sale
- Philo Fund for lifetime care
- Direct Mail Appeals
- And of course, those gorgeous 2005 C.A.T. Calendars and cards

Please join us! If you think this is an area where you would like to help, contact Jeannie, our volunteer coordinator, at

jbgsmilingcat@aol.com, Susan, our outreach coordinator, at 273-4021, or stop by the shelter and fill out a Volunteer Application. New volunteers may be asked to attend an Orientation meeting to learn about the mission and goals of C.A.T., and what is expected from volunteers.

To learn more please plan to attend the 2005 C.A.T. Planning Retreat to be held Sunday, December 5, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the KSNA building at 1208 Tyler. Please bring your ideas, creativity, and appetites and join us as we look ahead to an even better year!



SIMON EVENING OF GIVING IS BACK!

West Ridge Mall is having its Simon Evening of Giving event again this year, and CAT is selling tickets. On Sunday, November 21, the mall will reopen at 6:30 p.m. to ticket holders only to kick off the holiday shopping season.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for local non-profit organizations to raise

funds. Tickets are \$10 each, and CAT will get \$7 for each one sold, with the remaining \$3 going to the Simon Youth Foundation for local scholarships.

Each ticket is an automatic entry into their prize drawings throughout the night, including a chance to win one of 5 \$1000 shopping sprees. If you

cannot attend the event, you're still eligible for prizes. There will be special offers, sales and discounts, and lots of entertainment through the night.

Last year CAT raised almost \$1000. You can help us raise more this year!

Stop by the shelter to buy your ticket then be prepared to shop till you drop!

Cat Association Of Topeka

Retail Hours:

Tue, Wed, Fri 10 am to 5:30 pm
Thur 10 am to 7 pm
Sat 10 am to 4 pm

Kennel Hours:

Tue, Wed, Fri 11 am to 5:30 pm
Thur 11 am to 7 pm
Sat 11 am to 4:00 pm

THE PEOPLE BEHIND C.A.T.

Board of Directors:

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith
Janine McCartney
Janice Evans
Diane Barnes
Scott Mickelsen
Linda Halford
Steven Loczy

Retail Manager:

Mary Tonar

Kennel Manager:

Krista Miller

Volunteer Coordinator

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Facilities:

Jeff Griffith

Finances:

Darrell Schmitz

Fundraising/Outreach:

Susan Schmitz

Newsletter:

Diane Barnes

Susan Schmitz

Veterinary Consultants:

Mike Esau

Tim Lavin

Companion Animal Clinic

Technology & Web Site:

Diane Barnes

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. You can also request to receive this newsletter via e-mail in Acrobat PDF format.



PETS AS PRESENTS - IT'S NOT ALWAYS A HAPPY ENDING

Maybe you've seen this familiar scene in a movie. It's Christmas morning, and little Jane has run to the tree to find a cute puppy waiting for her. Jane cuddles her new pet while he licks her face, and it's a happy ending. Or is it?

Too often the story ends the first time a young child gets bitten or scratched while they are playing with their new pet. Too often that adorable present ends up at the local shelter along with the other 3-5 million that are returned to shelters each year.

If you are considering getting your children a pet, start by asking some of these key questions:

- How old are your children? Different pets are appropriate for different ages. Older kids may not have time to play with or care for a pet due to school activities. And chance are they'll have to leave pets behind when they go to college.
- Do your kids really want a pet? They may like animals but that doesn't mean they want to take care of one.
- Have you really looked at the cost of a pet?
- Are you committed? You can't take a pet out for a test drive.
- Are you educated about how to take care of a pet? Pets are animals, so that means you'll have to deal with messes and possibly behavior problems.

If you've really thought it out and decide you want a pet, and you want to surprise someone, present it differently. Try giving a gift of pet supplies, like a decorative cat bed, fun dog chew toys, along with a gift certificate to the pet store or animal shelter. Then go together to pick out that special fuzzy companion.

Pets are wonderful to have in a family, but only if everyone is prepared. You will be happier, and so will your pet.



CATTY SHACK CHAT: NEW SCRATCHING POSTS!

If you've stopped by the shelter and browsed through the Catty Shack, you might have noticed some new climbing trees and scratching posts. They are beautiful pieces of work from a home-based Nebraska company.

While the current displays are

not for sale, the pieces are wonderful examples of what can be ordered.

Prices start at \$34.99. Orders can be placed at the shelter with payment due before delivery. Stop by and see if there is one that will be just right for your kitty!

TASTE OF THE TOWN CARDS ON SALE NOW!

Taste of the Town cards are now available at the shelter. Selling for just \$25 these cards will give you great deals at a variety of some of the best local restaurants. You'll find specials from buy one get one deals to free desserts or appetizers!

The cards are good from November 1, 2004 through November 30, 2005. Some of the proceeds from each card sold will go to C.A.T. It's a great holiday gift for anyone, while giving a gift to C.A.T. at the same time!

QUILT RAFFLE: IT'S NOT TOO LATE!



Just in time for holiday giving--or keeping!

