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501c (3) nonprofit organization

P.O. Box 25637, Rochester, NY York 14625

Issue 2

Fall 2011/Winter 2012 Edition

HABITAT FOR CATS' TNR CLINIC HAS FOUND A NEW HOME!

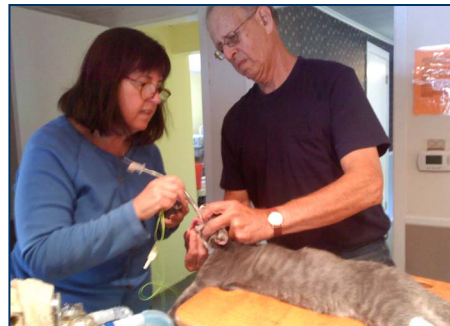
**CAT TALES NEWS
& UPDATES**

Dr. Pat Tolchin and Dr. Barb Silva in action at the Lake Rd location.



and meeting contractors. A special thank you to all as everything looks great! Since our costs have increased at our new location, effective January 1, 2012 the fee for the clinic will increase to \$50 a cat. Our highest priority remains to improve feral cats' lives and control populations by vaccinating, treating for parasites, and spaying or neutering as many cats as possible. Please help us in this endeavor by making a donation to HFC or by volunteering your time to help at the clinic or in any other capacity.

On December 14, 2011, the TNR clinic will move from Lake Rd in Webster to Penfield Rd in Penfield. We hope that this will be our forever home! We are extremely grateful to Bill Mayer and his daughter Allison for donating the use of the Lake Rd. house for the past three years. We will miss the view of Irondequoit Bay. Our new home is spacious and well-lit, and we are in the process of adapting it to fit the clinic's needs. Mike and Barb Ordway donated kitchen cabinets for our new space. Paul Levine, Earl Engels and Walt Simoni put in countless hours in installing a door, hanging the cabinets, patching walls



Duane DeHollander, a volunteer, holds a female cat to be intubated, while Betsy Hutton, a technician, inserts the tube into the cat's trachea.

PETSMART CHARITIES GRANT UPDATE

We were very excited to hear from PetSmart Charities officials in December. Dr. Wendy Kurtz reports that our grant for spaying and neutering cats in Penfield has been approved. The funding includes providing spays and neuters for 120 pet cats for low-income residents of the mobile home parks, as well as 480 feral cats estimated to be in the area. If you live in Harper, Sebastian, East Avenue or Forest Lawn Park and need help with your cats, Habitat for Cats is scheduling appointments beginning in January 2012. If you would like to help with this project (trapping, transporting, fostering or working at the clinic) please call our hotline at 585 234-2894.

CLINIC TALES & STATISTICS

As of November 30, 2011 our Habitat for Cats Clinic has spayed or neutered 5,717 feral, stray or homeless cats through our Trap, Neuter, Return Program since the clinic began in 2005. From January 1, 2011 the clinic has spayed or neutered 858 cats: 486 females and 372 males. During that same time period, there have been 800 calls to the hotline and Judy Neumann has documented over 150 additional calls to her home phone or her personal cell phone. During the Summer, hotline calls from people wanting to surrender their pet cats increased greatly and, unfortunately, we weren't able to help them. Judy relates one story about a woman who lives in Michigan but during the Winter months, works at Sea Breeze in Irondequoit performing maintenance on the rides. At the house where she stays, she feeds a colony of stray cats that are living outside. She made appointments to get 6 cats sterilized at the clinic on November 30th and is scheduled to bring 1 more on December 7th. HFC salutes her for caring enough about these cats to get involved and improve their situation.

NOTICES:

Open House at the Penfield Rd. clinic January 16th, 2012!

Watch for news about our May fundraising Event!

19TH WARD COMMUNITY CATS

The 19th Ward is a large residential neighborhood in the southwest corner of the City of Rochester. In 2007, neighbors in the Ward began to notice an explosion in the outdoor cat population and individuals took action to address the needs of these cats. In the spring of 2009, these like-minded individuals began to “find” one another and combined their efforts. A group called 19th Ward Community Cats was born. The group’s primary goal was to improve the quality of life in the 19th Ward for everyone by addressing the needs of the Ward’s outdoor cats, reducing the outdoor cat population through humane means, advocating for responsible pet ownership and spay/neuter, and fostering a good relationship between people and cats. With the 19th Ward Community Association serving as fiduciary the group began collecting donations. In August of 2009, Democrat and Chronicle columnist, Mark Hare, wrote a column entitled “A Way to Make Good Neighbors of Feral Cats.” This article highlighted the efforts of three women on Marlborough Road in the 19th Ward and discussed TNR. By the time the article was written a strong relationship had developed between 19th Ward Community Cats and Habitat for Cats. Judy Neumann began notifying the group when someone from the 19th Ward called her needing help with cats and members of 19th Ward Community Cats mobilized to offer resources to those neighbors. In addition, neighbors in need began to seek out the women from the newspaper article. A website was developed, shelters were built, group traps were purchased, and County Line Animal Hospital helped group members with several wounded cats including one cat that was shot and had a bullet fragment in her leg. Since 2009, members of 19th Ward Community Cats have brought 45 cats to the Habitat for Cats clinic for TNR. In addition, the group has gotten at least that many adoptable cats off the street and into homes. Several large colonies of cats have been addressed. And the group is just hitting its stride. A spay/neuter education campaign is planned for the Ward this winter. With the help of Habitat for Cats and others, the group hopes to continue in its mission until every outdoor cat in the 19th Ward is sporting a collar or an ear tip. Thanks to Sheri Tehan for contributing this article.



