



CAT ANGEL NETWORK



Together, we CAN make a difference!

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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.*



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2017 CAN Auction To Be Held Sunday October 29th

If you have attended one of our auctions in the past, you already know what a great time we have! Last fall, over 100 friends of Cat Angel Network helped us raise over \$14,000 to help with our rescue efforts. The auction featured fifteen silent auction tables and a great variety of live auction items, excellent food, a raffle, and lots of fun for all who attended.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this year's auction slated to be held on Sunday October 29th in Griffith Hall at the Ludwig's Corner Fire Company in Chester Springs. We hope that you will come and enjoy the fun while helping us with to continue with our mission.

If you would like to participate in this year's auction by providing one or more new items or by volunteering to help in any way, please contact Henry at catangelpa@aol.com or call or text him at 484-947-3684.

If you own a business and would like to have a business card sized advertisement in our auction brochure, please send a donation of \$100 or more to Cat Angel Network, Attention: Auction Advertisement, PO Box 3071 Stowe, PA 19464. As an additional benefit, your advertisement will also appear on our website.

Watch for our auction mailing in early September or visit our website after Labor Day for more information. 🐾



2016 silent auction and refreshments

Adoption "Tails": The Best Thing I Did in 2016!

Adopter Kim Mitchell shares her story of Max's recent adoption

As I was sitting here the other day thinking about where the time had gone, I began reminiscing about what I had done in 2016. As I began to process these thoughts, I looked down at the beautiful little beast lying belly up like an otter sound asleep... my big boy kitty Maxwell. Max looked so content and happy sleeping there on my bed. I couldn't believe I was so lucky to find Max and bring him into our family through the wonderful Cat Angel Network. Overwhelmingly, adopting Max was the BEST thing I had done in 2016.

There's a little backstory here though. In September of 2015, we lost our oldest cat Smokey. He lived to the remarkable old age of 23 (we got him as a kitten at 10 weeks). He was an only cat and that's the way he liked it. When Smokey was 16, we decided to get another cat as Smokey was up there in years, and it might make his passing a little less devastating. Enter Eddie Spaghetti, a huge black Persian.

Meanwhile, there was a beautiful male tabby cat that lived in our country neighborhood that we had been desperately trying to capture for EIGHT years. The weekend of Hurricane Sandy I opened

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Meet Our Volunteers

Most long term volunteers eventually find their special niche in Cat Angel Network. In the case of **Marie Schauder**, finding her place happened almost immediately when she started volunteering at the shelter in March of 2015. We quickly recognized Marie's special talents, and by the end of the year she became the official shelter trainer. In this capacity, Marie presents an Orientation and Introduction Meeting to familiarize new trainees with shelter information and completes all training of new volunteers.



It is no surprise that Marie, who was born in Wilmington and grew up in Newark, Delaware, shines when working with and mentoring both people and animals. Marie's family raised "field trial" beagles and although they did not have cats, she grew up with a love for all animals and considered becoming a veterinarian.

After graduating from Christiana High School, Marie attended the University of Delaware, graduating with a B.A. in Criminal Justice and Sociology. In her senior year she was selected as a Resident Assistant which lead to her current career path in Student Affairs. After two more years of study, Marie obtained a M.ED in

Student Personnel and College Counseling. She also met her husband, Joe at the University of Delaware. They married in June of 1986 and have two grown children, Keith and Krista.

On July 1, 1987, Marie started working at Villanova University as Assistant Director for Staff Training and Development in the Residence Life Office. She has been at Villanova for 29 years and currently holds the position of Associate Director for Housing Services and Residence Operations.

In the fall of 1999, the Schauders got their first cat, Miss Alleycat and 2 years later to provide a companion, Miss Patches joined the family. Mr. Stripes came in 2004, shortly after the loss of Miss Alleycat. Miss Patches is now 14 and Mr. Stripes, 12. As a result of Marie's volunteering, two family members have adopted CAN kitties - Widget in January 2016, and Dot and brother Clark in February 2017.

Marie has many varied interests. For 10 years she helped her husband run "Boyertown Storm" a travel softball team and has been involved with parent organizations, football, and boys and girls basketball at Boyertown High School. She was also involved with fundraising and tailgating activities at Lehigh and Kutztown Universities when her children were students. Marie has performed in several musical theater productions at the Barn Playhouse in Jeffersonville and has been a member of the St. Aloysius and St. Columbkil church choirs.

With her varied background and people skills, there is no doubt that Marie found the perfect niche as a volunteer. CAN and our kitties are lucky to have her. 🐾

As a new volunteer, in order to become familiar with the entire adoption process, **Paula Kreiser** helped with all shifts at the Downingtown PetSmart store. She began volunteering with CAN in 2008 and quickly found that her favorite times were Sunday mornings and closing on Saturday evenings. These days, when she brings her foster kitties to weekend adoptathons, she often stays around to chat with the customers. Potential adopters are always thrilled to have an opportunity to chat with a kitty's foster mom or dad. Frequently, the extra time Paula spends has produced successful adoptions of one or more cats.



