



One plus five: the bottle babies

It was a time of the year when we all needed a break from constant kitty care. The spring delivered too many homeless kittens and we were worn out. I checked my phone messages and heard *"I found 3 abandoned kittens - the mother is very sick - and they are too hot - coming over"* from one of our volunteers. Forty-five minutes later I had 3 orphans in my hands. After 2 days, only one special kitten remained - a tiny dark tabby with white. Rescuers know that one kitten - a few days old - doesn't have a good chance, but we put a heated, rice-filled sock next to him (his new sibling) and bottle fed and hoped

for the best. Then something inexplicable and unlikely happened. We received a call that someone had found 2 litters of kittens in a dumpster in Falls Church and the younger ones were newborns. I have plenty of things to say to the person who tossed these innocent 2-day-old kittens (and 2 five week old kittens) into a dumpster, but these kitties gave us a wonderful gift and they are the furthest thing from "trash" we can imagine. We were graced with siblings for our little orphan, giving him a chance! Rescuing 5 new bottle babies seemed logical until it came to feeding them all.

I was feeding every 5 hours - one and later two at a time. There is a special bond with the feeder and bottle babies and it developed quickly. Amy, a teacher, and two students, Amber and Tessa, often came 1-2 times a week to feed and play with them. Little Everest, our original orphan, loved to climb the front of our shirts and purr when he "got somewhere", which was sometimes under our hair, sometimes in the folds of our shirts and sometimes under our armpit! Since his colors looked like snow on rock and he loved to climb - we called him Mt. Everest,

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Featured pet: Skinny

"Skinny" is very affectionate and playful. He looks like an exotic with spotted pattern and very narrow face. He always want to be petted and will come up to your lap immediately and lap up attention. He loves to follow you around as you are doing things. He loves the

cat tree and toys, especially the laser pointer, and is a happy, young cat. He gets along well with other cats and is also perfectly fine when left alone. Skinny is waiting for a permanent home so he can be loved by a family of his own. Skinny is a GREAT kitty! JKR



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***Its always
CUTER
to NEUTER and be
sure to SPAY
a STRAY.***

Adoptions and letters

We are proud to report ~100 adoptions in 2006-2007 and one third were adults from county shelters.

Kittens

Abby & Charlie
Barber kitten, gry & wt
Barnie, blk & wt
Bisquet & Cino, buffs
Boogie, tuxedo
Buddy & Cleo
Coconut, gray tabby
Evans mom & kitten
Fritzie, Maine Coon
Frosty & Willow
Geoff & Jerry
Grace & Jasmine
Harmony & Jack
Hathaway kitten, buff
Hermes, black
Jackson, white
Jelly Bean, black
Kaydee & Midas
Kimba, white
Ligas kitten, tabby
Lizzy, gray & peach
Lupe, calico dilute
Maggie & Mac
Marmie, orange tabby
Max ,Oriental tabby
McDonald kittens
Mimi-Gracie-siamese
Miso & Kiso, tabbies
Miss Maggie & Muffet
Nicky, tortoise
Orange & white tabby
Phee-Phee- gray tabby
Pow-Pow, gray tabby
Pumpkin, org wt tab
Rico, Russian blue
Romana, tuxedo kitten
Sammy, gray tabby
Spirit, flame himi
Storm, gray tabby
Trixi & Peaches
Valosio, twin tabbies
Zap, tabby

Adults:

Abby, orange tabby
Aries- exotic tabby
Atta, tortie
Bobbie, orange tab
Bonnie, orange tab
Brutus, blk -wht.
Buffy- buff-white
Celeste, blk -wht.
Chipper, buff tab.
Coco, torti w/ wht
Dollie, calico
Dusty - Russian blue
Ginger, tabby
Hanna, buff & white
Ivy, calico
Jasper, tabby w/ wht
John-Jon ,org. tabby
Kiana, gray tabby
Kitty Boo- Wht w/tab
Lili, lynx pt Siamese
Lulu, lynx pt Siamese
Marcie, tortie calico
Marcus, tabby
Ms. Patches, tortie
Peaches, calico dilute
Pollanna, Dilute Calico
Precious, orange tabby
Prince, tabby & wht
Roo- Denny, wht-gray
Roonie, orange tabby
Rusty, orange tabby
Sabrina 2, black
Sammy, black
Scooby-Niles, org-wt
Snickers, gray tabby
Sophie-Rodeo-orange
Spot, black & wht
Sunny & Davey

