



The LITTER SCOOP

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

Vol. 11, No. 2 June 2010

Because Someone Cared

As you might imagine, FosterCat receives many requests from people who want help with stray cats or kittens that they've spotted roaming along a road or that have appeared in their yards. Most simply want someone to show up as soon as possible and take the cats away, often becoming quite indignant when you tell them that isn't possible. Some express sincere concern for the animals, but if you ask them to be part of the solution by helping in some way (taking the animal in until a foster home opens, taking the animals to a vet to be tested for Feline Leukemia) their concern disappears very quickly. But once in a while, someone actually cares enough about the animals to step up to the plate and make a personal sacrifice to save their lives. This story is about one such person and the six lives she helped to save.

Last October we received an email via our website: "One of the feral cats that lives around my area was killed by a car last night. I have her six kittens and am trying to raise them. I had a vet appointment for them today, but the vet called back and said he wouldn't see them until they weigh at least 2 pounds. If you could call me with any information I would really appreciate it.... Savannah"

It was so refreshing to see someone who had seen animals in need and just jumped in to help, that I called her as soon as I could. During our initial conversation, I learned that she had contacted all the shelters and rescue groups in the phone book, but no others had responded. She had done some research on the Internet and had purchased some supplies and had started trying to bottle feed the kittens, but didn't think they were getting enough to eat and just wanted someone to tell her if she was doing something wrong.

I gave her some tips on bottle feeding, stimulating elimination, keeping the kittens warm, and warned her not to be surprised if some of the kittens didn't make it. I gave her

2010 Membership Drive Sets New Record

We are so pleased to announce that our February membership drive mailing raised a new record \$3255.00, surpassing the previous record of \$2695.00 last year

This is a very important component of our annual fund raising calendar and we are truly grateful to all of you who renewed your memberships or became new members this year. Your generous expressions of support for our work are a real encouragement to us and enable us to continue our mission of saving lives....one cat at a time.

my number and encouraged her to call if she had any more questions.

We kept in touch via email over the next few weeks and the kittens seemed to thrive. When I asked Savannah what she hoped to do with the kittens longer term, she explained that she had originally thought she would try to find homes for them, but was discovering that the expense of caring for them was a lot more than she had expected (she'd spent over \$200.00 on formula, bottles and other supplies already) and she didn't think she could manage much more. She was working and going to school, so she didn't have a lot of room for extras in her budget.

I explained our foster program and adoption procedures and told Savannah that if she would be willing to continue to care for the kittens until they were ready to be adopted and do the leg work required to get them to vet appointments and PetsMart cages as

needed, that FosterCat would cover the vet expenses for vaccination, testing, spay/neuter, etc. and find permanent homes for them.

We agreed on that plan and continued to keep in touch as the kittens grew, scheduling vet appointments, mailing her worming meds to give the kittens when they were old enough and just keeping track of their progress. There were a few bumps in the road, but we got everything done and in late November, the kittens were healthy and ready to be displayed for adoption.

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FosterCat Plans 5th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 11**, and come out to enjoy a good meal and help FosterCat raise funds to care for our kitties. We'll again be serving from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the **Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church at 1146 Greentree Road**. Meat and meatless sauces will be served and take out will be available.

We will need volunteers to help sell tickets, distribute fliers, make sauce and/or help out the day of the event with set up, serving, manning sales tables and clean up. So please plan to help if you are able.





Saving Lives . . . one cat at a time.

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P. O. Box 23414

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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!

Here is a photo of Zander. I am grateful for her every day. Cats' personalities vary so much; it had to be much more than coincidence that I found Zander, whose low key, sweet presence is exactly what I had hoped for for our family.



Thank you again for the wonderful life saving work that you do. P.S.



Here is a picture of Charlie. WE LOVE HIM!!!!!! E.B.

Here is a photo of Miss Fluff in her bowl. She loves to hang out there. G.C.



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.

The official registration and financial information of FosterCat, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

Because Someone Cared

—Continued from front—

By the end of the year, all six of the kittens had been adopted into loving permanent homes. As we received photos and updates from their new families, I passed those along to Savannah and she rejoiced with us.

These kittens would not have lived, and this story would not have been written if Savannah hadn't put her concern into action. Because she truly cared, they are safe and happy and bringing joy to their new families every day.

So many more animals could be saved if more people would be willing to work with FosterCat and other agencies like us to provide temporary care for homeless cats and kittens until we can step in to help with permanent placement. Whether you help with a stray that crosses your path, or get involved on a more regular basis, providing temporary foster care often makes the difference between life and death for a homeless animal. If you can help, please contact us about becoming a foster parent. Savannah would tell you that it is well worth the effort.

Santa's "Gift" to FosterCat

Thanks to the help of our faithful volunteers, FosterCat raised \$930.00 for the care of our kitties during PetSmart's December Pet Photos with Santa fund raising event. Despite some challenging weather conditions, we enjoyed a good turnout both weekends. Many thanks to all of our Santas and helpers: Gary Benko, Bev Lubbert, Kathy Schwenning, Clarise Basile, Barb Slade, Alexa Howald, Alessa Biondi, Kellie Gormly, Sarah Beck, Denise and Brittany Finley, Lynda DeCarlo, Ed and Debbie Shipe, Nancy Carman, Mary Dicey, Donna Price, Erin Backowski, Dawn Kramrech, Denise Cook, Georgia Brown, Irene Hardman, Jim and Carolyn Kozlowski.

Check out our website:
www.fostercat.org