



# THE Cat's MEOOW

## Staff Members

Sarah Swanty  
Executive Director

Mary Wolf  
Shelter Manager

Shelly Cornutt  
Clinic Manager

Gloria Matsushita, DVM  
Staff Veterinarian

Talia Agone

Gerri Becher

Ashley Boothe

Megan Conley, CVT

Kaitlin Davis

Hilary Foshee

Becca Kosakewich, CVT

Carey Mastriona

Judy Miotke

Kristina Naef

## Board Members

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President

Ruth Swanty  
Vice President

Leslie Quitmeyer  
Secretary

Susan Gilbert  
Treasurer

Kurt Colicchio

Craig Kozak

Christie Long, DVM

## Are We There Yet?

### THE COUNT

Adoptions

3,706

Spays/Neuters

17,524

## A Message from the Director

Dear Supporters,

Larimer Humane Society recently released their annual report for their 2011 fiscal year (July 2010-June 2011) and it contained some great news. Their euthanasia rate for cats decreased almost 25 percent in comparison with their 2010 fiscal year – 281 fewer cats were euthanized!

There are a lot of different factors that I believe influenced these numbers. These factors include but are not limited to:

- ✓ The education of more community members and their belief that euthanasia is not and never has been an acceptable solution to pet overpopulation, therefore leading to their involvement in animal welfare through donations or volunteerism.

- ✓ The hard work of multiple community-based animal welfare groups over recent years to increase the number of community animals that are spayed and neutered.

- ✓ The collaboration of animal welfare groups with one another and with local businesses to save more pets' lives.

Although I am thrilled about the decrease, there are still far too many homeless animals being euthanized in our community. I hope that at some point during my life we will see a time when younger generations are shocked to hear that one of the common ways we dealt with homeless pets was by killing them.

Until then, Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic will continue to treat not only the symptoms of pet overpopulation by sheltering as many homeless cats and kittens as we can until they find loving homes, but also treat the disease of pet overpopulation through our programs which spay and neuter animals and keep pets in their homes.

We are making a tremendous impact in the community, and by "we" I mean the staff, volunteers and supporters (YOU!) of this organization!

As the holidays and the end of the year approach, please remember this organization when it comes to your charitable giving.

As always, thank you!

– Sarah Swanty, Executive Director

## 2012 'My Calendar Cat' available NOW! Get one before they're gone!

We set a new record this year with 122 photo entries for our annual calendar contest, and all of them appear somewhere within this lovely 11"x17" calendar.

This year's calendar was sponsored by both Poudre Pet & Feed Supply and Natural Balance Pet Foods and contains coupons with savings valued at much more than the calendar's \$20 purchase price.

So treat yourself, or your friends and family, to a year full of kitty photos and coupons – they make excellent holiday gifts! There's a limited supply available; last year we sold out early. So stop by the shelter today and get yours before they're gone!



# Human services programs grow rapidly

*PAL+, Kibble Supply aim to keep pets in their homes by helping their guardians*

Even in the best of economic times there will always be pet owners who cannot afford basic services for their dogs and cats. With the economy still in the slumps, more people than ever are having a hard time taking care of themselves, let alone being able to provide basic needs for their pets.

This creates a double whammy for Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic. It becomes harder to secure donations while at the same time there's an increasing need to assist pet owners in providing safe, healthy environments for their pets.

"We need to not only provide a safe place for the animals that have become homeless, but also do all in our power to keep other animals from joining their ranks," Executive Director Sarah Swanty said.

We have been hard at work trying to make this a reality. This September we combined our PAL (Prevent a Litter) and PAVE (Providing Access to Vaccines for Everyone) services into a single program called PAL Plus (PAL+).

PAL+ provides spay/neuter surgeries and vaccines free of charge to low-income pet owners who must first qualify by filling out an application. Free microchipping was added to the program as well.

We kicked off PAL+ by setting up a booth at Poudre Valley Mobile Home Park on Sept. 15. Our executive director was joined by Outreach Coordinator Judy Miotke and bi-lingual volunteer



Volunteer Lynn Hitchings and Executive Director Sarah Swanty staff the outreach table at Poudre Valley Mobile Home Park in September.