LETTERS:

Dear Castle Cats: Here's an update on my crazy girl, Zap. She was part of the Timmy, Storm and Zap trio. She has grown into quite a girl. She provides me so much joy, and can't imagine life without her. I originally adopted her for a companion for my cat-Savanna-and now the two of them get along great. They play, groom each other. I call her Lu — it fits her to a tee—is quite the tomboy, with a little bit of a drama queen act thrown in. I can't go anywhere without her under my feet, or on my lap. She makes friends with everybody that comes into my home, and loves kids. My 4 yr old nephew and Lu made quick friends-she loves to have her belly rubbed and she chats, with a dramatic flair, constantly. Her worst day is when we have no company-she's very, very, very social. She doesn't really meow-she whines with this dramatic way-like her life is just so terrible, and throws herself on your feet so you will pet her...it's so funny. So anyway, I made the right call with my Lu and I couldn't love her more. Savanna is crazy about her, too and loves to groom her. Just thought you'd be happy to see a total success story, and that your "kids" are being well cared for! *Lorri S. of South Riding, VA*

Good morning:

I have to tell you how much I appreciate your rescue efforts and adoption to



Snow Angel - being coy!



Little Dino - a little energizer bunny.

me of Shadow! He is the smile on my face when I wake up and he's sitting there begging for wet food, when he does kitten scurries across the tile and wood floors, when he comes over to me when I'm sitting down and stands on his hind feet and puts his front paws on my leg to see what I'm doing and get attention, when he curls up next to me to sleep, every moment is joy to me in a very rocky life right now. *Sandy B. of Great Falls, VA*

The origin of the housecat

In the beginning, all domestic cats were likely small short-haired tabbies, thought to be descended from the African wild cat (no stripes) and the European wild cat (striped). The first known small wild cats appeared 13,000,000 years ago. Big cats (lions, tigers, leopards) took another 10,000,000 years to evolve! All cats belong to the class Mammalian, to the order Carnivora and to the family Felidae, and there are 4 to 6 genera, the

number of which are debated. The big cats are assigned to the genus *Panthera*; the small cats to genus *Felis*; the lynxes, bobcats and caracals to the genus *Lynx*; and a couple of Asian cats float between *Felis* and genera of their own. The genes of cheetah (*Acinonyx*) has drifted furthest from the traditional cat form. The European wild cat was highly untamable, even from birth, but descendants of the African wild cat were tamable. (from the "The Cat" by Muriel Beadle)



Figure 1. Top: African wild cat; center : European wild cat; bottom : the domestic cat. The African wild cat is believed to be the progenitor of the domestic cat.

The Bottle Babies..... (continued)

later to become "Evie". Boomer was bold and wiry. Gimmie had a fat tummy and was the hungriest and a most urgent feeder. Loudmouth had the biggest voice and he and Gimmie wailed loudly enough for neighbors to hear as I prepared their bottles. Spot had a large patch of peach color on her head and Pinkie, also gray and peach, was small but tough and held her own. All were fantastic purrers and over-the-top "people kitties". And so they grew and grew and gave us hours of love and entertainment. When they were eating on their own, they moved to Marty's house for more space and love. They are now all in wonderful, permanent homes and we hear from them regularly. Sometimes to save one, you are sent 5 more. It's the new math!



Tips for litter box success

Is your cat not going in the box? Try these tips:

- 1) Location, location, location: put the box in a quiet, out-of-the-way place that your cat will like.
- 2) Get a box large enough for your cat and if you have more than one cat, have as many boxes as you have cats. Sharing may not be easy.
- 3) Cats like most clay and clumping litters. Some of the newer types of litters can turn them off.
- 4) If they kick litter out or look "exposed", try a covered pan.
- 5) If your cat doesn't go in the box - rethink what they may not like and add an extra box with plain clay litter somewhere else.
- 6) "Attract" brand litter has an addi-

tive to help cats use the box and often works.

