



SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER

PO BOX 183164, Shelby Township, MI 48318

Happy Summer One and All,

Hope you are enjoying this summer as much as our cats are out here at the Sanctuary. It is SO beautiful here when our 4+ acres are green and lush. I feel awful to have to tell you that we had to, again, cancel our Open House this year. The few board members who are absolutely crucial to the planning, preparation, and execution of our Open Houses will still not be recovered from surgeries or illness by the rescheduled date of Sept. 11th. If we only had more volunteers we would not be in this position, but we don't, so we have to rely on those we have. Open House next year will be on SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017, anytime between 2-7P. Please mark your calendar and SAVE THE DATE, and please come out to see us and the kitties. And don't forget to bring newcomers with you.

Our kitties are all doing really well. Sadly, two of our older ferals passed away earlier this year, but everyone else is fine. We took in a few ferals as space allowed. As always, we continue to be very busy helping people who contact us about ferals, or socialized cats or kittens that need help but whom we don't take into the Sanctuary since we prefer to find them new homes. For example, a purebred Siamese Cat Rescue group contacted us this year because the cat's owner has terminal cancer and both of the two placements they tried for the cat did not work out. Siamese cats are very sensitive and this kitty was really missing his owner and not adjusting. One of our Board Members took him and is patiently working to calm him down enough to eventually be adopted out. In another case, we helped a lady get several feral cats fixed and vaccinated so she can care for them on her property, and also helped find rescues for this colony's kittens.

I want to draw your attention to a fun, new fund raiser we'd like to try out, "Junk in the Trunk". IF we are to do it we will need enough participants, so please read the details on page 3 and get back to us.



Wahhy are we not allowed in the kitchen??



Finally, I want to mention that we are having a first-ever Wine Tasting fund raiser on October 8th which we announced via email and on Facebook. By the time this issue went to press, we had already received the maximum-allowed 30 RSVPs. But we hope to hold another Wine

Tasting in 2017 and will keep you posted.

As always, none of our efforts to help cats in need would be remotely possible if it were not for the generous, and often repeated monthly, donations we receive from YOU---our dedicated supporters. So I give you each my heartfelt thanks....as surely do the kitties here at the Sanctuary! =^..^=

Lisa
Lisa Koester
Founder and President



SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO PROVIDE US WITH CAT FOOD!

Four years ago CTAS's highest expenditure was for dry and canned cat food, and that is no longer the case. For example, in 2012 we spent \$20,197 on cat food. By 2013, that amount had dropped to \$9,775.04. Then in 2014 there was another huge drop to \$2,107.95. We are thrilled to report that for 2015 the amount spent for dry and canned cat food was \$1,476.02! This is **ALL** thanks to some special people and some special pet stores who have gone out of their way to help us. First and foremost, words can never adequately express our gratitude to CTAS Board Member, **Kelly Tower** and her mother **Betty Tower**, for the INCREDIBLE volumes of cat food they get for us on a regular basis from a variety of sources.



🐾 **Addy Shattuck**, the owner of the Pet Supplies Plus stores in Bloomfield Hills, White Lake, and Commerce Township is another person who goes out of her way to either donate food, hold canned cat food drives at her stores, or give us wholesale discounts on dry and wet cat food. She also hosts our cat food donation barrels at her Bloomfield and White Lake stores. She is also an Advisory Board Member who helps us in a variety of ways.

🐾 **Kathy Caulfield**, deserves a special thank you for all food she gets for us throughout the year at huge discounts through the Pet Food Bank which she coordinates.

🐾 **Mike Palmer**, the owner of Premier Pet Supply at 31215 Southfield Rd. at 13 MI Rd. in Beverly Hills, MI, who donates food and/or provides deep discounts to us. Also, Mike recently expanded and opened 2 new Premier Pet Supply stores with his partners, so THANKS to his partners...

🐾 **Brandon** at the Premier Pet Supply at Beck & Grand River Roads in Novi for hosting a CTAS Food Donation Barrel. 🐾 **Jeff** at the Premier Pet Supply at Rochester & Auburn Roads in Rochester Hills, who although he does not host a food donation barrel for us, he does gather and donate food to a group of animal charities and CTAS is one of them.

🐾 **Samantha** and her team at the PetSmart at Orchard Lake Rd. and 14 Mile in West Bloomfield.

🐾 **Jonathan** and his staff at the PetSmart at Adams Rd. & M59 not only for all the cat food but also for the canned food drive he conducted for us.

🐾 **Kristi** and her team at the PetSmart in Southfield at Telegraph and 12 Mile for adopting Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary as one of their beneficiary charities.

