



CHANGING THE WORLD FOR HOMELESS & AT-RISK CATS
IN CENTRAL NEW YORK - FOUR PAWS AT A TIME.

CNY Cat Coalition

Summer 2011

P.O. Box 6182

Syracuse, New York 13217

WE NEED YOU!

This newsletter reaches over 3700 people who have made use of our services, made a donation, volunteered or adopted a cat through CNYCC. We seem to be one of the few organizations locally with the potential to help people with their cat situations. However, for the last couple of months, we have been receiving 30 to 40 calls PER DAY! And we need *your* help to continue our mission.



Our core volunteers are so busy with rescues that they have no time to take on anything more. The person answering our Helpline is overwhelmed with calls for assistance. We are hoping that some of you, or your neighbor, or your relative can offer some time to do specific tasks. The public is trusting the Cat Coalition to assist them. If you can devote just a few hours a week, more cats and kittens will be helped. Please see if there is an area which interests you and contact us at 315-455-2157 or email us through our website's volunteer page at www.cnycatcoalition.org (bottom of page). **We desperately need your help to continue our mission.**

Transportation of pets/strays/equipment/people to vets, clinics, the food pantry or to pick up items for our garage sale.

Trapping help: explain the process to the public and oversee specific situations from feral colonies to a single neighborhood stray.

Help with kittens: bottle feeding orphans or housing a mom and her kittens through the weaning process.

Monitor/house recovering community cats (strays or ferals) from after their s/n surgery until release back to their caretaker. A huge need!

Foster friendly kitties: from their vetting to placement at PetSmart for adoption.

Work with the public to explain our programs and how we can help them to help themselves through our variety of programs.

Volunteer at PetSmart adoption centers and for special adoptathons: always in need of new people.

Organize a fundraiser: have an idea to raise funds for our spay/neuter or adoption programs? Hold a garage sale, bottle drive, bake sale, etc. with the proceeds for CNYCC.

TWO TIME'S A CHARM

Timmy, a handsome orange fellow, was rescued from a trailer park where he had been beaten up pretty badly by another cat. A Coalition couple took him in, got his wounds healed and adopted him to a woman in the same trailer park, who let other orange cats (her favorite) into her trailer. When Timmy got to his new home, he freaked out and bit the woman. As it turned out, the cat who had fought with him previously had also been a guest in her trailer!



Poor Timmy had to go back to his foster home and on to PetSmart. He stayed there several weeks before the "right" person found him, fell in love, and adopted him. Timmy is now KING of his very own castle with no other cats to bother him, a screened-in porch to watch the world go by and a person he can snuggle with at night. He is one happy kitty!

SUMMER SALE

CNYCC's last garage sale of the year will be on August 26 and 27, Friday and Saturday from 8 am - 5 pm. Rain or shine; we have a tent! It's located at 6915 Woodchuck Hill Drive, Fayetteville. This is a major fundraiser for us and we hope that many of you will make donations of gently used merchandise to the sale and visit as well for great bargains.

Donations are still needed of household goods, small appliances, furniture, collectibles, decorator items, dishes and kitchen ware. Clothing and exercise equipment do not sell well.

You can drop off donations in the breezeway to the left of the garage any time. Please leave your name, address and phone number if you would like a tax-deductible receipt. Leave a message at 445-0957 if you can volunteer to help. Thanks.



MEET DAVE

A man who had been feeding a friendly black cat contacted his local police department for help when the cat became seriously ill with an upper-respiratory illness, and an eye infection compounded by abscesses. The police directed him to Judith, a Coalition volunteer, who referred him to her vet where she could assist. The “owner” dropped the cat off and left, abandoning the cat. Attempts to locate the man at the address he had given were unsuccessful.

While the vet initially recommended removing the eye, it was decided to try medications first. Judith continued caring for him at home. The cat, now named Dave, had to be hospitalized twice when he wasn’t responding to the treatment.



After six weeks of TLC, Dave finally was healed and placed up for adoption. He is such a sweetie that it did not take long for him to find his new pet parent. Dave’s story had a pretty bad start, but now he’s in a loving home and ready to return that love to his new family.

THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG



Having recently moved into her own home, and now with some space available for rescues, Mary responded to a CNYCC email about a feral cat in her area with a plastic grocery bag wrapped around her stomach.

Within minutes of setting up a trap, the cat was caught. After taking the cat home and a little teamwork with a neighbor, the bag was removed. In addition to this cat, cooperation between Mary and a neighbor netted six young kittens, some of whom were hiding in a pile of old tires.

Initially Mary thought she had found all the strays in the neighborhood. Then someone mentioned a number of strays, including a nursing female hanging around a nearby abandoned house. Further investigation revealed cats inside the house, including a feral mom with kittens only days old. Fearing the cat would move the kittens, Mary took them with her and the feral that had been caught earlier nursed them until the original momcat was trapped the next day.

Of the 20 cats caught that week, only three are feral. The rest are friendly and will be available for adoption as soon as they are vetted.

Mary checks back with the people in that area, and they now only see cats that are owned by local residents. She plans to continue working with that neighborhood to help spay and neuter any “newcomers” in order to prevent future out-of-control situations. Call 289-2287 if you are interested in adopting one of these cuties or their friends!

ONE “LUCKY” GUY

A couple who volunteers at Coalition functions “inherited” a feral colony when they moved into a home in the valley area. Meg and Forrie responsibly had the cats spayed and neutered with the help of the Cat Coalition.

When a new kitten showed up, very scared, and a fast food beverage lid around his neck, Forrie immediately caught him and removed the plastic top, although the poor kitten was so scared that Forrie got scratched up trying to help him.



