

THE BOARD ROOM

2012 Officers

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Treasurer	Karen Seibert
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www.facebook.com/kindredkitties

*A dog, I have always said, is prose;
a cat is a poem.*

-- Jean Burden

From the President

We have had an active fall and winter! We've maintained a steady pace in adoptions, but still lag last year's numbers which we believe is a result of the continuing sluggish economy. We continue to receive many calls for assistance with spay/neuter and other general help for people's pets. We have been doing the best we can to meet the needs of as many cats as possible.

We can't say thank you enough to all of our loyal supporters who, in spite of the economy, continue to provide us the financial support required to take care of our kindred kitties and to offset the cost of helping many other cats in need. Our dedicated fosters, volunteers and supporters give us the ability to be the kind of organization we can all be proud to be a part of!

Our November "In The Bag" fundraiser was awesome, far exceeding our expectations. We continue to be amazed at what can be accomplished when a dedicated group of volunteers puts their heads together in planning this great event!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you all a healthy, happy new year. We look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the new year!

Sincerely,

Donna Kelly, President



It's hard to believe 2012 is already behind us. Time goes so fast! And as we reflect on the year past, the question always seems to be did we really make a difference? We believe the answer is a resounding YES!!

It's in the life of Yin who had an old accident injury and regained significant mobility, and has now found a forever home. It's in the life of a little feral named Sweetie who had a prolapsed rectum and became too ill for us to save. It's in the life of Lottie who was hit by a car as we were trying to "rescue" her, and had to be "wired" back together again. It's in the lives of two day-old kittens found in a cold and muddy puddle who are now healthy, active kittens. It's in the efforts made to save Violet, an abandoned kitty who valiantly fought for her life but lost the battle. And, it's in the life of our old boy Otis whose diabetes is now under control. And in the life of Hefty, saved just in the nick of time, who even while he has a chronic condition has been adopted and will have a caring home for the rest of his life. And ... there are so many more kitties that we were able to help. It may have been a challenge, it may have meant we had to give a little bit more, but we truly can and DO make a difference in the lives of so many that we've assisted or rescued or saved from abandonment or provided vet care for; or those surrendered to us who are still in our care, or those who now have new homes ... we made all of them matter, and that is the difference we make!

NEWS UPDATES

STATS

Adoptions – During the 2012 year, we re-homed 367 kitties (76 adults, 66 teens and 225 kittens). We are lagging behind last year by about 13%. 2011 adoptions totaled 424 which included 72 adults, 87 teens and 265 kittens.

Spay/Neuter – We tracked about even versus 2011 on the number of spay/neuters we facilitated. Spay/neuter was performed on 633 cats in total – 508 that were owned cats. And where we are unable to help in some areas, we were able to successfully refer individuals to other alternative programs to ensure that we maximize spay/neuters in general. This will continue to be a high priority throughout 2013!

Foster Care – We are currently caring for 107 cats. The Adoption Center is housing 38 (six that will likely remain as permanent residents), and our foster home count is now at 69 – which includes 14 that are considered "permanent" fosters due to special needs. **And our ongoing appeal still stands – we are so in need of good foster homes -- for both adoptable and special-needs adults!!!**

EVENTS

3rd Annual "It's In The Bag" Fundraiser

Wow! Sunday, November 11th was one absolutely GREAT day for Kindred Kitties! We not only met our fundraising goal of \$10,000 – we exceeded it by almost 20%. We are truly humbled when we realize just how many people care about Kindred Kitties and continue to give us their hearts, and their time, and their funds!! We can't say thank you enough to Fundraising Coordinator, Jane Broughton-Schaefer and her awesome "Itty Bitty Kitty Committee." We also want to acknowledge and thank Bombay Louie's owner, Mary Russell, for hosting this event for three years in a row. We are already in the planning phases of this year's November fundraiser (our 4th!) – see opportunities available for volunteering in the *Help Needed* section of this newsletter!



