



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.*



CONTENTS

Auction Announcement	1
Meet Our Volunteers	2
A Cat's Love	2
Senior Cat Feature	3
Donate Your Car	4

Announcing Our Upcoming Auction ~ October 27th

Mark your calendar today for our upcoming auction on Sunday October 27th. If you haven't attended one of our auctions, you really should make an effort to come this year. With both silent and live auctions, 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 will have many terrific donated items available for auction.

We are most fortunate to have Bud and Annette Smith from Smith Auction Company running the live auction once again this year. Their down home style and sense of humor make bidding easy and fun for the novice auction attendee as well as for the experienced, seasoned auction enthusiast!

Our silent auction tables are always very popular with a wide range of offerings, including many items that make great holiday gifts. It's always fun, challenging and exciting to be the winner of that special item you were competing for.



One of the great advantages of attending our auctions is the opportunity to meet and greet other cat enthusiasts, many of whom are adopters of CAN cats. There's never a dull moment and you'll be looking forward to becoming a regular attendee for years to come.

When and where is the event? The date is Sunday, October 27th from 2-5 p.m. Registration begins at 1:30, and those arriving early can start bidding on silent auction items as soon as they arrive. The event will be held at the West Chester Senior Center, 530 East Union Street, West Chester (www.wcseniors.org). From 202 take the Westtown Road exit headed west. Go 7/10th of a mile and turn left onto East Union Street. Senior Center is 4/10ths miles ahead on your left. There is a great map on the senior center website.

Where do I get tickets? The price of admission is \$20 per person in advance (by October 20th), and \$25 at the door, or Oct 21st-26th. Admission includes delicious hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. There are no physical tickets. Just fill out the form in this newsletter 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 ticket purchase in advance and appreciate receiving your ticket return coupons or Paypal payment by October 20th. After October 20th, our website will indicate whether or not tickets are available. Due to room capacity, we are only able to sell 150 tickets. 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, advertising the event and encouraging others to attend is a very important way to ensure good participation and sales of our items. We can send you a flyer to print out via email if you contact us and request it.

(cont'd on page 4)

Meet Our Volunteers

Although **Elizabeth Starr** is truly an international traveler her heart remains firmly planted in Pottstown where she spends her “free” Sundays helping to find homes for Cat Angel Network kitties at our PetSmart weekend adoptathons.



Elizabeth grew up in Thorndale and graduated from Coatesville Area High School but comes by her ability to adapt to a traveling life style naturally. Her parents are both from England and there were frequent moves between Pennsylvania and California during the years her father worked for Lockheed Martin.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, Elizabeth worked for AmeriGas and Reynolds Metal Company before settling into her present job as Human Resources Director for QlikTech, a company that works with data transformation for businesses internationally. Elizabeth's territory covers Canada, North America, Latin America, and Europe, offering her the opportunity for frequent travel to Brazil, London, Paris, Sweden, Denmark, Spain and other countries. When she returns home to Elverson, Elizabeth is happy to spend her time unwinding with her eight indoor kitties and five feral cats.

Growing up with only dogs as pets, Elizabeth had no experience with cats when she took in the little orange guy who came to her door, but she quickly learned as more needy cats found their way to her. When her friends had taken in all the rescued cats they were willing to care for, Elizabeth decided she should find a rescue to work with. She volunteered with another organization for a while and finally came to CAN about eight years ago. Elizabeth's cat allergy does not prevent her from loving and caring for them any more than her dust allergy prevents her from living with dust.

Elizabeth often fosters and sometimes adopts older or less adoptable cats. She says “she learns something from every cat” and “finds being the bridge between a cat's old life and their new life in a loving home very rewarding.”



When her young daughter Linnie, a great animal lover, decided she wanted to volunteer with Cat Angel Network, **Chris Koonce** was enlisted as her required parent partner. They became one of the shelter's first mother-daughter volunteer pairs. By the time boys and the activities of a teenage girl took Linnie away, Chris had become a passionate CAN volunteer. She and Sharon McElroy can be found most Saturday mornings feeding, scooping and loving the shelter cats.

Chris moved from Germantown to Plymouth Meeting in kindergarten and graduated from Plymouth-Whitemarsh High School. After a year at Chestnut Hill College she decided that nursing was not the career for her and enrolled in Montgomery County Community College, graduating with an AD in dental hygiene. In 1976 she completed her bachelor's degree and has worked in the field for 37 years. Presently, she is with a family owned dentistry practice in Hatfield.

Chris and husband Bruce live in Limerick. They have two daughters, the oldest recently married. Their home is blessed with three cats and a changing cast of foster kitties. Chris especially loves fostering mothers and babies. BoBo, their sixteen year old cat, just showed up one day at the door and stayed. Ozzie, the five year old, was originally a foster cat who became a member of

the family. One year old Merlin was about ten weeks old when he was found cold, dehydrated, and covered in fleas. It was doubtful he would survive, but with excellent vet care and Chris' TLC, he came around. As often happens with those special kitties, the family fell in love and so Chris presented Merlin to her husband as a “Christmas present.”