Once the top was removed, the kitten was taken inside for safety and so he could be neutered. Lucky, as he was named, at first stayed under a sofa and only came out at night. Eventually, he began to come out to play with their other cats when all the family was home.

Finally, Lucky decided he could trust this family, so now he rolls over for tummy rubs and cuddles with them.

Just one more “former” feral who is looking for his fur-ever loving home. If you are interested in more information about Lucky, call 289-2287.

How to Help our Community Cats



The Cat Coalition is stalled in its efforts to spay & neuter some stray and feral cats being fed by people who are either unwilling or unable to keep these cats confined for a short recovery period after surgery. Core volunteers are filled to capacity and have no room to do this. We are looking for donated space to hold cats until they can be released back to their managed colonies or to the neighborhoods where they are being cared for. This space will not be a shelter; it will be used strictly for short-term recovery. If you could offer such a space, please contact 455-2157. A tax deduction would be available for this donation. Thank you for considering this request.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR TALENTS!

The Silent Auction, which we plan to hold in the fall this year, is a valuable source of funding for our spay/neuter program. Also new this year, in addition to the auction, will be a photo contest where you can showcase your favorite feline. So keep this in mind when your kitty is asleep in that crazy position, playing with her housemates or just looking beautiful.

It does, however, take many hands to make this a successful event, and we would greatly appreciate your help! The list below details just some of the necessary tasks. If you don't see anything that fits your talents, volunteer anyway! We need all the hands we can get!

- **Merchandise:** Could your business donate goods, gift certificates or services to the auction? Can you ask for a donation of merchandise from an establishment with whom you have a good relationship? Maybe you might canvas various stores to solicit donated merchandise?

- **PR:** Would you contact the papers, radio stations and other media to announce this event?

- **Printed forms:** Are you able to provide copies of various materials needed for the event?

- **Help at the event:** (likely a weekend afternoon): set up, take down or help during the auction.

- **Photography judges:** Could you use your photography background to help judge the entries?

If you can lend a hand, please contact Marietta at 455-2157 with your information. Remember, it sometimes takes a village to pull together for a common goal - no more kittens in a box!

OUR SPECIAL NEEDS KITTY

The CNYCC was contacted about a kitten who had difficulty walking. He was relinquished to the Coalition for treatment and evaluated by one of our participating vets. Xrays showed damage to his spinal cord, either from an injury or a birth defect. Smokey can walk a little and can stand by himself if he leans against a wall.

This little guy is a real sweetheart. He uses a cat food box as a litter pan as it is low enough that he can get into it just fine. His foster family made him a wheelchair, but he didn't take to it at all! Now he walks with the help of a harness so his person can steady him. Smokey can really move when he's playing and is great with the other kittens.

If you are interested in adopting this special needs kitty, please call the 289-2287.



Spay & Neuter
Through our participation in two clinics, 445 female cats and 389 male cats have been altered – a total of 834 kitties through July of 2011.
 Call 420-SPAY (7729) to schedule an appointment. Thanks to everyone for helping us to prevent MANY unwanted litters.

Adoptions
From January through July of 2011, we have adopted out 235 cats and kittens through our partnership with the three area PetSmart stores.

Name _____ **E-Mail** _____

Address _____

Donation Amount \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ Other \$ _____

Donate in memory or honor of a beloved human or animal (please print).

In memory of _____ **In honor of** _____

I would like to volunteer _____ **Telephone** _____ **Cell** _____

Please send donations to CNY Cat Coalition, Inc. P.O.Box 6182, Syracuse, NY 13217 04/11
 CNYCC is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

MARCELLUS OLD HOME DAYS

Every year the Village of Marcellus hosts their "Old Home Days" festival. The festival includes carnival rides, crafters, a parade and duck race. This year the festival ran from June 3th to 5th. On Saturday, booths are set up in the Village for crafters and non-profit groups to meet the public.

This year the CNY Cat Coalition sponsored an information booth on June 4th. The booth was manned by Wendy Sherman, Marilyn Morgan and Jeanie Welch. Information was distributed about the work the Coalition does providing low cost spay/neuter services, rescuing and advocating for cats. Pamphlets and tee-shirts for the SANS clinic were also available. Two raffles were held: one was for a bright blue afghan, crocheted by Marilyn Morgan; the second item was a Cricut® craft machine and software donated by Wendy Sherman. The winner of the afghan was Robin Best of Marcellus, and M. A. Schaaf of Skaneateles took home the Cricut® craft machine.

A total of \$114 dollars was raised for the Coalition through donations and raffles. Interestingly, many folks who stopped by were familiar with the Coalition, and several had obtained their pet cats through the Coalition-sponsored adoption program.



BEER POURING AT SU GAMES

Each fall, the Cat Coalition volunteers at Syracuse University football games pouring beer in the Dome. This is a major fundraising event for us, but many people are needed for this to be a success. The shift is finished at the end of half-time, and volunteers can stay to watch the rest of the game.

Basketball season is even more challenging as there are many more games and they tend to start earlier, so people who work have a hard time volunteering for these games.

We always need people for both sports, either to be at all of the games or just a few whatever you can manage. Please contact Michelle at 812-599-5983 or merpcat@msn.com for more information or to sign up. These events help fund many spay/neuter surgeries for ferals and for pets of those who cannot afford it.

www.cnycatcoalition.org.

Secure online donations may be made from our newest web page as well as staying in touch with CNYCC activities and discussions with like-minded people who love cats. Join our online forum at

http://network.bestfriends.org/groups/cny_cat_coalition/default.aspx.

Visit us on Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/CnyCatCoalition>

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