



saving lives since 1998

What's new pussycat?

July 2008



National magazine covers our local Trap-Neuter-Return programs



The June 2008 Cat Fancy highlights cat rescue and has a four-page article that includes Cat's Cradle's TNR efforts.

Author Ellen Perry Berkeley focuses on research on the effects of trap-neuter-return (TNR). While stressing the need for further research, the author found long-term studies that underline the effectiveness of properly run programs.

A university study in Orange County, Fla., found that after TNR was implemented, euthanasia dropped 18 percent, complaints about ferals dropped by a quarter, and the area's cost of neutering versus impoundment and euthanasia dropped by almost two-thirds of a million dollars.

The article points to dramatic results that have been produced in San Francisco since it started a Feral Fix Program in

1993. "By 2006, Animal Care and Control's field impoundments were down 65 percent, adult euthanasia was down 82 percent, and kitten euthanasia was down 93 percent."

The author notes that Cat's Cradle, serving a four-county area in the Shenandoah Valley, has seen an 8 percent drop in euthanasia since the opening of the spay/neuter clinic in 2005. While not as dramatic as some of the other programs, the drop is set against a background of steady or increasing euthanasia rates in an area with steady population growth.

A sidebar article shows researchers have found that in terms of both health and

quality of life, animals in TNR programs are similar to samples of owned cats.

The article also cites a recent national poll that demonstrates strong support for leaving strays outside rather than "putting them down."

Donor notes success of TNR in her area

Cat's Cradle recently received this note along with a donation:

"Thank you so much for your help on Water Street. We have had no new litters for the past two springs! The cats are looking much healthier as well. I am sorry I could not send this to you sooner."

Cat's Cradle YARD SALE next to the Spay-Neuter Clinic in Harrisonburg August 29-30.

Don't miss this yard sale – we already have a mulcher, a chain saw, a treadmill, a nice bicycle, baby items, an air conditioner, bookshelves, collectible LPs and 45s (Elvis!), large old buttocks basket, new Pampered Chef items, a like-new pre-lit 7-foot Christmas tree, and lots and lots more NICE stuff! For times and other details see page 7.



Board

President: Suzanne Auckerman
Vice President: Donna Whitley-Smith
Secretary: Lana Mohler
Treasurer: Peggy Hardy

Elizabeth Ihle
Gail Kiracofe
Don Lemish
Sue Lemish
Susan Mansfield
David Wendelken

Staff

Executive Director: Josie Kinkade
Spay/Neuter Coordinator: Teresa Kappes
Adoption Coordinator: Betsy Holmes

Our Mission

To ensure and maintain a safe community for cats and dogs in the Shenandoah Valley.

A full statement of our mission, values, and beliefs is available on our website: www.catscradleva.org

Dear Friends of Cat's Cradle



When we hear stories of animals being mistreated or abandoned, it is easy to get discouraged. Are we making any progress in promoting responsible pet guardianship?

Last week volunteer Susan Mansfield saw a "kittens free to good home" ad in the paper. "Should I call this person?" she asked me.

I knew our foster homes were full, our funds for spay/neuter assistance were depleted for August, and that her call might not be welcome.

"Well," I said, "let's at least offer to fix the mama cat. That way, even if this litter of kittens is lost, we can prevent it from happening again."

When she called, this is what Susan learned:

The woman who ran the ad had recently been laid off. She has four adult cats and already knew about the Clinic. She had paid to have three of the cats altered, and hadn't yet scraped up the money for the fourth, so this litter was born. She has adopted out several of the kittens and has given the Clinic number to the adopters.

I found this call encouraging. It re-confirms that it is income, not irresponsibility, that gets in the way of most spay/neuter efforts. It shows the word about the Clinic is out, and citizens are spreading that information.

Cat's Cradle gets about 5,000 calls a year. Most of these calls turn into educational sessions. This effort is paying off. Just another indication that YES, we will get there – we will create a safe community for cats and dogs in the Valley.

Thank you for your part in the work of Cat's Cradle.

Sincerely,

Josie Kinkade
Executive Director



Good news

The kittens featured in the April newsletter that were born to a FIV positive mother and initially tested positive, were found to be negative when they were tested again at six months of age. The kittens had tested positive because they had their mother's antibodies.

