



CAT ANGEL NETWORK



Together, we CAN make a difference!

PO Box 3071, Stowe, PA 19464 - Phone (610) 327-6870 - Fax (610) 327-6878 - email jaysing@aol.com - visit our website at www.catangel.org

Announcing Our Upcoming Auction ~ October 24th

CAT ANGEL NETWORK 2010/11 Board of Directors

Charlotte Jay, *President*

Elaine Richert, *Vice-President*

Linda Petro, *Treasurer*

Henry Grabb, *Director of
Development / Secretary*

Kirsten Byrd

Ann Kunsch

*The Veterinary Advisor
to the Board is*
Dr. Denise Atkinson Hall



MISSION STATEMENT

- 🐾 *To prevent the suffering of abandoned cats through rescue, spay/neuter, medical care, shelter, and adoption to approved homes.*
- 🐾 *To educate the public about the proper care of cats, the importance of spaying and neutering, and the benefits of adopting shelter cats.*
- 🐾 *To operate as a no-kill, all volunteer, non-profit organization.*



WHAT'S INSIDE

Announcing Our Auction. 1
 New Website 1
 Pet Trusts 2
 Meet Our Volunteers 2
 Ask Angel 3
 Donate Your Car 4
 Holly Spays Helpers Needed 4

Mark your calendar today for our upcoming auction on Sunday, October 24th. If you haven't attended one of our auctions, you really should make an effort to come this year. With bargains galore, excellent food, and a room filled with cat lovers, the event is always fun, fun, fun! There is no pressure to buy, but few can resist the wonderful bargains and great opportunities to do a little holiday shopping.

We are most fortunate to have Bud and Annette Smith from Smith Auction Gallery running the live auction. They make bidding fun and easy for the novice auction attendee!

Auction FAQs

When and where is the event? The date is Sunday, October 24th from 2-5 p.m. The silent auction runs from 2-3 p.m. with the live auction beginning at 3 p.m. The event will be held at the West Chester Senior Center, 530 East Union Street, West Chester (www.wcseniors.org). There is a great map on the Senior Center website.



Noah models a lovely artisan quality necklace donated for the auction.



High "steaks" bidder arriving incognito at last year's auction.

Where do I get tickets? The price of admission is \$20 per person, which includes delicious hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. There are no physical tickets. Just fill out the form (see page 4) and return it with your check/cash, or go to our website where you can purchase admission using PayPal. Your name will be on a list of attendees, so you will only need to check in at the door. We strongly encourage making reservations in advance and appreciate receiving your reservation coupon purchase or PayPal payment by October 18th. After that date, please call or email Henry to reserve admission to the event.

(cont'd on page 4)

New Website Unveiled

We are pleased to announce that our redesigned website is ready for "prime time". The new site features a cleaner, more professional look and retains all the functionality of the old site, including online forms for adoption applications, surrender requests, and volunteer applications, and pictures and mini-biographies of some of our adoptable cats. Other sections are being expanded. The full newsletter archives and all the Ask Angels articles can now be viewed online. We're also expanding our "Happy Endings" section, which features pictures of former Cat Angel kitties in their new homes. Please visit us online at www.catangel.org!

PET TRUSTS – Plan Ahead for your Kitty’s Future

Have you given any thought to Fluffy’s future in the event that she were to outlive you? We don’t like to think about that possibility but the spirit of it is actually very responsible. Deciding who you would want to take care of your beloved pet not only makes sense, but it gives you the assurance that Fluffy will be well taken care of in your absence.

If you know your family and friends are not the best people to care for Fluffy (even if they’re willing), you should probably consider a Pet Trust. You arrange with the person of your choice to take Fluffy into their care and designate funds from your estate to go to that person for Fluffy’s care. You should consult with your lawyer concerning the various types of legal trusts which you can consider.

In the event that your options do not include someone whom you would entrust with Fluffy, there are many wonderful organizations who will care for Fluffy as you request in your Pet Trust. Some people prefer to have the organization find

a loving home where their pet can become part of a new family, while others opt for the security of a retirement home or sanctuary where your pet will be forever cared for and looked after as a retiree.

If a pet organization is the best option, make sure they are highly reputable. Learn what their criteria is for matching your pet with the right family and home. If you do choose an organization, it’s a good idea to leave funds for them in a pet trust. Some facilities require a fee to take your pet, while others rely on donations. In any case, you want to make sure they have the funds to care for your pet.

People in their golden years are generally much better at looking ahead and planning for the care of their pets, while those of us who can’t yet get senior discounts don’t even like to think about such things. But, no matter how young and healthy you are, it’s important to have a plan in place for your pets. Not only does it ensure that your pet would be well cared for, but it keeps

your family from having to decide where Fluffy will live. You know your pet best, so you’ll feel better if you make the decisions about her future.

If you are interested in setting up a trust for your cat with Cat Angel Network and would like to discuss details, please email jaysing@aol.com. 🐾



Meet Our Volunteers

Midge Huss is well-known to many of our long-time volunteers as “the bottle baby lady”, a job she says is both exhausting and rewarding. Imagine playing mother round the clock to a litter of six, seven, or more hungry, growing baby kittens every day!