In 2012 while unemployed, Paula found her passion in fostering, starting with nine stray kittens from West Chester. Two of those kittens, BJ and Kahona, became Paula's first (but not last) foster failures. Shortly thereafter, Willy from Gap, and Mr. Wilson from Downingtown joined Paula's gang. Currently, Paula works with other CAN volunteers trapping in Downingtown

Paula was born and raised in Harrisburg, PA but has called several other cities home over the years, including Denver, Seattle, Memphis, Tennessee and Owings Mills, MD. Currently she lives in Coatesville near her 97 year old father, big sister, son, daughter-in-law, grandson and granddaughter. Paula's son and his family adopted a CAN kitten they named Donut.

Besides fostering, Paula enjoys sewing, managing her business, Granny's Pet Products, renovating her retirement home in Shippensburg, and volunteering with Lend A Hand, a program that assists home owners with limited finances to recover from natural disaster damages. When not busy with CAN and hobbies, Paula works full time for Bentley Systems in Eagleview as a Payroll Specialist. 🐾



CAN volunteers at 2016 picnic



Ask “Angel”



“MY CAT DOESN’T ALWAYS USER HER LITTERBOX. WHY?”

QUESTION: My cat doesn’t always use her litter box. Why?

ANSWER: Glad you asked! We kitties want you to know that when one of us has an “accident,” there’s always, always a reason. Our species is programmed to “go” in loose material so something has to be very wrong for us to go against this instinct.

Sometimes it has to do with the box and litter itself. In the wild, cats always choose a fresh, clean new area for potty purposes. At the shelter we have a choice of several litter boxes in scattered locations. Then if one is “occupied” or if “Bully Billy” is blocking the way, we have an alternative. The litter boxes are BIG, clear, 58-quart plastic storage containers filled with about 2 inches of UNSCENTED litter. We don’t like using the brand that’s on sale after we’ve gotten used to our favorite litter. Our personal staff, i.e., the volunteers, keep the boxes nice and clean by ALWAYS scooping twice a day. Sometimes they even try to scoop while we’re still in there! This annoys us.

If all is well with our boxes, the two other reasons that cause us to go against our instincts

are PAIN and STRESS/FEAR. PAIN is caused by urinary crystals that form in the urine and REALLY hurt when we go. Some kitties start avoiding the box because they feel pain when they urinate in there. If this is the case, PLEASE TAKE YOUR KITTINY TO HER VET FRIEND IMMEDIATELY!

STRESS is caused by change or turmoil in the house (new person or baby, moving, fighting, divorce, etc.). We cats are VERY sensitive creatures and, although we may not always show our feelings on the outside, sometimes we are really upset and stressed inside. FEAR is caused by aggressive pets, loud noises, rough kids, etc., that make us afraid to go to or into our box. This is why some kitties don’t like a COVERED litter box. There’s only one way in and one way out. TRAPPED WITH NO ESCAPE ROUTE!

The good news is that there IS an effective way to get us back in harmony with our natural instincts. The bad news is that you are going to have to show some TOUGH LOVE in retraining kitty to the box by confining her to a bathroom or dog cage for three weeks, minimum. This is a case of “It’s going to be a lot harder on you than on me,” because most owners do not like the

idea of confining their beloved pet to a bathroom or dog cage for THREE FULL WEEKS to get her back to good habits. Bad habits take time to form, and it takes time to get back to “the box and ONLY the box! Naturally, any problems with the litter (sometimes a kitty has a preference for a different kind of litter), number of boxes, health, or stressful/fearful situations must be addressed before we are given gradual freedom outside the bathroom or cage.

Actually, being confined should NOT be viewed as a punishment for us. It is actually the most loving gesture an owner can make to a treasured pet, the opportunity to keep what is most important to a cat, her home and family. 🐾



The Best Thing I Did...

(cont’d from page 1)

the front door, set down food, and in he came. We named him Envy, and he enjoyed a healthy, comfortable existence until last April. In February, 2016, his body finally started to give out; he went blind and was failing rapidly. We made the decision to have poor Envy euthanized as his ailments were beyond his body’s capacity. Poor Eddie was beside himself. I felt bad for him, but losing two cats in less than 12 months made me reluctant to even think about getting another.

That was the case until the day I went to the PetSmart in Downingtown! I looked at all the kitties and spoke with an adoption center volunteer, but I still resisted. I went back a couple of weeks later and had my 2 grandsons with me. While the boys were playing with a kitten named Oscar, I turned around to look at the cage behind me, and there he was! It’s was one of those moments when everything just lines up the right way. His name was Max, the rescue recommended Max Cat food, and I represent Max Cat through Mars Petcare, NA. How many more signs did I need? I turned around and

said “Sorry boys, Oscar will find a home - he’s young. THIS is the kitty I want.” He was a big tabby boy with a giant head and a squinty eye.



