



# The LITTER SCOOP

A quarterly newsletter for members and friends of FosterCat, Inc.

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## A Tale of Three Kittens

When I first began to think about writing this story about a month ago, I could hardly wait to get started. I relished the opportunity to share such a heartwarming account with all of our cat loving supporters. Of course, every placement of a kitty into a loving permanent home is a cause for celebration. But it isn't every day that we are fortunate enough to place three litter mates in the same loving home.

What made the ending of the kittens' story even sweeter was the horror of its beginning. A friend of one of our foster parents had found them at the bottom of a large dumpster, with no source of food and no possibility of escape. Who wouldn't want to share a story like that?

I had been so excited to interview Shalako and learn that she had been a life long cat lover. She had really only been looking to adopt two kittens, but had just not had the heart to split up the siblings. I had been so happy to learn, when I made the follow up call, that all three kittens were adjusting well to their new home and had fit in well with the four adult feline family members. I had told the kittens' new Mom that I wanted to feature them in our next newsletter and she had promised to send me some photos. I couldn't help but smile every time I thought about what a blessing it had been to be involved in such a joyful event.

Then I received the news..... Shalako had just returned from the vet. Calvin had been congested and felt warm to her when she had come home from work the previous day, so she had taken him for a check up. Her vet indicated that Calvin had FIP, a disease for which there is no reliable test, no effective vaccine, and no cure. It would be only a matter of weeks or months until Calvin's life would be over. Because we wanted to ensure that Calvin had every chance, we arranged for Shalako to take him to our trusted vet for a second opinion, but he confirmed the diagnosis. How quickly our joyful story had turned to tragedy.

When I began to think about writing this story in light of this heartbreaking development, I was reminded of the wise words of the wisest man ever to have lived:

*To everything there is a season,  
And a time for every purpose under heaven.  
A time to be born, and a time to die.....  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn and a time to dance.....*

In spite of the sadness of Calvin's disease and premature death, there is much cause for rejoicing. We will mourn his death, but we

will also rejoice in the love and compassion that motivated the rescue of Calvin and his brothers. We will be thankful for the love of his adoptive mom, who opened her home and heart to Camden, Cody and Calvin. We will rejoice that in spite of the sadness, Calvin and his brothers will receive the love and care they need for as long as they live: "I'm so glad I decided to adopt all three of the kittens,"

wrote Shalako. "It is so sad, but I will make sure that for the time he does have, Calvin will get a ton of love and comfort."

We can also rejoice that, as Solomon wrote, there is a purpose to "everything under heaven". Our work on behalf of the kitties is not in vain. Yes, as we strive to relieve suffering and save lives,

we will continue to be confronted with cruelty, disease, and death. But we will also remember Calvin and Cody and Camden and the all of the other kitties whose lives we have touched and we will dance for them.



Calvin



Cody



Camden



The Crazy Cs

**Check out our website:  
[www.fostercat.org](http://www.fostercat.org)**





**Saving Lives . . . one cat at a time.**

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### Mission Statement

Our mission is to develop and sustain an organization to provide temporary foster care for cats and kittens in private homes until permanent homes can be found.

*FosterCat, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.*

## Happy Tails!

Thanks to all of you who have sent us photos and updates about your adopted kitties. We always enjoy sharing them with our readers. Here are some recent ones we have received:

We finally decided on Oscar for Meltaway's new name. Aldi is half his size but they continue to chase each other around and she does these flying drop kicks out of nowhere, which are so cute. On their second night they slept on the same cushion together. I expect them to be cuddling very soon.



Anyway, I want to thank you for all of your help with this process. Your organization does wonderful things and I hope to be able to continue to support you financially when I can. S.M.



Well, we survived the first road trip to Florida. Hampton (now Bogie) and Ziggy were great in the car and at each hotel stop. L.D.



Lilly (now Little Jazz) is doing wonderfully. We love her. She and Big Jazz are almost identical. J.Z.

Jasper (formerly Truffle) is doing great. He is so affectionate and playful. R.M.



Grumpy and Tinkerbell (formerly Reva and House) are adjusting very well. They are very tolerant of the kids carrying them around. We love having them. R.H.



## FosterCat Welcomes New Database Manager

We are pleased to welcome Denise Devlin as our new database manager. Denise brings a wealth of experience to the job, as she is responsible for information management at Chatham University. Her husband, Bill, is also involved with this sort of work, so she brings not only her own skills, but excellent backup to the job.

Denise and Bill adopted our little tortie, Rosa, last year and wanted to give something back to FosterCat, for the joy she has brought to their home. Actually, we were thrilled to receive responses to our request for help from seven other adopters, who also had excellent skills. It was a real encouragement to us to see so many folks willing to volunteer their talents to help us continue our life saving work.

We also want to thank Dawn Kramrech, who was instrumental in helping us set up our database and managed its maintenance for more than five years, for her hard work and dedication to the cause. Dawn is the proud adopter of two special needs kitties, Pepe and Flower, (affectionately known to us as the Wobblies) and has also been an active volunteer in both our Spaghetti Dinner and Pet Photos with Santa fund raisers.

Please mail to: FosterCat, Inc., P.O. Box 23414, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-6414



**Yes!** I want to support FosterCat's life-saving efforts.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$100  \$50  \$35  \$25  \$15  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please credit my contribution towards:

Membership  General Support  
(Annual membership: Family \$30.00 • Adult \$20.00 • Student/Senior \$15.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to become a FosterCat volunteer.
- I would like to become a foster parent.

*All contributions are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.*

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