After 16 years as a nurse in the field of clinical psychology and ten years in substance abuse management, Midge finally “retired”. She had been rescuing “on her own” for quite a while when she was asked by a neighbor to help with a kitten who was abandoned by its mother. Sadly, Midge lost this kitty because “I didn’t know what to do”. But a local vet, whose advice she sought was impressed with her determination and asked if she’d like to try again. Enter three-day-old “Beanie Baby” who is now seven years old and one of many residents in the Huss household.

Midge came to the attention of CAN when she was overheard discussing her “babies” by two volunteers. By this time she had developed a rather expensive habit and was happy to join forces with CAN. In addition to her “babies” her household includes a 13-year-old dog who is just a bit less tolerant these days of kittens crawling over him and Felix, a CAN kitty with cerebellar hyperplasia. In addition, Midge sometimes fosters special needs cats and those who need more intense socialization and she is well acquainted with the term: “foster failure”.

Midge loves spending time with her close-knit family in Vermont and for the first time in five years her vacation will not involve transporting and feeding babies. While fostering and socializing needy cats and kittens is time and labor intensive, talking with Midge you feel what a labor of love it is for her.

Sharon McElroy is one of those people who, while working quietly “behind the scenes,” makes a huge impact. In the two years she has been volunteering at our Cat Angel shelter, Sharon has become invaluable, always the dependable “go to person” and was recently appointed an official shelter trainer due to her reliability and excellence at what she does.

Although her Mom passed away in 1988, she remains close to her Dad who lives in Alabama. Sharon enjoys going out with her close friends but her main hobbies are volunteering with CAN and maintaining her lovely home which she enjoys after many years of apartment living.

Sharon has spent most of her adult years working in the pharmaceutical industry, presently with GSK. Although she’s owned many animals over the years, cats just worked better in apartment living. She initially applied to CAN to adopt a kitty who had just been adopted to another family. She then adopted Maddie from the SPCA but came back to CAN and decided to volunteer at the shelter so she could “play with more cats.” She calls the shelter a “sanctuary”, a place to get away from the stress of daily life. At home, in addition to Maddie she has Phoebe, her oldest, Winston who came from a coworker and Asher a CAN kitty. Long term CAN foster kitties include Arby and Chyna Doll. Her most recent experience involves fostering a litter of six kittens for the first time. Bet she’ll soon have some interesting stories to tell!

For Sharon, meeting and working with an organization of wonderful, caring people who truly want to help animals is of major importance to her. In the future she’d like to see more legislation to support people who work with and care for animals. 🐾

Ask “Angel”



Life Can Be Sweet With Multiple Cats

QUESTION: I adopted two cats from Cat Angel Network a number of years ago and enjoyed them so much that I have since added several more. They bring so much joy to my life, but there are some challenges in having a multiple cat household run smoothly. I've visited your shelter, and it's amazing how harmoniously the cats co-exist and how tidy and odor-free all the rooms are. How do you do it? Do you have some tips or secrets for making it work?

ANSWER: There's a saying, "Cats are like potato chips – You can't have just one!" We kitties love that saying because we enjoy having companions, and we're glad that the folks at CAN like that statement, too. With the cat overpopulation situation being what it is, they have had to make life with multiple cats work, and over the years, they've discovered some secrets that make it look easy. Here are some indispensable tips that help keep our "suites" sweet:

Tip #1 – Sterlite 58 quart clear storage containers

These sweater/storage boxes, available at most discount department stores, make excellent inexpensive litter boxes. They are roomy enough for the largest cat, and being clear, the cat can see another kitty approaching. Many cats in multi-cat situations dislike covered boxes because there is only one way in and one way out. With the Sterlite containers, this problem is avoided. The boxes are 12" high, so litter-scatter is minimized! Also, the slick surface of the plastic is VERY easy to clean.

Usually we have at least two of these containers side by side. Cats like options for urination and defecation, with some cats using a different box for each. Also, it's nice to have alternative porta-potties, if one is occupied

Tip #2 – Equine Fresh Pine Pellets

This inexpensive horse bedding makes excellent litter. It comes in 40 lb. bags sold at Tractor Supply stores for under \$7.00 a bag. You use a SINGLE layer of pellets (no deeper) in each litter box. It is absorbent, nice-smelling, and doesn't track much.

You must get the cats used to these large pellets VERY gradually by including it with the old litter at first, very slowly adding more of the

pellets to the ratio. Some cats never adjust to these pellets, especially if they have used the fine sand-consistency litter for many years. If even one of your kitties balks at using this litter after the slow introduction, go back to your previous litter. This is a great alternative litter for the right situation, but it is not worth having a cat boycott the litterbox.