Lynn Hitchings that morning to help residents learn more about how they could get help with the basic needs for their pets. Having a volunteer who could speak Spanish came in handy as a number of pet owners did not speak English. *We are always in need of bi-lingual volunteers, especially at the clinic.*

Although the day got off to a slow start because people were hesitant to approach the table, by early afternoon curious residents made their way over, and the end of the day saw five animals scheduled for surgery with another six scheduled for vaccines and microchips.

There seems to be a never-ending need for these services. Applications for PAL+ have almost doubled from last year, and our funding barely keeps up in satisfying the demand of providing these services to prevent more homeless pets and disease.

This year, along with other donations, we have received a \$3,000 grant to fund PAL+ along with \$3,800 from a Poudre Pet & Feed Supply prize bicycle drawing.

**Our goal for 2012 is to serve 500 pets at a cost of \$25,245.**

Another human services program we are proud to offer is the



**We microchip cats and dogs for only \$25!**

*Includes lifetime registration!*  
Call the clinic for more information:  
(970) 484-1861

Kibble Supply Pet Food Pantry which helps pet owners experiencing financial hardship make sure their furry family members stay fed.

There are currently 157 people signed up for the cat food program, and we supplied almost 10,000 pounds of cat food in just the first 10 months of this year! We have 39 people signed up for the dog food program and have given away just over 1,600 pounds of dog food in 2011.

We had been relying primarily on pet food donations from local retailers to supply the program, but the demand outstripped our supply. More recently, the Rescue Bank National Pet Food Distribution Program has made it possible for us to keep the pantry better stocked. We are able to purchase entire pallets of dog and cat food from Rescue Bank for our Kibble Supply for only \$50 per pallet.

*If you are looking for ways to give during the holidays, consider a contribution to our Kibble Supply or PAL+ programs and help both pets and their people alike. We are deeply appreciative of all the help we get and we couldn't do this without you!*



A bi-lingual banner helps draw residents over to learn more.



## 30 new cages + dedicated volunteers = more space for kitties

Who's never dreamed about adding some extra square footage onto their homes? Well thanks to some generous grants and volunteer efforts at FCCRSNC our cats now have a little extra room to stretch their paws from now on!

After the state passed legislation in 2010 mandating larger enclosures for cats in shelters, we were hard at work writing grants to find funding to help pay for the new cages. The **PETCO Foundation** came through for us and gave us the largest grant we've had to date. The \$12,500 they donated along with \$500 from On Shore Foundation allowed us to buy 30 brand new enclosures for our cats.

Of course securing the donations and purchasing the cages was only part of the whole operation. We still had to assemble and install them. This is when our wonderful volunteers stepped up over Labor Day weekend to help assemble the enclosures. We had numerous volunteers help with this, but there were two whom we



Volunteers Jean Haukaas (left) and Jill Forest (right) assemble cages.

want to shine a light on in this newsletter and acknowledge the hard work they put in for this project.

"We are especially grateful to **Jill Forest** and **Carol Landy**, who dedicated themselves to this project until every cage was assembled and in place," said Volunteer Coordinator Hilary Foshee. "Together, Jill and Carol worked over 50 hours on this project!"

Jill and Carol are longtime friends who started volunteering at the shelter back in August. When the e-mail went out asking for help setting up the cages, Jill and Carol jumped in with both feet and spent three days setting them up. Carol said the best part of the project was working with other volunteers. She said a lot of people helped and they couldn't have done it without the help of everyone involved.

Jill and Carol moved back to Colorado in February after being gone for 15 years. They have both done volunteer work before and are self-described animal lovers. Once they got everything unpacked and settled in they were able to start volunteering at FCCRSNC. Carol said the best part of volunteering is "a tossup between the people and animals we meet. Everyone is so wonderful there."

They were even able to provide a forever home for one of the shelter cats! They fell in love with "Shelby" after fostering her for a while and decided to adopt her.

Carol said it was a great feeling to see all the cages

## Charitable Gift Planning

*Thinking about year-end donations or beyond?*

There are many ways you can support Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic, now and in the future.

Contact Ruth Swanty for more information:  
rswanty@fortcollinscatrescue.org  
(970) 593-9437

**Choose FCCRSNC  
for Colorado Gives Day  
on December 6!**



Colorado Gives Day is an initiative to increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving, presented by Community First Foundation and FirstBank.

It will take place during a 24-hour period on Dec. 6 and donations will be accepted through GivingFirst.org.