This is Marley -19th Ward Mascot

FOSTER & ADOPTION CORNER **THE HENRIETTA THROWAWAYS...**

**Habitat for Cats volunteers
feed and provide shelter to
hundreds of feral cats in
Monroe and surrounding
counties at their own
expense!**

Since August, Habitat for Cats has worked to rescue, medically treat, foster, and adopt 9 cats left abandoned near a feral cat colony in Henrietta. The dump offs occurred on at least 3 separate occasions over several weeks. All of the cats needed treatment for fleas and worms, with some needing additional treatment for dehydration, persistent diarrhea, ear mites, upper respiratory infection, and intestinal damage from years of mistreatment. Most of them have missing or cracked teeth, probably due to bad nutrition and/or from chewing on the bars of the cages they were forcibly kept in. Several of them have bent or deformed ears and two of them had only 1 eye. All of the cats needed to be spayed or neutered. Unfortunately, we were unable to rescue 2 more cats: one was killed by a car and another just disappeared.

Frankie is a gorgeous Seal Point Himalayan whose tail was covered in feces from the bottom to the top. He weighed 5 ¼ lbs. at his first vet visit, but after the tail was shaved, he was down to only 5 lbs. Unbelievably, the feces on his tail weighed ¼ lb. Due to the acidity of the feces and the neglect by the previous owner, Frankie had holes burned into his paws and tail. He sported gauze and colorful bandages until his wounds healed. He has fought a tough battle to stay alive with his weight wildly fluctuating due to irritable bowel syndrome.

Johnnie had such severe and prolonged ear mite damage that there is a growth in his ear canal that needs to be removed by surgery. He also has an underlying ear infection that is hard to treat because of the polyp. **Update:** While Johnnie’s surgery on Dec 16 was successful, he unfortunately had a blood clot and passed away. Ricky, Marley, Kenya, Missy, Danny, and Terra are all in foster care with Marley, Kenya, and Missy available for adoption. On 12/10 we learned from Joan Taber, Nico’s foster mom, that Nico was quite sick and he had to be euthanized. So sad.

To see photos, follow their blog or to donate for their medical treatment, food, and care please go to the News & Tales page on our website at www.habitatforcats.com

Thank you’s go out to the colony caretaker, Sharon Powell; fosters, Laraine VanBlarcom, Joan Taber and Nancy Cockett; veterinarians at Mendon Village Animal Hospital, Brockport, Caring for Cats, and County Line Animal Hospitals; groomer at Care-A-Lot Pet Grooming; and those who have made donations to assist with the cats’ care. If you would like to become a Habitat for Cat foster/adopter for one of these beautiful cats, then please contact Laraine VanBlarcom at 585-233-7810. Article contributed by Nancy Cockett.



HFC THANKS ROCHESTER FOR SUPPORT

Habitat for Cats wants to extend our sincere gratitude to **Bank of America, and Katherine J. Zingler Co-Trustees of the Ralph G. and Wilma J. Maibaum Foundation** for their generous grant bestowed upon us during 2011. \$1000 was used to construct shelters for feral cats living in Fairport, Greece, Henrietta, Walworth and Victor. HFC also thanks **Lee Faull** of Honeoye Falls, NY for his kind donation of his time and outstanding carpentry skills used in the construction of many of these shelters.

The following "Pat on the Back" was published in the Democrat & Chronicle on November 8, 2011. Karon Simoni wrote: Habitat for Cats, Inc. would like to sincerely thank **Roxanne Blake** and **Terry Klos** of **PawBrokers** who hosted and organized a fantastic fundraiser which raised nearly \$2000 needed dollars for our low-cost spay/neuter clinic which serves the Greater Rochester area. We strongly urge the public to support PawBrokers' future fundraisers as 100% of the monies raised from their events goes directly to animal welfare groups. Their mission is to "provide individuals and organizations a means to support and promote the care and well-being of the abused and abandoned animals in their communities and across our nation." PawBrokers' motto is "saving animals one party at a time." For more info on PawBrokers, go to www.pawbrokers.org.