Tip #3 – Cat trees

Although these can be a bit expensive, cat trees that are five or more feet high are indispensable in adding quality vertical space to even the smallest room or home. With multiple perches, climbing opportunities, and scratching areas, these multi-purpose pieces of cat furniture give cats the feeling that they have a space of their own. The shy kitties, especially, like the high perches to "get away from it all." And kitties that have furniture of their own spend less time putting their adorable little hairs on ours

Tip #4 – Slicker brushes

Slicker brushes are grooming tools with soft metal "bristles," sold at any pet store. They are designed to remove TONS of cat hair, and most cats really enjoy being brushed with one of these. In addition, we've discovered that these brushes remove cat hair from carpeted and cloth surfaces like nothing else we've ever found!

So these inexpensive little wonders are used to remove hair from our cat trees, scratching posts, bedding, etc. Our volunteers enjoy competing against each other by seeing who can make the biggest "cat" out of the hair they've collected off the cat trees! (If anyone out there knits and has a use for all this cat hair, let us know!)

Tip #5 – Vinyl or laminate flooring

If you are remodeling a room or replacing flooring and you have multiple pets, give serious consideration to these wonderful flooring options that make cleaning a breeze. The new products resemble natural wood and stone so closely that you actually have to reach down and touch them to tell the difference from the real thing! Although carpeting and rugs have their appeal to some home-owners, there is no denying that they hold odors and are hard to clean completely. Even the best behaved pets get sick or old, and accidents happen. And an incompletely-cleaned accident can be a calling-card for further indiscretions. All of the foster homes that have gone with this type of flooring say they love, love, love it. "Best thing we ever did."

Well, there you have it – our secrets are out! We have others, but these are our TOP FIVE! Some are inexpensive, some not, but they all help cat-lovers to enjoy the company of their kitties. And isn't enjoyment the reason why we have pets?



Announcing Our Upcoming Auction ~ October 24th

(cont'd from page 1)

Tickets at the door will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

Dress? We suggest "business casual."

How can I help make this event a success? If you would like to contribute a new item for the auction, please contact Henry. Also, we could use help advertising the event. We can send you a flyer to print out via email. In addition, we would love to have a business or individual donor cover the cost of the Senior Center. This expense is \$350.00. If you would like to cover this cost, please contact Henry.

What type of items are acceptable for the auction? Gift baskets, restaurant gift certificates, jewelry, items of value, and bottles of wine to name a few. If you would like to have us purchase an item at wholesale from Pure Country Weavers and list you as a donor, please contact Henry.

What is the deadline to donate items? The deadline is October 6th. After that date, we may still be able to take high quality items that will bring a good price at the auction.

What payment is accepted at the event? Cash and check only. Absolutely no credit cards.

If you have questions, please contact: Henry Grabb – catangelpa@aol.com (or call 610-873-0430)

Thank you for your continued support!

Cat Angel Network 2010 Auction Reservation Form

Please return this form with your check payable to Cat Angel Network.
Your name/s will be included on the Reservation list at the door.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

I have enclosed a check for the amount of \$ _____ for _____
Reservations at \$20 each.

I have enclosed a check for the amount of \$ _____ as a donation.

Reservation purchases cannot be refunded. If, for some reason, you are unable to attend the auction, please consider your reservation purchase to be a donation.

Please make checks payable to **Cat Angel Network** and mail to:
Cat Angel Network, P.O. Box 3071, Stowe, PA 19464.

Donate Your Car

Through www.DonationLine.com, you can donate your car to Cat Angel Network with a few easy steps. Simply go to the website, or call 1-877-227-7487 to find out if your car is eligible for donation. Most cars are eligible even if they are not running. Generally, DonationLine will accept cars that they can sell at a wholesale auction for more than the cost of towing and processing. The process is easy and painless, and most of our car donors have reported that their vehicle was picked up within a few days! In addition, since DonationLine is a national company, your friends and family members outside of this area are eligible to donate cars to Cat Angel Network as well. Since we began this program last year, we have had a steady stream of car donations from across the country. Car donation is an outstanding way to help Cat Angel Network and remove the stress of dealing with selling a car that you are no longer using.



Holly Spays Helpers Needed

Starting around Thanksgiving, we will be preparing for our annual Happy Holly Spays/ Happy Neuter Year Fund Drive. As all but our newest readers know, this annual fund raiser is an opportunity for our friends to give a holiday gift of one spay, one neuter, or both to Cat Angel Network. By helping to stop the unending flow of newborn kittens, your donations to Holly Spays help reduce the number of unwanted cats in our area. As I am sure our astute readers are aware, just one unaltered female cat and her offspring can produce thousands of cats and kittens in just a few years.

This year, we are asking for your help in spreading the word about our Holly Spays program. If you are willing to pass out or mail Holly Spays cards to your friends and family, please contact us by email at cscdpeach2@aol.com or jaysing@aol.com for a supply of cards. Your friends and relatives who never know what to buy you for Christmas or birthday gifts might be happy to make a donation in your name. Please include the number of cards you want. You might decide to slip the card and envelope into holiday mailings, pass out at work, or even tell others that the best present they could give you this year would be to help Cat Angel Network control the overpopulation of cats and kittens through spay/neuter.

Your help could multiply our Holly Spays donations this year and thus go a long way to improve the quality of lives for our beloved cat friends in this area. 🐾