HELP NEEDED!!

We are still in need of individuals who are able to volunteer their time for the following tasks:

- **#1 PRIORITY NEED** – Fosters for cats and kittens!!!
- Assisting in cleaning the Adoption Center (Mornings – 7 Days A Week)
- Assisting with daily cleaning of Petco permanent cages
- Assisting in getting the Adoption Center basement thoroughly organized and cleaned
- Doing telephone follow ups on adoptions and spay/neuter status
- Painting, refurbishing, and making repairs at our Adoption Center (tools/supplies provided)
- Helping at adoption events at Petco or PetSmart on a Saturday or Sunday afternoons
- “It’s In The Bag” November fundraiser volunteer opportunities (beginning now)

If you are able to help in any of these ways, please call 262/605-0533 and leave a message. Thanks!!

DID YOU KNOW ... there is bitter-sweetness in saying goodbye.

We all know that saying goodbye to our kitties can be the last loving thing we can do for them! Lee Linklater of Assisi Animal Foundation (9221 Lucas Road, Crystal Lake, IL 60012) expressed these feelings so aptly in their Fall 2012 newsletter. Her tribute to Ziggy mirrors just what we might say and how we feel about all of our special kitties! This is in memory of our sweet Phillip who we loved for a long time, Violet who we only knew for just a short while, and Sweetie who we only knew long enough to just say goodbye.

“**Goodbye Ziggy:** I was driving back from Ziggy’s last trip with a veterinarian. He’d had so many thus far, but this was the last, and looking into his sad old eyes that seemed to be pleading for release from the final stages of his kidney failure, in my heart I knew that for him, a gentle and finally painless goodbye was the right thing.

Our way here, is that when this final goodbye is imminent and thought best in veterinary judgement, the traveler about to make the last journey is accompanied and comforted to the very end, by me or by a known staff member, to make departure gentler. It is always a very difficult decision, even with professional advice, but in a way comforting too, because we realize that the last moment could also have been endured in freezing abandonment, in injured loneliness, or in fear and panic. At least a small life closes silently in affection and dignity.

As I returned to the shelter, it started to rain just a bit, as though a few tiny tears were being softly dropped from some celestial eye in memory of so many who do not have a gentle departure.”

WISH LIST

\$\$\$ Donations for Vet Care
Canned Cat Food (Chunky or Pate)
Kitten Chow
Nice Hand Towels
Durable Paper Towel
Liquid Laundry Soap (No Perfume/Dyes)
Dryer Sheets (No Perfume/Dyes)

Toilet Paper
Clay Cat Litter (Non-Scented)
Grooming Brushes/Combs
Small/Medium Cat Carriers
Large Covered Litterboxes
Lint Rollers
Pole Toys

Anti-Bacterial Dish Soap
Anti-Bacterial Liquid Hand Soap
Heavy-Duty 30-Gallon Trash Bags
22# White Computer Paper
60-Watt Light Bulbs

PLEASE, NO CAT TREATS!!

Remember, your donations are tax-deductible!



THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

We can't thank all of you enough for your support! We make every effort to acknowledge all who contribute to Kindred Kitties in a variety of ways. Be sure to know if you are not acknowledged in the listing below, that it is totally unintentional. You can be sure that we are very appreciative!