🐾 **Paul** and his staff at the Kmart at Wayne and Cherry Hill Roads in Westland for the deep discounts on food for CTAS.

🐾 **Sandie Maynard** for hosting one of our cat food donation barrels at her Pet Supplies Plus store in Romeo.

🐾 **Scott Slater** for hosting one of our cat food donation barrels at his Pet Supplies Plus store in Milford.

🐾 And last but not least, a HUGE thank you to Lisa's Volunteer, **Steve Legenc**, for picking up and transporting literally "tons" of donated food from all over the place and getting it to the Sanctuary and unloading it! He also helps Lisa in so many other ways, and by doing a lot of chores that involve driving around, he saves Lisa a ton of time which she can then better spend at the Sanctuary caring for the cats!



You can show your thanks to these pet stores by shopping there and/or by buying and donating food to put in our barrels. Let them know you appreciate how they help CTAS. If you know of a pet store that might be willing to host one of our barrels please let us know by emailing us at:

CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com.



Here's a photo FYI of one of our cat food donation barrels which also has a terrific photo collage of the Sanctuary and some of our cats.





ATTENTION: 2016 CTAS OPEN HOUSE HAS BEEN CANCELED AND RESCHEDULED TO SUNDAY JUNE 25, 2017

It is with great disappointment that we must announce that the 2016 Open House, which had already been rescheduled from its usual time in June to Sunday, September 11th, has been canceled altogether. CTAS has a small number of Board Members and Volunteers who can be counted upon to help with special events and fund raisers, and many of them are up in age. As it has turned out, four board members who are vital to the planning and execution of the Open House are either dealing with serious illness, recovery from major surgery, or have to be out-of-town. We know this is a disappointment to many; especially

our new donors who were looking forward to coming out to see the Sanctuary and the cats. But please mark your calendars and **SAVE THE DATE OF SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017** so you can come out to visit us and the kitties. While tours of the Sanctuary take place, we will all enjoy refreshments and the beautiful countryside of our 4 acres together under the shade of our beautiful large trees.



JUNK IN THE TRUNK

We are considering trying out a novel new fund raiser that has been successful recently for other charities, called a "Junk in the Trunk" Sale. Instead of people going to all the labor of having individual Garage Sales at their homes, and then donating proceeds to us, they would instead fill their cars with good items they no longer want and come to a specific spot with free parking for us in the parking lot of the Gibraltar Trade Center in Utica, and put their items on display for sale out of their vehicle's trunk. (Extra items could be in your back seat to be moved to the trunk as you sell off items.) You can bring a folding chair and sit by your trunk and wait for people to come by and see if you have

anything they want to buy. You wouldn't even have to pre-mark prices on items unless you wanted to since you'd be right there all the time to tell them the prices. Soooo easy! But here's the thing: before we decide to do this: **We Need To Hear Back From You As To Whether Or Not You Would Be Willing To Do This On A Saturday And/Or Sunday Sometime Next Spring Or Early Summer** before it gets hot. If you are willing, email us at: CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com; or if you do not have email, phone CTAS Board Member Elaine Savage at 586-212-0024 and let her know of your interest and contact information for future reference. The humane society in northern MI that did this made several thousand dollars and everyone had a lot of fun. We will even provide coffee, beverages, and snacks. **Let's Do This Please! But It All Depends Upon Your Interest.** Thank you!

PLEASE SPONSOR A CAT TAIL KITTY

For the FIRST time ever all four of the cats we featured in our last newsletter found sponsors and now receive monthly donation support toward their care. We are so grateful and wish to thank: **Dr. Irene Metro** for sponsoring Limpy; **Sandra & Patrick Reynolds** for sponsoring Bozo; **Bonni and Harlan Simmons** for sponsoring BlackJack; and **Lisa Tew** for sponsoring Callie!

Now, we hope to find Sponsors for:



Isabella



Mona



Tipper



WISH LIST

We cannot stress strongly enough how badly we need new folks to be:



Cleaning Volunteers, to help us out every so often with special cleaning versus the regular daily cleaning Lisa and Brandi do...so we do not have to depend on the same three volunteers all the time; especially now that two of them are healing surgery and injuries.

CHARITY POKER

Charity Poker Volunteers, so we do not have to keep using the same loyal folks over and over. We depend upon the money we can raise by doing charity poker games four times a year. In the past we have made up to nearly \$10,000 from these fund raisers. Volunteers work in teams of three and it can be a lot of fun.

Please email us at

CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com, or if you do not have a computer, phone 248-807-5576, to find out more about volunteering to help with either cleaning or charity poker, or other ways you can help.



MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Thanks To:

Sue Baker & Diane Bailey, sisters of Gayle LeClerc, for their donation in loving memory of Gayle's beloved partner Gary Vassil who passed over from this lifetime way too soon.

Christine Czedik, for donating in memory of her dear, departed cat companion Spencer.

Bianca Gianopoulous, for her generous donation in memory of her beloved Vinnie.

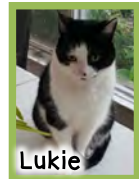
Sandi Giardini, for her donation in honor of her beloved kitty, Lili; and sadly another donation in memory of her beloved Siberian Husky, Luna.

Ellen Piligian, for her donation in honor of her and her late mother's much loved Mr. Gray Tabby.

Gail Reichstein for expressing her condolences to JoAnn and Richard Hochkins over the passing of their beloved 94-year-old Aunt Gladys, (a.k.a. "Sister Caroline" Lennox; JoAnn's late father Leonard's sister).

Gail Reichstein for expressing her condolences to Mila Kapusta and her Family over the loss of their much loved Aunt Betty.

Gail Reichstein for expressing her condolences to Bonni & Harlan Simmons over the loss of their beloved Lukie.



Lukie

Ron Stronczer & Eileen Liska-

Stronczer for their donation in loving memory of Billie Lou & Michael Lamb's beloved kitty Wackit, who passed away too young.

Jacque Wetherholt for her donation in honor and memory of her dear friend Val Binder's beloved cats Annie and Molly.



DO YOU HAVE EMAIL



It really helps us save time and money, as well as greatly facilitates faster and better communications between CTAS and our supporters. For example, supporters without computers missed out on being able to RSVP to our Wine Tasting because we had no way of notifying them in time, and since our printed newsletters only go out three times a year. We also like to send e-letters to donors to thank them every time they send us a donation (not just at the end of the year via snail mail). So **please**, if you have an email address, if you acquire one, or every time you change it, **NOTIFY us ASAP** at: CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com. *Thanks*



SPECIAL DONATIONS



Thanks To:

Hermien & Roland Braitsch; Mary Jane Falls (2x); Don Garlit & Bee Friedlander; and **Sandi Giardini** for wishing Eileen Liska-Stronczer to Get Well Soon.

Cheryl & Greg Culbertson for wishing Eileen Liska-Stronczer a Happy Valentine's Day.

Andreea Hota, for her generous donation from the sale of bracelets she made and sold at the Utica Academy for International Studies School; and thanks to the Academy and Utica School System for allowing her to sell her bracelets there.

Michael & Billie Lou Lamb for wishing Ron Stronczer a Happy Birthday.

Kerry Masters & Bob Anderlik for honoring Eileen Liska-Stronczer who was a great friend to their beloved late mother and wife Chris.

Dr. Irene Metro for her generous donation of the proceeds from the sale of her car!

Gary Phillips and Gene Reeves (formerly Backyard Birds in Plymouth) for helping us get the 'new' trellis (all made out of branches) for the cats to play on in the porch!

Ron Stronczer & Eileen Liska-Stronczer for their donation in honor of Lisa Koester's birthday.

Special Thanks to...



Brian Quinn, Martin Bouma and The Bouma Group (a real estate company in Ann Arbor) for having us participate in their annual online voting contest for selected charities who receive a money gift upon Bouma Group's sale of their 100th home for the year. CTAS came in third in the voting and won **\$1,000!** **THANKS** as well to those who voted for CTAS and made this possible!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



SHOP at KROGER stores (in Michigan only) using a Kroger Rewards Card **LINKED TO OUR CHARITY**. And...you **must renew** that linkage to CTAS once a year every April (or anytime thereafter if you missed it this April).



SHOP at AMAZON.COM using your existing account but linked to us, or by creating a new Amazon account and then linking it to us. We get monetary rewards from TWO Amazon programs: Associates and Smile, so it really adds up and helps us raise funds.

Simple, easy instructions about how to set up your Rewards account at Kroger and link to us; as well as how to link us to your Amazon account, can be found at our website: www.CatTailAcres.com If you need additional help, you can also phone Eileen, the CTAS Chair of Fundraising, at her cell phone, 248-807-5576 to leave a message and she will get back to help you. Thank you VERY much!

Donations of any amount are always needed and appreciated. Please mail them to: Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary, P.O. Box 183164, Shelby Township, MI 48318. You may also go our website www.CatTailAcres.com and use the Donate link that allows you to use PayPal. Just remember they do take a small processing fee out of your donation...unless you specify otherwise with them.

Thank you so much for caring and helping.