



The Feline Network

A Kindhearted Approach to Feline Overpopulation

P.O. Box 526, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

(805) 549-9228

www.felinenetwork.org

Winter 2018

Greetings from our Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

It seems hard to believe, but we are nearing the end of another busy year. Despite the late date, we still have many cats and kittens in our foster network and we are still actively trapping feral cats for spay and neuter.

While our Trap/Neuter/Return program is well known to many, our **Fix-a-Feline** program may not be as familiar. Fix-a-Feline provides discount certificates to residents with financial need in SLO city and the South County to assist them in altering their own cats or stray cats they are caring for. We initiated Fix-a-Feline in early 2006, and through the end of 2017 we helped residents spay and neuter **more than 6000** cats and kittens! Our certificates remain in demand, but our 2018 totals are not yet complete.

As with our other work, Feline Network relies on the generosity of our friends in the community to fund Fix-a-Feline, and it is because of you that the program has been such a success. Thank you for everything you do to support us!

We wish you the happiest of holidays and all the best in the New Year.

The Feline Network Board



From Mew Mew's perspective, the Feline Network is the Cat's Meow.

"Thanks to Fix-a-Feline, I am no longer part of the problem."

Krazy Whiskers and His Long Road Home

By Candice Norcroft



**"Thank you, Candice & Steve,"
for not giving up on me."**

About six years ago we had a neighbor who had 22 unaltered cats. My partner Steve and I were unaware of this until her mate died and she was literally thrown out of the house by his family. Her things were strewn half-way down the driveway. We had an extra room at the time and let her stay, along with her herd of cats. After several months she found a new place to live but only took two of her favorite cats with her. We were overwhelmed with all the cats, but we fed them.

We reached out to the Feline Network. A lovely couple came and trapped the cats two at a time and brought them back to us fixed. With the owner gone, most of the cats scattered into the neighborhood. We ended up with three that stuck around. One was black with white whiskers, and we named him Krazy Whiskers. I am an artist and had a large studio that they had access to day and night. The cats were great company while I worked.

A year and a half ago we bought a home 410 miles away in Magalia,

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HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

November 2017 thru October 2018

We especially thank our Very Generous Donors:

Caroline and Albert Gazin Foundation
T.S. & K.D. Glide Foundation
Bette Kulp

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Anu says “Aloha” to California

By Elaine Genasci



“Mahalo (thank you) for my life.”

I traveled again to Hawaii in September, this time to the Island of Kauai, with the nonprofit Animal Balance on another cat spay/neuter campaign. While performing high-volume surgeries one day, a very small, thin kitten was spayed. After surgery her heart stopped beating and she quit breathing. A veterinarian quickly gave her an injection to reverse the effects of the anesthesia. CPR was performed and she was given oxygen. Amazingly, after three minutes her heartbeat returned and she started breathing again! Unfortunately, the trauma of her near death and resuscitation caused her to lose her sight. The vets felt she would regain some of her sight but probably not all. We named her Anu, which means “cool cat” in Hawaiian.

I offered to take Anu back to SLO, get her healthy and find her a loving home. On the drive home from the airport in San Jose, she seemed very content to lie in the sunshine and groom herself. She was grossly underweight; however, she has been steadily gaining weight and has regained most of her eyesight! She is now ready to find her forever home. If you would like to adopt this island sweetie, please contact Roxanne at (805) 801-5232.

Krazy Whiskers

(Continued from page 1)

CA, a full eight-hour trip. It took several trips to move things up to the new house. In September, with everything loaded into the last truck, we prepared to make the final move. Our three dogs were in my car and three of our cats were in Steve's. But Krazy wasn't having it. He wouldn't go in the carrier and kept running off. We were distraught, but we had to leave him behind.

Our neighbor and contractor, Dana Klaft, was preparing our house for sale. He put food out for Krazy. A month went by. He sent photos to let us know our kitty was eating, but he was unable to catch him. I remembered how kind the folks at The Feline Network were and gave them a call. Trapper John Fleming was happy to come, and he caught Krazy within a couple of days.