While cats with FIV can have long and happy lives with proper care, it is good that these kittens can avoid issues associated with immune system problems.

Don't forget Cat's Cradle in your will.

Cat's Cradle holds second annual Pet Partners Luncheon

More than 200 supporters of Cat's Cradle attended the second annual luncheon in May. They celebrated this year's theme, "We're 10!" honoring the amazing growth and accomplishments the group has seen in its first decade.

Executive Director Josie Kinkade noted that since the Spay/Neuter clinic opened, they have spayed and neutered 30,000 animals, including 12,000 dogs. Cat's Cradle adopted out a record 387 cats in 2007 and is on track to adopt out 500 in 2008. Cat intake at the Rockingham SPCA has come down a little for each of the last three years. She added that much still needs to be done, so in 10 more years we can report we are helping ALL of our local cats and dogs.



Ann Hurley greets Bill Hisey, Animal Control Officer for Rockingham County.



A capacity crowd heard remarks from Harrisonburg's Mayor, Rodney Eagle, and learned more about Cat's Cradle's beliefs, values, and practices.



Producer John Woody showed his award-winning Cat's Cradle video. Thanks to Crutchfield for the generous loan of two HDTVs to showcase our mission.

Luncheon speaker explains how Cat's Cradle helped with her "faces"

My name is Irene Dawson, and I'd like to tell how Cat's Cradle helped me.

The people up the hill from me used to feed a bunch of cats. I'll call them Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Then last year, Mrs. Smith died and Mr. Smith moved, leaving the cats. One day my granddaughter said: "Grandma, look at all those faces – they're hungry!" So I started feeding them. I call them my "faces".

I was struggling to feed 15 cats and didn't know what to do. Winter was coming. I called Mr. Smith to ask what he planned to do. He called Animal Control, and they took 10 of the cats away. I felt bad, because I knew they would be put to sleep.

I was happy to feed the five survivors, but I was afraid they would multiply and we'd have a bunch of cats again soon.

One day my daughter-in-law brought home a brochure about Cat's Cradle. I called, and Renee, a volunteer, called me back and said Cat's Cradle would help pay for spay/neuter, as well as trap the cats, take them to the Clinic, and bring my "faces" back to me. I paid \$100 toward the bill, and Cat's Cradle paid the rest.

I was so impressed at the kindness in the way Renee trapped the cats, and how many times she came back to check on them. There was one cat that we couldn't get right away, so we left the trap out. I went to bed, and saw Renee checking the trap late at night to be sure the cat wouldn't be left in the cold. We ended up getting that last kitty the next day.

Now my faces look great. I have two males and three females. One female is tiny – only about three pounds – I call

her my baby.

They're mostly still pretty wild – one will let me pet him a little. But every day they come around at 3 or 4 in the afternoon,

ready to be fed. I'm happy with them, and love going out to feed them.

It is wonderful to know that they won't have kittens, and it gives me great pleasure to take care of my faces.

Thank you, Cat's Cradle.



Irene Dawson

Donor Honor Roll 2007/2008

Pet Partners Giving Circle

Save a Neighborhood — \$10,000 a year for 5 years

Lynn Reams
in memory of Walter Reams

Save a Colony — \$5,000 a year for 5 years

Suzanne Auckerman

Save a Family — \$1,000 a year for 5 years

Amanda Avery

Donna and Howard Bleam
in memory of Chopper

Tom and Denise Dawson

Ed Dingman and Josie Kinkade, MD

Karin Flagle

Val Garcia

Patti Good

Cheryl Griffith
in memory of Ollie

Elizabeth Haworth

Larry and Shirley Holsinger

Ann and Robert Hurley
in memory of Benjamin Gerding

Joy Jackson

Z Louis Klein, DVM

Tara Langston

Judith Perdue, MD
in memory of Snowdrop and in honor of Emerald and Pandora

Russell and Susan Riggleman

Judith and Michael Salvino
in memory of Casey

Pam and W. C. Sheets
in memory of Gwen and Abby

Jean Taylor

Janet and David Wendelken
in memory of Crystal and Mr. Boots

Donna Whitley-Smith

\$5,000 and up

Two Mauds Foundation

\$1,000 to \$4,999

V. Ray Brewer
Robert Frey
Kay Gross, DVM
Margaret Long
Mary Louise Long
Susan Mansfield
Carolyn Snow
Lucy Weston
Mike Woodward