- 7) For more information, read "The Cat Who Cried for Help" by Dodman, available in the public library.



Little Evie - adorable - with sweet personality.

A special thanks to our volunteers and supporters

Special efforts : The bake sale fall 2007 at Giant Store in Burk was a big success. The people who came were generous and left donations in addition to buying items. Thanks to the Culbertsons for their time at the tables selling items and to all the volunteers who baked. We raised about \$750.

Thanks to Dr. Davis Hall and Marty Summerour for hosting and initiating the "Fur Tree" at Columbia Pike and Town & Country Animal Hospitals in 2007. Clients paid for personalized ornaments with their pet's

name which were hung on the decorated trees for all to see in the lobbies of the two hospitals. We distributed the funds to several charity groups who use the two hospitals. Last year we raised over \$900 which was split among 4 rescue groups. We invite you to participate this year! The trees are put up in November and taken down the end of December.

We had extra repairs done by Jeff Bonnardel who painted and put up a ceiling barrier and re-carpeting of our cat trees

done by Michael McCormick. We thank all our volunteers who help week in and week out to feed and clean after the kitties. We wouldn't be able to operate without them. We have the best volunteers on earth.

We received cash, food, and medicine donations throughout the year and we thank each and every one of you for thinking of the kitties and offering your support.

Cash donations are always appreciated. Make checks to "Castle Cats" and send to 4121 Elizabeth La, Fairfax, VA 22032.



Feline's Basement News

CASTLE CAT RESCUE
PO BOX 2096
FAIRFAX, VA 22031

Volunteers:

Jane Rice Hitomi Kan Leslie Seddon
Sue Kelly Cathy & Tom Kiess Michael McCormick
Kathleen Culbertson Krist Barnes April & Deb Sauve
Sally Bornbush Jeff Bonnardel Sue Kelly
Lindsay Howe Angela Parks Brielle Quigley
Stephanie Ballard Brianna Kapfer Tiffany & Betty Wong
Jennifer Byrne Crystal Courtner Andrew Hillman
Camey Schweckrt Pim Yawagun Ward Parsons
Ji Young, Hae Young & friends Jessica Trieu
Sarah Ruth Sue Vlasic Amy Adler Mathew Davissou
Justin Strahan Kirsten Moser Dennis Potter
The Demcheshens Miriam St Clair Zayneb

Fosterers

Ginger & Ed Caress Lyn McCoy & Jane Blackburn
Neville Withington & Kerry Kingham
Danielle Watson & Josh Schmidt