Enter our name and give!

assembled and put into place. "I'm told the cats really enjoy them. It's a very sleek design and this was a team effort to put these cages together," she said.

*Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic can never stress how grateful we are for the effort and hard work our volunteers put in to help keep us up and running.*



Volunteer Lance Agone works on the cages' interior seams.



Premier Sponsor of the 2011 Whiskers 'n Wags Jubilee and \$12,500 grantor for our new cages. We thank you!

# Upcoming Events – mark your calendars!



## Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner & Craft Fair

4-7 p.m. Nov. 20  
Fort Collins Senior Center  
1200 Raintree Drive

Join Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic, Animal House Rescue & Grooming and Larimer Humane Society for its 2nd Annual Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner & Craft Fair to benefit all three area rescues.

This appetizing event will be held Sunday, Nov. 20, at the Fort Collins Senior Center (1200 Raintree Drive, Fort Collins). The Craft Fair will be open to

the public from 4-7 p.m. and will be FREE to enter. The pasta dinner is being served in two seatings:

1st Seating ~ 4:30-5:30 p.m.

2nd Seating ~ 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Pasta, sauces, salads, bread and desserts that were donated by over a dozen area restaurants and caterers are being featured.

*Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$18 for adults and \$8 for children ages 6-12. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$20 for adults and \$10 for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and under are free.*

Register online to attend the dinner at:

[www.LarimerHumane.org](http://www.LarimerHumane.org)

or call (970) 530-2947

Volunteers are needed to help pick up food donations from many of these generous event donors: All Occasions Catering, Bath Garden Center & Nursery, Butter Cream Cupcakery, Canino's Italian Restaurant, Carino's Loveland, Charco Broiler, CooperSmith's Pub & Brewing, Dorothy's Catering, Enzo's Italian Kitchen, Main Street Catering, Mimi's Cafe, Old Chicago, Olive Garden, Paninos Pizza & Pasta, Taste Catering and Texas Roadhouse.

## Low-Cost Vaccine Clinics

9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 17  
FCCRSN Clinic  
2321 E. Mulberry St., Unit 9



*Did you know that Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic offers low-cost vaccine clinics **two Saturdays per month?***

If your pooch or kitty is due for its shot, plan on attending. Visit our website for the dates of upcoming clinics or call the clinic at (970) 484-1861. No appointment necessary, just walk in. All dogs must be on a leash, and all cats must be in a carrier.

## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Annual Craft Fair

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 3  
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
2000 S. Lemay, Fort Collins

Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic will again have a booth at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Annual Craft Fair.

Please stop by and see us between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 3.

while you shop among a large selection of handcrafted goodies that would make excellent gifts. Located at 2000 S. Lemay.



**You can now follow us on Facebook!**

Find the link to 'Like' us on  
[www.FortCollinsCatRescue.org](http://www.FortCollinsCatRescue.org)

# SAVE THE DATE: Whiskers 'n Wags Jubilee

## The Whiskers of Oz

March 3, 2012  
Hilton Fort Collins  
425 W. Prospect Road



**Buy tickets early, before they sell out!**

Get ready for **THE event of 2012!** Come join the fun at our annual gala fundraiser Saturday, March 3, 2012, at the Hilton Fort Collins.



The theme is "The Whiskers of Oz," and we are excited to announce that Dr. Temple Grandin will be speaking at the event and copies of her book, "Animals Make Us Human: Creating the Best Life for Animals," will be available for purchase.

Dr. Temple Grandin to speak at gala!

We've also planned a gourmet buffet dinner, our renowned silent auction including the Grand Cats art pieces, and a live auction run by the ever-entertaining professional auctioneer Bill Seaworth.

Last year we raised \$54,000 to help the kitties (as well as the pups who benefit through our spay/neuter clinic). Our goal for Whiskers 'n Wags Jubilee 2012 is \$60,000.

This full night of fun is only \$55 per person, with tables of 8 available for \$400.

Online registration will be available

shortly, or you can register by mail (see form below) or in person at the shelter.

Here are ways you can contribute before the event:

✓ Did you know that all of our auction items are donated? If you would like to donate an item for the event, especially a condo stay or trip, we would gratefully accept such a gift.

✓ We also have a special opportunity for you to promote your business or honor a loved one or pet by sponsoring this event. You'll receive a number of benefits from sponsoring while at the same time helping FCCRSNC.