Chris has made some great friends in her years with CAN. She's come to realize “the goodness and generosity of people who volunteer” and feels it's “important to continue to spread the word about responsible pet ownership: spay/neuter and committing to a pet for its lifetime.

As an entirely volunteer organization, all of our
our amazing volunteers are the lifblood of CAN

A Cat's Love

by Narah O'Donnell

Over the years I have heard these words many times, “I don't like cats.” These words come from individuals who have never experienced the joy of owning a cat. In my opinion, they have no idea what they are missing, and that statement is truly unfounded. Cats bring companionship, laughter, and unconditional love to the home of every adopter.



Some twenty-two years ago, we brought home a tiny black kitten. She was the first pet we had ever owned, and at the time, we had no idea of the impact this little black fuzzball was going to have on our lives. Brew grew up with our two children from the ages of two and five. She considered herself to be an equal among us, except for my daughter, who Brew believed was below her in the chain of importance. Over

(cont'd on page 4)

Senior Cat Feature

Like Fine Wine, Adopting a Senior Cat CAN be the Best of the Best

by Henry Grabb

My first experience with Cat Angel Network was when I adopted a ten year old small gray cat named Stephanie. I had gone to the shelter looking for a big orange cat, but Stephanie crawled into my lap, batted a cat named Bennie out of the way, and stole my heart. I remember Charlotte asking me if I was aware of her age, and I just remember knowing that she was the right cat for me.

Stephanie had been voted “Most Polite” by the volunteers at the shelter, and she lived up to that every day of her long life. What was amazing about her was that in spite of needing subcutaneous fluids for the last five years of her life, she lived 14 more years after her adoption date. Her little spirit was not about to be cheated out of any possible day living in a loving forever home, and she just kept on ticking!

While adopting a senior kitty can have challenges, there are many rewards that await those willing to make the commitment. These cats are generally over their wild-and-crazy days and enjoy the pleasures of a low-key, peaceful home life, much as many of us do. Most easily and happily fit their quiet, loving ways into the fabric of our daily routine. Contentment for them consists of a cozy bed, a sunlit window, and a lap to crawl into. Many still enjoy playing, and their cute, funny antics make us smile. Like Stephanie, many have years of enjoyment ahead of them and just want someone like us to share these years with them. True cat connoisseurs appreciate “the vintage of a fine, fully-matured wine!”



How have these cats lost their homes?

Some were tearfully given up during difficult times, like the death or long-term hospitalization of an owner, the foreclosure of a home, or the birth of a severely allergic baby. Others were pushed to the side, as children grew up, new spouses moved in, or younger, more rambunctious pets were acquired. The amazing thing is the ability of these cats to adjust. Unlike humans, cats do

not live in the past or the future – they focus on the present and all it has to offer. This is another advantage of adopting a senior cat – they are wonderful and wise teachers of unlocking the secrets of how to live a happy life!

Cat Angel Network has many senior cats that need homes. Here are just a few of those who have been waiting, some for a few months, some for years. More information about each kitty can be found at the Cat Angel Network website, www.catangel.org.



Snowy (M) ~ age 9



Sugar (F) ~ age 12



Hudson (M) ~ age 12



Ruby (F) ~ age 9



Mandy (F) ~ age 9

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(cont'd from page 1)

In addition, we would love to have one or more businesses or individuals cover the cost of the senior center rental. This expense is \$500.00. 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, practical items, jewelry, items of value, and bottles of wine tend to go well at the auction.

What is the deadline to donate items? The deadline is October 13th. 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 484 947 3684)



Samples of the kinds of items we'll feature from the folks at Roxy's Dream and Pure Country Weavers (plus many more items – cat themed and otherwise!)

Thank you for your continued support!

Cat Angel Network 2013 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 (until October 20th; after October 20th, ticket price is \$25).

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

By using DonationLine (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 a number of years ago, 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.



A Cat's Love

(cont'd from page 2)

the years, she attended every party, holiday, and birthday. And as funny as this sounds, Brew would actually pull up a chair to sit around the table with everyone talking. She was incredibly vocal and seemed to always have a lot to say.

Brew will remain forever in our hearts for another incredible reason. She saved my husband's life. Over ten years ago, we were on our way out to go to the movies with the kids. Before we left, Brew began circling my husband's feet while crying and yelling hysterically. We looked down at her and asked what was wrong, assuming it was she who was not well. We left for the movies and returned later that evening. Brew continued to stay close to my husband while yelling. Sometime in the middle of the night, she sat before him crying until he woke up. He was having a heart attack while he slept, at the age of 41. Brew saved him.

Brew passed away a few years ago at the age of eighteen. If you look back at our family photos, you will see her perched among the Christmas presents, knocking around Easter eggs, tied up in birthday ribbon, sitting with company in the dining room, and eating a special plate of food on Thanksgiving. So, I ask you... when you take a cat into your life... who is saving whom?