- We continue to first give our very special thanks to our tirelessly dedicated volunteers who foster kitties, spend time with our Adoption Center cats, do cleaning at Petco and the Adoption Center, run errands, test and vaccinate kitties, make follow up calls, and in general, keep Kindred Kitties "up and running" – we couldn't do ANYTHING without your efforts
- To William Jewell for the cases of water provided to quench the thirst of Adoption Center volunteers
- To Christie Graham for donating 3% of her real estate commission and to the two new homeowners who designated Kindred Kitties as the recipient
- To Lake County United Way Contributors: Susan Scherer, Catherine Schmidt, Beth Schuetz-Wilson
- To Allstate Insurance employees through The Giving Campaign: Laura Wagoner, Douglas Stacey
- Kaitlyn Becker for money raised selling crafts on Mothers Day
- Daisy Troop #7345 for handmade catnip toys
- To Sandy Majest for her Harbor Market donations and for her assistance in helping us with vet care of our kitties
- To Kristie Formolo, Sophia Formolo, Maddy Bragula and Natalia Anastasovski for money raised for Boston Store Community Days in summer and fall
- To Pleasant Prairie Girl Scout Troop #7004 for their donations
- To Comfort for Critters for their handcrafted carrier blankets
- To Tom Ward, Pick & Save for six gallons of bleach
- To Abbott Lab employees for quarterly giving: Marilyn Rafici-Burr, Carrie Shane, Letitia Dabbs, Candy Acosta, Julie Nudi, Heidi Hocker, Ron Gott, Joseph Tyriver, Sara Siggelkkow and Anonymous
- To Charlotte Evert-Portzen for her devotion to Carrie Evert and her fosters
- To Tami Millager for Fireside Car Show donations
- To Chase Goodwin for his donation of supplies, toys, scratching posts
- To Petco Foundation for 'Spring A Pet' Fundraiser Donation
- To Rockheads Comics for Christmas fundraiser (150# dry food, 450 cans of food, toys, treats)
- To Judy Andrade for treats for our volunteers
- To Alexyss Rubjerg & Lauren Novak for helping to sort and shelve our canned cat food
- To Mission Fish for online donations on purchases
- To Artis, Deb and Sher Schaefer for rummage sales proceeds
- To Margaret Miller who donated a new washer and dryer
- To Kristin Brown & Mike for moving and installing our washer and dryer
- To Nancy Schuster, for her annual donation request from Putzmeister, Sturtevant
- To Amaya Sturge, a 4-year old who chose to give her allowance to Kindred Kitties
- To Laurie Ann Perkins for assisting with Hefty's vet bills
- To our Adoption Center Cat Sponsors – Lisa Becker (Rutherford), Marie DeBock (Amelia), Kristin Brown (Jake), Carrie Evert (Polar), Emma DeRosa (Socrates)
- To Susan Taylor for her annual Kindred Kitties fundraising party
- To Nancy Huck for putting together our Adoption folders for us
- To Kevin Stein & Chris Fay for Stein BP Carwash Fundraiser
- To House of Gerhard for Christmas Fundraiser (Litter/Toys/Food/Supplies)

IN SPECIAL SUPPORT OF MAMA LOTTIE

Judy Reynolds, Kelly Sampson, Jennifer Hahn, Danielle Schweitzer, Susan G. Watson, Amy Watson, Priscilla Ross-Fox, Glen Larson