For more information e-mail:

[WWJ@fortcollinscatrescue.org](mailto:WWJ@fortcollinscatrescue.org)

**Please support our major sponsors:**



**Thank you!**

## 2012 Whiskers 'n Wags Jubilee RSVP

Complete this form to reserve your spot at the **2012 Whiskers 'n Wags Jubilee**, March 3, 2012, at the Hilton Fort Collins.

Please include your check made payable to *FCCRSNC*, or fill in your credit card information below.

Qty.		Total
_____	Individual(s) (\$55 each)	\$ _____
_____	Table(s) of 8 (\$400/table)	\$ _____

Enclosed is a payment for a total of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by credit card:

Visa/MC Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form with your payment to:**

WWJ 2012

Fort Collins Cat Rescue &

Spay/Neuter Clinic

2321 E. Mulberry #1

Fort Collins, CO 80524

*See you March 3!*





## Susan Kusman

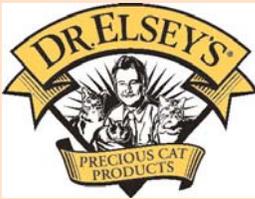
Susan Kusman volunteers anywhere from 20 to 30 hours a week on surgery days at our clinic, and more recently during Saturday vaccine clinics as well.

“Susan is very eager to learn, and it’s inspiring to work with someone who is finding their passion later in life,” said Clinic Manager Shelly Cornutt.

We are all very grateful to have such a dedicated volunteer as Susan!

## Support Our Shelter Advocates

### Luminary (\$6,000 - \$11,999/year)



**Precious Cat, Inc.**  
4201 South Navajo, Unit 1  
Englewood, CO 80110  
(877) 311-2287  
[www.preciouscat.com](http://www.preciouscat.com)

### Guardian (\$3,000 - \$5,999/year)



**Poudre Pet & Feed Supply**  
North Store: 622 N. College Ave., (970) 482-2741  
South Store: 6204 S. College Ave., (970) 225-1255  
East Store: 2601 S. Lemay Ave., (970) 226-0277  
Fort Collins, Colorado [www.naturalfeedstore.com](http://www.naturalfeedstore.com)



**Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc.**  
12924 Pierce St. (800) 829-4493  
Pacoima, CA 91331 [www.naturalbalance.net](http://www.naturalbalance.net)

### Caretaker (\$1,000 - \$2,999/year)



**Friendship Hospital for Animals**  
1103 Oak Park Drive, Suite 101  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
(970) 206-1868  
[www.friendshiphospitalforanimals.com](http://www.friendshiphospitalforanimals.com)



**Heska**  
Corporate Headquarters  
3760 Rocky Mountain Ave.  
Loveland, CO 80538  
[www.heska.com](http://www.heska.com)



## Rescue Tails



Adopted  
February 11, 2011

### Ralphie

“He’s like a kid and goes through phases. I built lots of high perches on the walls and he loved them, but now he prefers hiding under a blanket draped on a 4-foot-tall post. It’s something new every day!”



Adopted  
March 18, 2011

### Cleo, aka Poppy

“She’s doing great and has been a wonderful addition to our family. She loves our two girls, and even plays with our dog. It’s a real treat having her around the house!”



Adopted  
May 14, 2011

### Stretch, aka Liono

“He stretches every time he stands up or rolls over. We’ve found he has a definite thing for sleeping on our shoes and snuggles his nose into them, sleeping for hours like that.”



Jake helped throw the first pitch!