\$500 to \$999

Amy Derrick-Frost
Jacqueline Driver
Joyce Frank
Peggy Hardy
Elizabeth Ihle
Don and Sue Lemish
Lana Mohler
Abigail Pack
Georgene Palacky
Anne Stephens
Stephen White
Laura Wisman
John Yates
Katherine Young

\$250 to \$499

Mary Baber
Barbara Barath
Kathryn Dobyns
Angela Eversole
Melinda Glazer
Malinda Gordy
Kathy Johnstone
Nancy Keyser-Bryant
Gail Kiracofe
Linda Kline
Gary Lippens
Andrea Litvack
Linda Louderback
Cate Mansfield
Monique Williams
Genevieve Morelli
Ann Parry
Santo Polizzi
Earl Quick
Wendy Reidler
Catherine Wainwright
Virginia Ward
Lois Workman

\$100 to \$249

Leanne Abdnor
Ilse Ackerman
Kathryn Albright
Angela Arndt
Kimberly Arrigo
Twyla Austin
Randy Bailey
Nicole Baker
Faye Bartley
Ernest Bellamy
Dana Berliner
Susan Blackley
Nancy Bradfield
Tracey Bredder
Curtisy Briggs
Anne Brower
Patsy Bumgardner
Marcia Butler
Christy Cacciapaglia
Jane Cain
Mary Carr
Patricia Chawkat
Maria Chen
Christina Cheshire
Sandra Kay Coffman
T. Lynn Collins
Janelle Conconi
Shannon Conley
Tammy Cowgill
Liz Craib
Aileen Crider
Jessica Dailey
Irene Dawson
Ingrid DeSanctis
Peggy Dickenson
Hanh Dinh
Carolyn Dove
Carolyn Dull
Dupont Community Credit Union
Timothy Easterling
Ardith Eddins
Glenda Elliott
Jason Erickson
Judy Estep
Mark Ezell
Frances Ann Fadeley
Melvin Falls
Olive Fitzwater
Janet Foley
Peggy Follin
Debbie Ford
Barbara Frahm
Michele Freeman
Charles Funkhouser
Sue Ganey
Nancy Garcia

Julia Gilje
Jane Greyson
Pat Grizzel
Marbin Gutierrez
Rowena Hack
John Haddick
Charlotte Hamilton
Susan Hanley
Wayne Harrison
Valerie Hartzog
Jean Hashagen
Cynthia Hasler
George Hawke
Geraldine Heichen
Robin Henderson
Reggie Henry
Lisa Hensley
Mary Hollar
JoAnne Holman
Diane Holsinger
Pat Hughes
Bonnie Johnson
Virginia Jones
Carlo Katindig
Valetta Kearns
Christopher Kegel
Kelley Kemp
Karen Kingsley
Elizabeth Kinlaw
Jennifer Kirkland
Ronald Kyger
Martha Larkins
Natalie Leax
Diane Lepkowski
Sharon Lohman
Wanda Lyle
Nici Lytton
M/B Falls Home Repair
Katherine Maas
Maria Malerba
Caroline Marshall
Adair McConnell
Janet McCoy
Debbie McDaniel
Johna McFarland
Sara Meade
Daryl Metts
Leslie Miller
Karen Mitchell
Dana Neff
Shannon Nelligan
Sally Newkirk
Edward Ney
Tiffany Norman
Susan Nye
David O'Brien
Sara O'Connor
Mary Overlock



Our donors and volunteers are Cat's Cradle's angels. Penny, a frisky tuxedo cat, was adopted by one of our volunteers.