MEMORIAMs

- Mary Brabender Hughes – In memory of William J. Majest
- Helen Havranek – In memory of her son Mark's on his birthday
- Ann Anderson – In memory of Buggy (kindred kitty adopted July 2002)
- Jeanne Greninger – In memory of Liesl
- In Memory of Dawn Lewis: Mary Jane Lewis, Eddie & Trudy Hood, Laura Ruffalo, Laurie Ruffalo, Sherry Bobick, Pamela Mosker, Mary Leu, Delores Hunkeler, Margot Lori, Dick & Heidi Schurichow Nicki Hood, Carol Krupke, Kathy Wilson, Carole Kuehn, Marian Wallig, Nancy Vines, Frank & Sue Chianelli
- In Memory of Jane Migliano: Adolph & Judith Migliano, Carol McGinnis, Colleen Rini, Kathy Waldherr, Joanne Wardell, Carol Camosy, Dan & Tonia Laubenstein, Dennis & Janet Kozak, George & Shirley Schwartz, James & Nancy Parise, Edward & Jessie Wahoski, Mary Sipsma, Sherry & Courtney Svatek, Richard DiCello, Jon & Laura Svatek, Paul & Beth Hamelink, Joan Curnes, Marion Firchow, Sandra Daugherty, John O'Connor, John & Lori Black, Thomas & Beverley Gorkowski, Ronald & Jean becker, Robert & Julie Howard, D.L. Baumgarten, Ronald & Janice Soulek, Patricia Ellingson, David & Janice Hamelink, Michael & Louise Principe, Nancy Bush, Donna Perone
- Jeanne Greninger & Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Greninger – In memory of Mitzi
- Steven Penn – In memory of Phillip, a kindred kitty
- Donna Kennedy – In memory of Pogo
- McLain Family – In loving memory of dad, grandpa and cat lover David Wimer
- Laurie Ann Perkins – In memory of her kitty Morgan on her 19th birthday
- Tom & Diane Brinen – In memory of Diane Marie Rode
- Brian & Denise Keller – In loving memory of Denise's mom, Diane Rode
- Hedi Kuehll – In memory and celebration of the life of a wonderful kitty, Morgan Perkins
- Michelle Jones – In memory of our beloved cat Smokey
- Gene & Shirley Blasi – In loving memory of their dear son Craig who passed away 1/19/12
- Vickee Griffin – In memory of Snowball, Sullivan & FB
- Penny Symoure – In memory of her beloved Shelby
- Paul Cook – In memory of his dog, Daisy

HONORARIUMs

- Marie Debock – In honor of Amelia
- Eric Albrecht – In honor of Rosie & Harry
- Marilyn Jensen – In honor of Sheri's wild cats
- Sandy Pecha – In honor of Gizmo
- Larry & Marilyn Anderson – In honor of Kate, a kindred kitty
- Donald & Patti Stolfi – In honor of Kindred Kitties volunteer, Steven Penn
- Shane & Heidi Jones – In honor of kindred kitty Laura
- Edwin & Beverly Heys – In honor of Mini (aka Jazzy adopted 2006)
- David & Danielle Schweitzer – In honor of Delbert, Bum & Twigs
- Keith Loader, Global Consolidators – In honor of volunteer, Karen Seibert
- BJ & Mike Kukulka – In honor of Athena & Bosco adopted October 2010
- Penny Seymoure – In honor of Feli
- Stevanne Kordus – In honor of Haley Guillen at Christmas
- Bruce Collins – In honor of volunteer, Paul Cook
- Neal Joffe – In honor of Strawberry (a kindred kitty)
- Gail Minneti – In honor of Pumpkin (a kindred kitty)
- Cindy Weiss – In honor of all the kitties waiting for forever homes
- Jennifer Wenzel – In honor of newly-adopted kindred kitties Ellie & Gabby
- Kristi Storz – In honor of Jack Frost, adopted December 2012



MEMBERSHIPS

Welcome new members: Jean Keen, Cassie Vassas

And to those of you who have sent your special gifts to support us -- thank you so much!!! These are not listed in order of importance, but rather, date received.

Helen Havranek
Steven & Paula Penn
Paula Lattergrass
Paul Cook
Michael & Marygrace Horner
Paula Richmond
Barbara Winkle
Jan Aker
Thomas Wilhauk
Rita Gronemeyer
James & Patricia Locke
Bruce Blitzen
Alex & Kathleen Tarsitano
Kelly Koehler
Wren Ide
Gayly Opem
Casey Brown
John H. Coates
Zoe Jerome
Mary DeSantis
Janine Daniels
June Blasi
Denise Zuegler
David & Beth Wimer
Ronda Coats
R. Reusser
Shirley Blasi
Angeline Brandalise
Madeline Buecamino
J. Marshall
Eleanor Pasek
Barry Thomas
Eric Albrecht
Paul Bothe
Jody Davis
Phil Annon
Rockheads