"A Home For Every Kitty" isn't just a goal of C.A.T. It's also the title of a beautiful handmade quilt--lovingly designed, stitched, and donated by Kathy Marolf of the Topeka Quilters' Guild. C.A.T. is so grateful for Kathy's generosity and kindness. And there is still plenty of time to purchase raffle tickets!

Quilters will recognize Kathy's name immediately, as

she is an active member of several quilting guilds and is recognized nationally for her beautiful works, each with a story of its own.

"A Home For Every Kitty" is approximately 42" X 48" with home-warming colors. It's ready to adorn a wall, lap, or bed. What a meaningful addition to your home--or as a gift for someone special.

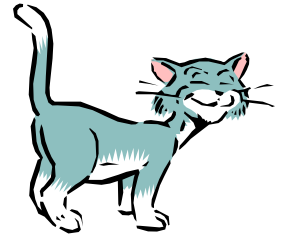
This beautiful quilt may be

seen at most outreach events (see page 8 of this newsletter for a calendar of events). It will also be available for viewing at the shelter November 9 - 18.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and may be purchased at the shelter or at outreach events. The drawing will be held November 20. You need not be present to win. Good luck!



Happy Tails



A NOTE FROM ELSIE



This is a picture of me as a kitten before I found my wonderful new home!

Dear C.A.T. Friends, It has been a wonderful summer for me in my new home. Since leaving you all in May, I've been busy exploring my new digs and getting to know my family. My family is rather large, consisting of three other felines and two large breed dogs. I warmed up to the dogs first -- Happy and Buddy -- as they are use to new cats com-

ing into the household. They didn't mind me rubbing up against them in my warm and friendly way. My step-felines include L.B. (aka Lover Boy), Jake and Sugar. Jake and I have become the best of friends even though he is twice my size. We love to run and wrestle with each other; playtime is often lively in our home. I have several favorite places to

perch in the house. I usually spend the night sleeping on top of the dryer, in the laundry basket with clean clothes. Also, I like to take a nap on my "mom's" lap while she watches TV. The best place of all is on top of the aquarium, close to "my" fish. I think I'm going to like it here!

Love, Elsie

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: DUANE EVANS

Most people we know schedule their volunteer activities around work and personal appointments. Not so with Duane Evans! For the past 2+ years, Duane has scheduled **his** dentist appointments, doctor appointments and every other appointment around his Monday commitment to helping in the CATrooms! When Duane received a notification for jury duty recently, he was even

overheard rehearsing a speech for the judge as to why he wouldn't be able to serve on jury duty if those responsibilities were to fall on any Mondays!!!

If you haven't met him yet, Duane is the guy around CAT who can be seen doing any number of things. As mentioned before, Duane volunteers every Monday, without fail, for scooping/feeding duty

(of "his" cats) in the West Wing CATrooms. Ever notice that our grass is always mowed and trimmed neatly? Duane does that. Ever wonder who provided the extreme makeover in CAT's landscaping and memorial garden? Duane had a hand in that. Ever wonder how all those aluminum cans make it to the recycling plant? Duane does that also. And, on his way back from recycling, Duane stops at

a local farm store and loads his truck up with litter, which he delivers to CAT and promptly unloads into our litterbins. WHEW!!! And all this as a "retired" person!

The next time you come by the shelter and see a friendly fella in a brimmed straw hat mowing the lawn, stop in and see Duane. And, don't forget to ask him about "his" West Wing cats—you'll get an earful!!!!

C.A.T.SIFIED ADS



Companion Animal Clinic

MIKE A. ESAU, DVM
TIMOTHY L. LAVIN, DVM

3335 SW Fairlawn • Topeka, KS 66614 • 785-271-7387



Sharon Mayo, LSCSW; ACSW

Phone (785)273-5800

2715 S.W. 29th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Fax (785)273-5805

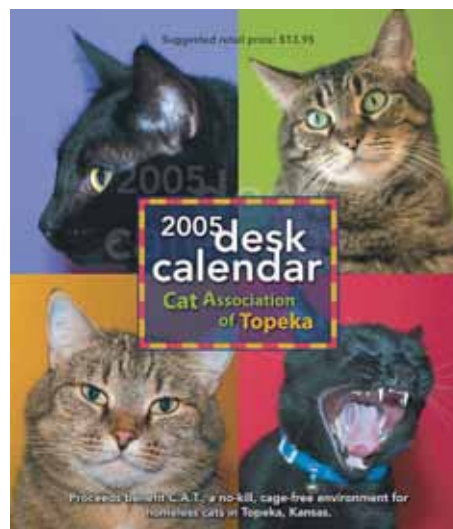


BRING A C.A.T. CAT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

We are pleased to announce the production of a 2005 Jewel Case Desk Calendar, starring some of C.A.T.'s most photogenic felines. The calendar is in a CD-style jewel case that folds back to form an easel. Each card of the twelve-month calendar stars a current or former C.A.T. cat from kitten to curmudgeon. The reverse of the calendar cards contains intriguing cat facts and information about shelter services.