Frances Panchari
Margaret Pence
Nicole Petsel
Susan Powell
Virginia Powell
Carolyn Price
Paula Putnam
Christopher Reeves
Alysia Rexrode
Patsy Rhinehart
Tricia Riddick
Brenda Rion
E. Jane Ritchey
Jerry Ritchie
Julie Rochester
Donna Sanders
Mary Schanagel
Carleen Schwartz
Richard Settle
Earl Shelton
Gloria Shelton
Cate Mansfield
Fern Shuck
Krenda Shull
Adrienne Smith
Gail Smith

Wanda Smith
Cindy Snipes
Janice Spitzer
Daniel Stanaland
Catherine Steger
Tempe Stephen
Shirley Stevens
Hilda Strawderman
Joan Strickler
Elizabeth Stultz
RoxAnna Theiss
Eva Thompson
James Thompson
Ronald Turner
Mary-Claire Vangroll
Janet Vickery
Lisa Vienna
Veronica Villnova
Rosemary Wagner
Marguerite Wampler
Dawn Wilson
Davene Wolfe
Wilma Wolfe
Carol Yetzer
Dawn Young
Laurie Zigler

Under \$100

We are happy to say that so many of you gave, space doesn't permit us the two additional pages to print the names in this category. Be assured, however, we appreciate each and every one of you, including the donors who send us \$5 whenever they can.

Omissions or Errors

If we accidentally left you out or made an error in your listing, please let us know so that we can correct it in our next issue. Send to: CatsCradle@catscradleva.org

Tributes since our last newsletter honoring special people and pets

Paulette Braunbeck	Kupi
Raymond Brunk	Panther
Mary Carr	Hootie, Bubba, and Stinky
T. Lynn Collins	Doug Fischer
Commonwealth One	Barbara Barath
Margaret DePoy	Maggie Lee
Sue Ganey	Eliot
Ruth Gardner	Bud
Mary Geisler	Cinnabear
Linda Goodson	Jessica Phillips
Barbara Grace	Lucy, Prudence and Maxine
Cynthia Grey	Sushi
Jane Greyson	Lorna McLaggan Card
Cheryl Griffith	Oliver
Peggy Hardy	Kat Kinkade
Elizabeth Haworth	Elsa and Amos
Ann Hurley	Benjamin Gerding
Elizabeth Ihle	Kat Kinkade
Kathy Johnstone	Susan Bennett
Jennifer Kirkland	Sidney
Dawn Kiser	Rosalie Weaver
Corena Knically	SVSNC
Linda Kohn	Julius
Don & Sue Lemish	The animals of Lo and George Aldhizer Jr.
Don & Sue Lemish	Billie N. Foster
Diane Lepkowski	Yvonne Arnold
Pem Liskey	Ingrid Shomo
Andrea Litvack	Andrea Litvack and Warren Stock
Cate Mansfield	Susan Mansfield
Cate Mansfield	Kat Kinkade
Susan Mansfield	Sophia Mansfield
Elisabeth Martin	Jenna Long
Adair McConnell	Wonder Kitty
Monica McCourt	Mr. Molly
Johna McFarland	Teddy, Tyler, Chuck, and Marty McFarland
Cathy Meck	Spot
Helen Moore	Bo and Murphy
Becky Morris	Cinnabear
Lona Mueller	Feral cats
Danny Neese	Albert "Flip" De Luca
Dana Neff	Shadow
Irma Nemoytin	Duke
Jessica Phillips	Suzanne Auckerman
Stephany Plecker	Boo-boo
Virginia Powell	Susan Bennett
Wendy Reidler	The cats at JMU
Mary Reilly	Ponder & Misha
Russell Riggleman	Sweetie and Whisker
Sandra Rose	Max
Carleen Schwartz	Betty Schwartz and Gwendolyn Waibel
Mary Pamela Sheets	Gwen and Abby
Cate (Laura) Mansfield	Kat Kinkade
Anne Stephens	Callie and Scruffy
Stewart household	Woody and Edie
RoxAnna Theiss	Arthur
Suzanne Trow	Bentley
David & Janet Wendelken	Albert "Flip" De Luca
David & Janet Wendelken	Carol Kellar
Carolyn Windmiller	Ashley
Davene Wolfe	Popper and Timmy Rose
John & Bea Woody	Peaches



Renee Clark reports that a great bunch of volunteers turned out for Shakin' at the Station in Staunton. The proceeds that Cat's Cradle receives will go to Spay and Neuter in Augusta County.