Amy Holland, a member of **Rochester Activists for Animal Rights (RAAR)**, informed us that they collected \$134 for Habitat for Cats at their vegan pizza buffet fundraiser held on November 4 at the Flying Squirrel Community Space, 285 Clarissa St in Rochester. Every few months they hold a fundraiser to benefit local organizations that are helping animals. Thank you for supporting HFC and caring about the feral cats!

Debbie & Paul Dewey, who brought us 'MINE, the Movie' in 2010, would like to announce that This Old Cat will be spearheading another fundraising event scheduled for October of 2012. Habitat for Cats has been invited to participate, and we hope to see you there also! We will update you as the plans unfold.

Ms. Linda Perkins, a first grade teacher in the Victor School District for 41 years, has been teaching her young students the value of giving back to the community to Habitat's benefit. Year after year, Ms. Perkins' students want to give her gifts of gratitude at the end of the school year. She considers her students themselves to be her greatest gift but in lieu of buying things for her, she asks that they pool their money and donate it to Habitat for Cats—a very worthy cause in our eyes! She has even gone as far as matching her students' contributions. HFC thanks Ms. Perkins and her students for their continued support of our mission.

Laraine VanBlarcom our adoption coordinator, made arrangements through Animal Services and Assistance Program for HFC to receive 4200 pounds of Purina Variety Dry Cat Food for \$120-Wow!.. An early Thanksgiving for HFC Adoptable felines. The catch? It had to be picked up in Syracuse - 90 miles away.. No problem, Walt Simoni's friend Vince Nebbia volunteered to drive his 26 foot Platinum Properties truck to transport the four pallets of Purina food. Two hours and two mechanics later, the truck was fueled and ready to go with ex-trucker Vince behind the wheel. They raced through snow, sleet, and rain to make the arrival deadline of 3pm. Four hours later and one muffler lighter, they arrived at the storage location. President Simoni supervised as Laraine and Dave VanBlarcom, Stephenie McCormick, Walt, Vince and Laraine's neighbor Jim Paulson unloaded the loot 18 pounds at a time. **A lot of Adoptable cats have full tummies thanks to Vince and Walt's Veteran's Day adventure.**

The wood shop class taught by **Miss Norris** at the Lois E. Bird Morgan School in East Rochester made a feral cat shelter following our plans from the website and donated it to us in November. The hut was made from scrap wood and all recycled materials. **Mike Grant**, who helped with the project, contacted the hotline to notify us that the hut was ready to be picked up. Many thanks to all who worked to help the cats!

A big thank you to kind donors who **ROC'ed the Day** for Habitat for Cats on December 8th, 2011, by donating \$1226.42. Way to go Rochester Area cat lovers!

Kim Young and **Alyssa Sands** of **Nixon Peabody** have notified Habitat for Cats that their **finance department** has adopted HFC as their Holiday Charity. They are collecting food, cash and other supplies needed at the clinic.

HFC is selling **Rochester 2012—coupon books for \$20.00**. These make excellent stocking stuffers and are full of the coupons that you will use.. Call the hotline or send an email to order.

**MEETINGS & EVENTS WHERE YOU CAN FIND HFC
OPEN HOUSE!!**

AT 1671 PENFIELD RD, OUR NEW CLINIC LOCATION, IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2012 (MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY). CLINIC STAFF, HFC BOARD MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ON HAND TO GREET AND GIVE YOU A TOUR. HOURS ARE FROM 4-8PM. PLEASE RSVP BY CALLING OUR HOTLINE AT 585 234-2894. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

FOR APPOINTMENTS TO SPAY/NEUTER CATS CALL OUR HOTLINE 585 234-2894

YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND INFORMATION ABOUT CAT ADOPTIONS AND MUCH MORE BY LOGGING ON TO: HABITATFORCATS.COM
AN E-MAIL WORKS JUST AS WELL, PLEASE CONTACT US AT HABITAT4CATS@YAHOO.COM
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

**INTERESTED IN ADOPTING OR FOSTERING? PLEASE COME VISIT OUR CATS AND KITTENS
AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

**PETCO 3300 MONROE AVENUE, PITTSFORD EVERY SUNDAY FROM NOON - 4
PETSMART 3042 WEST RIDGE ROAD, GREECE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 2-5**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS & SUPPORT.. A LITTLE BIT GOES A LONG WAY.

IF YOU NEED HEALTHY CATS FOR YOUR BARN, CONTACT US.

**HABITAT FOR CATS, INC.
P.O. Box 25637
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14625**