# Jake has been staying busy

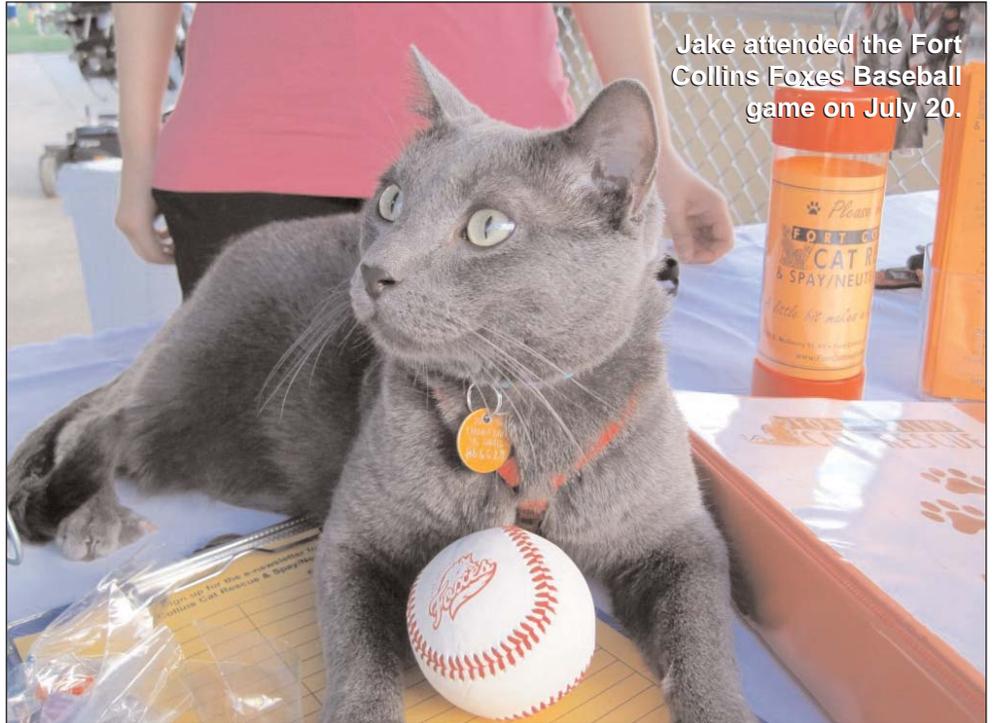
Our shelter's permanent resident and certified therapy cat, Jake, had a very eventful summer!

In July during our Fort Collins Foxes Baseball benefit night he was invited to help throw the first pitch. Board member and volunteer Craig Kozak joined Executive Director Sarah Swanty and her son Freddy on the pitcher's mound to help with Jake's ceremonial toss.

In August we helped him celebrate his 3rd birthday by holding an adoption special and serving cookies and punch to the public. We also invited volunteers to join us after shelter closing for ice cream and a delicious cake made by longtime volunteer Debbie DeLong.

Jake's handlers were each presented with a framed photograph of themselves with Jake and shared stories of his adventures visiting nursing homes and libraries.

Jake has now added the Good



Jake attended the Fort Collins Foxes Baseball game on July 20.



The human guests enjoyed homemade chocolate cake.



He made sure to inspect his gifts at his 3rd birthday party in August.

Samaritan Society to his monthly visits. One of its residents' family members loves cats and felt a visit from Jake would lift the residents' spirits. He's made many new friends.

Jake also will continue to visit children at Crossroads Safehouse – now at their new, bigger facility!

Jake is happy when other nonprofits are successful and grow, just like ours!

He also now has fans from coast to coast! Recently, a woman flew in from San Diego to visit with Jake, and we received a donation from a man in New York who saw Jake on Animal Planet. Way to go, Jake!



Jake warily eyed his personal cat food "cake" topped with a sardine and candle.



His volunteer handlers were presented with framed photos of themselves with Jake.



2321 E. Mulberry St. #1  
 Fort Collins, CO 80524  
 fortcollinscatrescue.org  
 (970) 484-8516

Non-profit Org.  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Fort Collins CO  
 Permit No. 187



*Dr. Temple  
 Grandin  
 to speak  
 at 2012 gala!*  
 See Page 5



## Help Your Community Cats and Dogs by Giving

Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope if you would like to have gift cards mailed to you.  
 For more details on these giving options, see our website: [FortCollinsCatRescue.org](http://FortCollinsCatRescue.org)



	Total
Sunflower Gift Card(s) @ \$25 or \$50 ea. [ Qty. _____ ]	\$ _____
Prevent a Litter Plus (PAL+) Fund	\$ _____
Smitten with Kittens Monthly Membership (\$5-\$200/mo.)	\$ _____
Pay a Kitty's Rent for a Month (\$60)	\$ _____
Sponsor a Kitty's Adoption Fee (\$1-\$50)	\$ _____
Adopt-A-Cage (includes plaque, \$365)	\$ _____
Clinic Champion (includes plaque, \$250 toward medical equipment)	\$ _____
General contribution toward operating expenses	\$ _____

If donating by credit card:

Visa/MC Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a payment for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 My contribution is on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you! 