Couple thanks Cat's Cradle for "lucky break"

Hi-

I just wanted to send you an update and a big thank you! We (my husband & I) adopted Mikey from you in Dec. of '06. We already had a chocolate labrador (Petey) & they are the best of brothers. Thanks again for the wonderful gift!

I've attached a picture. Look closely and you will see that isn't a pillow Petey is resting his head on! We adopted Mikey from the Petsmart in Potomac Yards. Evidently he had been adopted before, but the family was unhappy with him because he knocked down their Christmas tree, so they returned him. Our lucky break!

Sincerely,
The Paucchi family
(Petey, Mikey, Luisa & Rick)



**Hey,
I hate to bother you, but some of my feral friends need a new place to hang out. And I know how important a new home can be.**

If you have a barn, Cat's Cradle needs you. Contact them through www.catscradleva.org.

**My best,
Milky Way**

New “mom” happy after adopting pair of kittens

Hi,

My name is Heidi and I am the proud new mom of both Tasha and Missy. We have changed their names. Missy is now Winter due to her snow-white coat. Tasha is Luna due to her mysterious looks. They are adjusting well. They are eating, drinking and playing. I already have two cats. The one is not too fond of them, but she'll come around. Winter seems to be a little bit of a loner. She has taken to my 13-year-old daughter well, giving her kisses after my daughter kisses her.

Luna is actually loving me up while I'm typing this.



Spay/Neuter Clinic set to reopen after expansion

When the clinic re-opens on Monday, August 25, it will be bigger and better than ever.

They are remodeling to get some much-needed space. They are also hiring another veterinarian to help with the overwhelming response from the community since opening in 2005.



We're gearing up for the 2008 Cat's Cradle Yard Sale!

When: Friday, August 29 from 12 to 6, and Saturday, August 30, from 8 to 3.

Where: 900 N. Liberty Street Harrisonburg. We have a new location – the Shenandoah Valley Spay & Neuter Clinic just acquired an empty store next door and is generously letting us use the space.

What: Now accepting clean items in good condition – we will take clothing. We can take furniture.
Email: josiek@verizon.net or call: 540-967-1905.

Volunteers: We need lots for:

- Pricing and set-up before the event
- Set-up day before and day of
- Help during both days
- Publicity – put ads in the paper
- Flyers – put them around town
- Putting up signs the day before
- Clean-up at the end

Also: If anyone is interested in running a bake sale at the same time, let us know.

OK: We made \$3,000 in 2006, and \$5,000 in 2007 – can we break this record in 2008?



The A on this Google map shows the yard sale location on Harrisonburg's north side. See you there.

Frightened kitten rescued from highway finds a happy home

“Bradley” was found in the road in Edinburg as a tiny kitten – his litter-mate had been hit by a car and killed. He came to Cat’s Cradle bedraggled and frightened. Through Cat’s Cradle’s network of volunteers he was cared for and socialized in a foster home. When he was healthy and old enough, he was taken to a PetSmart in Northern Virginia where he was adopted.

We received this note of thanks from his new “mom,” explaining that he had new friends and a new name:

Just wanted to say we are so delighted with the new kitten we got on Saturday at Petsmart. We decided to name him Gobi, after the desert, as he’s the color of sand. He is having fun exploring his new home and new kitty friends. There has been some growling and hissing but they have left him alone under our watchful eyes. He apparently has been sleeping most of today on my husband’s desk (he works from home).

Thanks again,
Dawn



Help kittens like Gobi and help us set an adoption record this summer – foster a litter of kittens!
See: www.catscradleva.org for contact information and a copy of our foster agreement.

A full-color version
of this newsletter is online
as a PDF that you can view
or send to your friends
who share our mission.
www.catscradleva.org

Come to the Cat’s Cradle
Yard Sale – August 29-30,
next to the Spay/Neuter Clinic
in Harrisonburg. Details inside.

saving lives since 1998



Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Richmond, VA
Permit #3022