Max

He reminded me so much of Envy I couldn’t believe it. I filled out the application and left the store feeling very anxious and almost afraid to be optimistic. I thought for certain someone else would get him, and then I’d be disappointed.

Two days later on Monday, I got a call from Elaine (CAN’s Adoption Coordinator) and she explained that Max had had several operations on his eyes because when Cat Angel Network found him, he had a painful condition where the eyelids and eyelashes are turned inwards,

constantly irritating the surface of his eyes. He was now pain-free and ready for adoption. At the end she asked me if I’d like to pick Max up on Thursday.

I went to PetSmart everyday between Monday and Thursday and stared at him through the glass. He not only looked like Envy, but he was also a fastidious groomer just like Envy, cleaning between every toe and not missing a spot. I really felt like we were meant for each other.

Thursday came, and I loaded my carrier into the car and headed to the PetSmart. I thought he might have difficulty adjusting to his new situation and was prepared to give him time and space. Once at home, I brought him into the house, opened up the door, and out he came. Within 20 minutes he was lying on the den carpet stretched out, requesting a belly rub. I had to take a picture of him and post it to the Cat Angel Network Facebook page!

Eight hundred belly rubs later, here we are. Max has made his way into our family like he’s

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A Lot of Littles

Every cat that comes to Cat Angel Network has a tail and a tale. While some are the lucky unborn kittens of a pregnant mother cat who was abandoned, others were deserted by their owners for reasons ranging from heartbreaking situations to unimaginable acts of selfishness. As our loyal adopters and supporters, we know you count on us to find a forever home for each cat or kitten that comes into our care. Please share in our commitment by recommending us to friends and family who will be outstanding pet parents, by supporting our events, and by donating when you can.

A Lot of Littles is a Lot
A thousand beans can fill a pot
We all can do what one cannot
A lot of littles is a lot!

At this time of year, we ask each newsletter recipient to make a donation of any size. Many years ago, we adopted a little ditty for this fund drive, and while we have used it many times, it remains an essential element of our mission. Please fill out the coupon enclosed with this newsletter and add a bean, or perhaps a whole bunch of beans to the pot. Only with your support can Cat Angel Network continue to succeed and thrive!

To donate visit our website (www.catangel.org/meow/lotsoflittles) or mail your donation to Cat Angel Network.



Max relaxing in his forever home



Our goal for this summer's "Lots of Littles" fundraiser is to have 300 of our loyal friends donate. Your donation helps us to provide food, shelter, and veterinary care for hundreds of cats like Max (at left), whose adoption story is featured in this issue. Together, we CAN make a difference!



18th Cat Concert Raises \$6500

This year's cat concert, held on March 5th at West Chester University, raised over \$6,500. We were very fortunate to have the Kennett Symphony Children's Chorus the West Chester University Chamber Winds, vocal and piano soloists, and an oboe trio! With much of the concert accompanied by video, audience members enjoyed a fun afternoon. Next year's cat concert will be held on Saturday April 28th at 3 PM in the Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre at West Chester University. We hope you will join us and be part of the fun. 🐾

The Best Thing I Did...

(cont'd from page 3)

always been here. When I'm away he tells me everything that happened while I was gone, leaving out no details. He knows how to sit for treats, loves his Perfect Portions wet food, drops in front of anyone shamelessly for a belly rub, and is never far from where I am. He sleeps in bed with us and is about the best cuddler you could ask for. He's not much on being picked up (yet), but I know that he loves me. It's the best thing I've done this year because he makes me happy, and I know that he's happy. He truly is the love of my life, and I'm praying that we have many healthy years together.

My whole experience with CAN and getting Max was nothing but positive and satisfying. Max's foster mom must have had a hard time letting him go, I know I would have. Mrs. McNally, wherever you are... you did great!

Thanks so much for letting me share our story. Best wishes for continued success and many thanks for the things that you do to ensure these kitties are loved and taken care of. 🐾

Cat Angel Network 2017 "Lots of Littles" Campaign

Please select a category for giving. All donations are 100% tax deductible. Cat Angel Network is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

- Paw Prints \$5 to \$9
- Tuna Helper \$10 to \$19
- Tail Wagger \$20 to \$29
- Cat's Meow \$30 to \$49
- Cat Angel \$50 or more



Thank you for your contribution!

Name _____

Address _____

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Please make checks payable to **Cat Angel Network**, and mail to:

Cat Angel Network, P.O. Box 3071, Stowe, PA 19464

Or donate online at catangel.org.