Phone: 703-655-3285
Fax: 703-425-0581
Email: rice_jk@hotmail.com

We're on the web:
www.castlecats.org



Midnight - Maine Coon - 6 mos



Butternut - Maine Coon - 6 mos



Willow - Calico - affectionate kitty

In Memorium

01/06 Abe, beloved dog of Ileen & John Moorman
02/06 Gretta, beloved cat of Erika Harrison & CCR
03/06 Mikey, beloved cat of Heather Nagler
06/06 Mollie, beloved cat of Jennifer Tominson
06/06 Two beloved cats of Bev O'Dell
06/06 Charcoal, beloved cat of Andrew Purdy.
07/06 Tortie-kitten, beloved kitten of Castle cats.
07/06 Pretty Baby, beloved cat of Nancy Freisberg
07/06 Calico felv+ kitten of Castle Cat Rescue
09/06 Boots, beloved cat of Dennis Potter.
09/06 Rusty, beloved cat of Raija Bettauer.
09/06 Simba, beloved cat of Jen Sutura
09/06 Beloved cat of Joyce Guest
11/06 Jane, beloved cat of Mark Brown
11/06 Riga, beloved cat of Lori Gudmundson
12/06 Simba, beloved cat of Margaret Keating
12/06 Pookie, beloved cat of Amy Adler
12/06 Pretty Girl, beloved cat of Kim Hashem
12/06 Elwood, beloved cat of Khris and Doug Dinkle
12/06 Pretty Girl, beloved cat of Kim Hashem
12/06 Fritz, beloved cat from Supply Bldg.
01/07 Biggie, beloved cat of Eileen Slappey CC Rescue
02/07 Baby Calie, beloved cat of the Summerours
02/07 Panda, beloved of C. Zuckerman & Summerours
02/07 Max, beloved dog of Baron-Anderson
03/07 Sammy, beloved kitten of Steve & Sandy Bishop
06/07 Smokey, beloved cat of the Abrams Family
06/07 Onyx, beloved cat of Dawn Klages
06/07 Beloved cat of Tamar Abrams
07/07 6-mos neighborhood kitty - loved by the Dingles
08/07 Boomer, beloved dog of Mercedes
09/07 Blackie, beloved cat of the St. Clairs
09/07 Batten, beloved cat of Laura Potts
11/07 Lexi, beloved cat of Grace and Bill Cottrell
12/07 2 shelter puppies, loved by Rice-Horwitz
05/08 Chipper, beloved cat of Kingham-Withington
06/08 Mr. Possum who visited regularly, Rice-Horwitz

Donors

Community friends:

Columbia Pike Animal Hosp.
Town & Country Animal. Hosp.
Vet Vision, Fairfax, VA
Pets Limited Spay-Neuter Clinic

Golden friends (over \$200)

Kristi Barnes
Mark Brown
Grace & Bill Cottrell
Aubrey Hamilton
Joanna Harkin
Judith Harrington
Lynne Hendricks & Les Aker
Heather Irwin
Hitomi Kan
The Listopads
Heather Nagler
Dan Rosa & Peggy Riley
Miriam St. Clair
Marty & Rick Summerour
Janice Taylor
Alan Tveten
Shawn Thomas
Jennifer Tomlinson
Mary Lou Vroman
Dianne Walker
Danielle Watson & Josh Schmidt
Michelle Wiseman
Neville Withington & Kerry Kingham

Friends of Castle Cat:

Robert Aszheimer & JoAnn Millikin
Jill Aukufer
Corey Barber
Vikke Barron of Cats Rule
Barb Becker

Raija & Ronald Bettaner
Chris Biscardi
Sandy & Steve Bishop
Mattie & Irv Boker
Jeff Bonnardel
Don Bradford
Paula Burns
Terry & Rosemary Cale
Angela Camp
Ginger & Ed Caress
Sandy Chalmers
Anne Charles
Suzanna Clifford
Becki & Tom Cox
Kathleen Culbertson
Julie Demcheschen
The Donahues
Lydia Estes
Polly Frye
Val Garcia
Elizabeth Glowicz
Bruce & Gay Griffin
Barbara & Randall Gulick
Chris Haslam
Kim Hathaway
Susan Hemerick
Nedra & Thomas Huestis
Dianne Walker
Suzanne Kelly
Liz Kirchner
Ramona Lauda
Little Buddies
Michael McCormick
Lyn McCoy & Jane Blackburn
Joseph McDermott
Sue McDonald
Jean McNeal
Kathy Mecklinburg
Elaine Miletta

JoAnne Missal
Ileen Moorman
Jane Moreland
Greg & Deana Morrison
Heather Nagler
Michelle Nicol
Heather Notter
Debbie O'Brien
Roxanne O'Brien
Bev O'Dell
Mike Oliver
Svetlana Ottey
Claire Peachey
Dennis Potter
Laura Potts
Aileen Redding
Charles Rice
Suzi Rosenberg
Jennifer Rueger
Pat Salmon
Robert Santone
Mary Sawyer
Paul & Debra Scarborough
Helen Shimp
Kate Siciliana
Eileen Slappey
Carol & Joe Smith
Karen Sokol
Theresa Stanley
Brian Stein
Nancy Stepp
Cynthia Steward
Connie Stuntz
Carolyn Sutterfield
Kip Seymour & Doug Bedwell
Robert & Janice Taylor
Charles Zuckerman