Lyn Flynn
Michelle Kutis
Tamara Cabili
Ria Crook
Linnea Elrod
Diane & Kevin Berger
Sandy Butter
Sharry & Glenn Flaherty
Tammy Cunnion
Stacey Day Kocian
Bel & Irene Swan
Maureen Andersen
Robert Horton
David & Beth Wimer
Gary & Debra Vega
Nicholas Campbell
Jacqueline Mitch
Mary Kessenich
Carolyn Bradbury
Danielle Schweitzer
Tim Anderson
Dan Brunstein
Nancy Schuster
Frieda Anderson
Jeffrey High
Carol Hailey
Good Search
Jean Griffith
Debra Vega
Kathryn Soper & Amora
Sandra Dean
Allison Trelear
John Whysott
Betty A. Hoelters
Judith & Adolph Migliano
Kim Fox
William Jewell

Roberta Jorgenson
William Murino
Robin Potente
Carol Hegmann
Glenn Woods
Patricia Bauer
LG & Kristen Wyman
Shelley Greer
Paula Illich
Muriel Cunningham
Amishi & Jesse Huddleston
Diana & Bill Thomas
Bambi Kehler
Lezley Woodbury
Gina Pickhardt
Alan Faraone
Platinum Systems
Brynn Herman
Carole Pias
Denise Ameson
Marilyn P. Schumann
Peggy Bounds
Heather Edwards
Laurie Fenton
John Sr. & Shirley Aldred
Lois Bainter
Col.Ret. Gary & Sharon Wistrom
Michael Rose
Madeline Buecamino
Carlene & George Conoscenti
Mary Levall
Jean Greninger
Josie & Sophie Malinowski
Karen Wollert
Kris Ultsch
Linda McReynolds
Lisa Becker

Until one has loved an animal, part of their soul remains unawakened. – Author Unknown



"HAPPY NEW YEAR" WISH LIST!!!

With our intake of kittens and checkups/vaccine updates on our longer-term residents anticipated in spring, our costs will grow like the grass! And you can help us cut them!!

Deworming/De-fleaing	\$5.00
2 Distemper Vaccines	\$10.00
Rabies Vaccine	\$10.00
Testing for Feline Leukemia	\$15.00
Basic Intake of 1 Kitten	\$30.00
Average Spay/Neuter Cost	\$50.00
Vet Visit with Blood Work	\$75.00

Remember, your donations are tax-deductible!

SEVEN REASONS YOU CAN FOSTER A PET – EVEN IF YOU THINK YOU CAN'T

I DON'T HAVE SPACE – All it takes is a small spare room, a bathroom or even a cat cage. Remember, whatever space you have in your home may be more than the kitty has now!

I MIGHT GET ATTACHED – Yes, you might. But just knowing you are helping to save a life should ease any short-term pain. When you take in a foster cat, you make room for us to rescue additional kitties!

MY OWN CATS WON'T TOLERATE A FOSTER CAT—ESPECIALLY AN ADULT – If you keep the foster cat in a separate room, there shouldn't be much of a problem. It may be worth giving it a try to at least see if it could work!

I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ANOTHER CAT – This one is easy. We take care of supplies for your foster kitties.

A SHELTER CAT MIGHT MAKE MY OWN CATS SICK – We do require that your cats be up to date on their vaccines. But to ensure not passing things between cats, you need to keep foster cats separate and practice good hand washing techniques.

SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAY YES...THERE ARE PLENTY OF FOSTER HOMES – They won't and there aren't. We have people who will take kittens, but what we really need is foster homes for adults or 'special needs' kitties.

I ALREADY HAVE A FOSTER CAT – All right. But you might consider whether or not your foster kitty needs a friend.

Remember that fostering a cat is giving them TEMPORARY care – if you think it might be an option for you, call us at 262/605-0533! Thank you for your consideration.

It is impossible for a lover of cats to banish these alert, gentle, and discriminating little friends, who give us just enough of their regard and complaisance to make us hunger for more.

~Agnes Repplier