The Jewel Case design makes it the perfect desk accessory for home, work or school. Note card sets and single holiday cards are being produced in conjunction with the calendar.



Hostess and Holiday Gifts

Let us help you complete your holiday shopping list. The calendar has a suggested retail price of only \$13.99, making it a unique and affordable gift. The calendar and note cards will be available in September at the Cat Association Catty Shack, outreach booths, and fine retailers in Topeka. If you live out of the area but are interested in purchasing a calendar or note cards, please return the completed form below and mail it to Calendar Fundraising Committee. We will contact you when the calendars are in hand and ready for sale.

Mail to: Calendar Fundraising Committee
Cat Association of Topeka
1719 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka KS 66604-3333

Or Email all information below to: CATCal2005@aol.com.

Please print.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____



C.A.T.'s Third Annual Holiday Soup Supper

Saturday, November 13 • 5-8 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall • 4775 SW 21st St.

Join us again this year for some early holiday cheer. There will be a delicious assortment of soups and goodies to eat, shopping fun at our Holiday Boutique, and a Basket

Silent auction. As a special treat,

Pastense, a bluegrass and old time music group from

Topeka will play from 6-7!

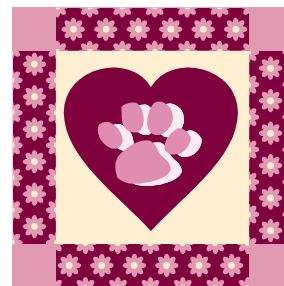


There will also be a special door prize and a gift for the lucky sponsor of the Secret Santa Cat.

Tickets are \$10 per person and \$5 for kids 11 & under. See you there!



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.

All names are current as of October 1, 2004. Please contact Mary Tonar with any corrections.

Memorials

Jan Cokeley

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Dorothy Kelly

Kay Kelly—DA Heritage
Mental Health Clinic

Norbert Schrein

Sandy & Gerry Sweet and Rita
Ford

Melissa Shirk

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Dr. Dean Collins

Polly & Jack Collins

Linda Stoltenberg

Gerald Stoltenberg

Honorariums

Jonathan Clennan - Birthday

Jeannie Blanck-Griffith

Jean & Bernie Wanner

Debbie Maichel

Marcia Smart - Birthday

Tammy Smart

Hope Kelsey - Birthday

Ginny Kelsey

Pet Tributes

"Patches"

Sally Snell
Sarah Kuck
Diane Barnes

"Tramp"

Joe Sanchez & John Wells

"For all the homeless cats everywhere"

DeAnn Aley

"Spike" - A beautiful cat & faithful friend

Joan Rogers

Dennis & Janine McCartney for "Two Beloved Cats"

Gene & Janice Rasch

"Gracie"

Jack & Lorraine Holland

"Ginger" & "Happy"

Martha Goodwin

"Lucky"

Judy Lawson

"Samson" & "Delilah"

Sylvia Howey

"Sunny"

Carolyn Taylor

"Meg"

Brenda Kipp

"Mitsi" & "Sonya"

Robin Giersch

"Cougar" - A Wonderful Pet for 18 Years

Amy & Michael Selm

"Snugglers"

K. Bryson

"Magic"

Linda & Greg Halford

Paw Print Partners

"Taily-po"

Myrna M. Wegner

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.

- **Trash Bags - Whelan's Large Yellow**
- **Unscented clay litter** (May we suggest buying and donating Cat Tails brand from our Catty Shack retail store?)
- **Pine Sol (not citrus)**
- **1st-Class postage stamps**
- Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Dishwashing Soap
- Center-pull paper towel refills for dispenser (available at Sam's)
- Special Diet Foods: Hill's SD Senior and Light dry, and Prescription a/d, w/d and c/d canned & dry
- 3-Ring Binders
- Bulk plain Hershey and Kit Kat bars, regular size



Some special projects:

- Vertical blinds for the front windows
- Gutter Guards
- A neon 'Open' sign

Please contact us first about these special requests



UPCOMING EVENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WHISKER TICKLER -
WHY CATS ATTACK
THEIR OWNERS ...



Don't even
think about
it!

Taste of the Town Cards are now on sale! See details inside!

NOV

- 6 PetCo Booth: *Volunteers always welcome!*
- 13 Holiday Soup Supper, 5-8 p.m. Warm yourself with good food, fun and laughter, and great music! As a special treat Pastense will be performing from 6-7.
- 21 Simon Evening of Giving, November 21, Westridge Mall - A special event to benefit participating charities and non-profits, and the Simon Youth Foundation. Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available at the shelter.
- 27 PetSmart Booth: *Volunteers always welcome!*

DEC

- 4 PetCo Booth: *Volunteers always welcome!*
- 30 PetSmart Booth! *Volunteers always welcome!*
- 25 *Meowwy Christmas!*
- 31 *Happy New Years!*



Return Service Requested

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Topeka, Kansas 66604
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Email: topekacat@yahoo.com

We're on the web!
www.geocities.com/topekacat