Steve jumped in the car right away and drove the 410 miles back to Nipomo. When he arrived he found Krazy in an empty bedroom. Krazy was going nuts, literally climbing the walls to escape, but as soon as he heard Steve's voice he calmed right down and cuddled with Steve. This time he went into the carrier with no problem, and Steve and Krazy began the long journey home. A lot of head bumps later, and several cans of cat food, we could tell how grateful Krazy was to be back with his family. He was skinny, but sooo happy!

Thank you to everyone at the Feline Network! You went over and beyond to help us.



"I'm Krazy for Steve."

A Perilous Time for Buddy

By Lori George



"I must have nine lives!"

"Buddy" is an orange tabby that I would see around my apartment complex. I wasn't sure if he was feral because he kept to himself. When it was chilly, he would climb in the back of a neighbor's convertible (the top was ripped). Fast forward to a cold and rainy day in January 2017, when I came home to see Buddy huddled down under my patio. He greeted me with a very sad sound, "muuuoww." That day, I started to feed him and provided a cat bed for him to curl up in. He began to follow me to the laundry and to neighbors' homes when I visited. He would beg to come in my apartment but my other cat wouldn't accept him.

One morning I heard barking outside (no one here has large dogs), so I looked out my window and saw two very large huskies barking at the wall! My heart dropped. That's where Buddy stays! I ran out the door. Sadly, I was too late. One had Buddy by the head and one had his hindquarters. Buddy was screaming. Not even thinking, I chased them away. Buddy was clearly hurt, but he took off too.

I called Feline Network, and South County trapper Dave Richards set up a trap and finally caught Buddy on the fourth day. He was septic and had horrible puncture wounds. He was unable to walk due to the wounds in his hindquarter. The Feline Network arranged for Buddy's medical care, and he recovered in my spare bedroom. My own cat subsequently passed away, and Buddy now sleeps next to me. The Feline Network is an amazing organization! A true blessing to our community and kitties in need.

Board of Directors

President: Debra Holt

Members of the Board:

Ira Alpert, Christine Collie,
Mary Buehnerkemper,
Randal Husk, Leslie Jarvick
and Darrell Sisk

We Couldn't Do It Without You!

PROVIDERS OF DISCOUNTED SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES AND/OR MEDICAL CARE FOR OUR FOSTERS AND COMMUNITY CATS:

Animal Hospital of San Luis Obispo, Cat & Exotic Care of the Central Coast, Five Cities Veterinary Hospital, Homeward Bound Mobile Veterinary Care, Los Osos Pet Hospital, Woods Humane Society, Laguna Veterinary Care, VCA South County Animal Hospital

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Elizabeth Aebischer & family, Cheryl Barton, Kim Berg & family, Roxanne Bohn, Jennie Bonifacio & family, Jennifer & Michael Clayton, Julie Coleman, Jan Crowe, Lynette Crane, Sue Dailey & family, Patti, Mike & Jade Davis, Carol Dee & family, Annie Dreizler, Elaine Genasci & Dan Andoetoe, Deanie Greenelsh & family, Judith Hasting, Lindsay & Reno Hawley, Tammy & Joe Herz, Christine & Randal Husk, Lauren Juarez & family, Valarie Koos, Sharon & Raimond Kranenburg, Marilee McGregor, Rhonda Myers, Ruth Osburn & daughter, Gay & Dave Richards, Kathy Schwanitz & daughter Julie Mei, Eric, Natalie & Camille Slayter, Benita & Craig Smith, Julie Smith & family, Anna Stewart, Sylvia Torres & family, Pamela Werth & Kevin McCracken, Katrina & Adam Van Conant, Karen White & son Will

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TRAPPERS

Linda Cohen, Lynette Crane, Annie Dreizler, John Fleming, Elaine Genasci, Natalie Grantham, Ellen Nelson, Robin Nichols, Dave Richards, Charmaine Taylor, Alice Welchert

ADOPT-A-CATS

Benita Smith, for organizing, transporting and setting up cages, tables and supplies at Adopt-a-Cats.

NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

Judy Michener and Buzzy Stokes

VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON

Iris Alexandra, preparing gift baskets and decorations
Victoria Wood, donating items for gift baskets

OTHERS

Sally & Jack Adam, donating and delivering feral cat food
Animals in Need Fund and Nipomo Dog and Cat Hospital, for their collaboration with Feline Network in providing low-cost spays and neuters for hundreds of cats and kittens in the South County

Shelby & Karl, website editing & design

Roxanne Bohn, photographing kittens in foster homes for our website, posting them on Craigslist and screening potential adopters

Vanessa Brandt, for turning her many volunteer hours into \$250 grants through Wal-Mart Foundation's *Volunteerism Always Pays* program

The Cal Poly Cat Program, for their assistance in finding homes for some of our rescued cats

Raul Castillo, donating and delivering feral cat food

Lynette Crane, coordinating trapping, rescues & foster homes in the South County as well as answering several of our phone lines

Elaine Genasci, maintaining & updating our Facebook page and rehoming cats from Animal Services

Christine Husk, picking up & sorting Feline Network mail

Lemos Feed & Pet Supply, providing litter at a discounted price and a site for our adopt-a-cats

John Michener/Mediaspring, hosting website

PETCO, providing a site for our adopt-a-cats

Kathy Schwanitz, maintaining and updating the "See Our Cats" page of our website, preparing our New Times ad and layout of our newsletter

Pastor Jason Sisk & United Church of Christ, providing a room for our board meetings

Laura Sisk, bookkeeping services
Sue Smith, for use of her shed for storing our South County supplies

Anna Stewart, for her rescue work and vaccinating and overseeing medical care of many foster cats and kittens in the South County
Charmaine Taylor, transporting supplies to the South County



Karen and her son Will call themselves the "lion tamers." Karen is seen here holding one of her tamed "lions," Calico Cate. Cate was one of the first feral kittens trapped in 2015 when the Feline Network helped spay and neuter cats and kittens in their Halcyon neighborhood. The Whites tamed the six kittens that were trapped, keeping two: Calico Cate and her brother.

The Whites now specialize in taming wild kittens who come out of the traps growling and hissing. Karen puts them in a large wire cage on a table in the 'middle of everything.' "Telephones ring, the TV blares, people talk around the dining table, guests come and go," said Karen. "Kittens quickly tame with 'emersion therapy.'"

The Feline Network is grateful to the Whites for their hard work and patience with these little wildcats and their willingness to come to the rescue whenever called upon.

HEARTFELT THANKS

(Continued from page 2)

Ray & Ginger Bunnell
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 Vera & Richard Hagler

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TO HONOR AND REMEMBER

In Loving Memory of

Judi Carroll, by Susan Huggins

Kevyn Davenport, by Katy & Jay Davenport. *"When my son Kevyn was five, he used \$50 of his Christmas money to adopt an adorable calico kitten, who he named Peanut Butter. He adored that cat. It was his love for many years. Sadly, Kevyn passed away suddenly last year at the age of 30."*

Don Hartley, by Debbie Kraft

Neil Johnson, by the Feline Network, *"in recognition of Neil & Francie's devotion to cats and their many years of support for our work."*

Carol Lemen, by the Ladies Auxiliary F.O.E. No. 4153, Oceano

Dr. Barbara Mori, by Elsa Brody. *"We were friends a long time ago. Bless you all for your dedication to rescuing cats."*

Barbara Mori & Saki, by Judy Saltzman-Saveker

Doris Williams, by Kristin Miller

Donatello, by Kathleen Ann Walker, *"my Feline Network adoptee. He came to us along with his brother Anthony (formerly Tommy) and came to own the house. We lost him a year ago. Anthony, as well as us, still miss him a lot."*

Our bobtail fur baby Linus, by Shawn & Amanda Cassidy. *"We adopted him through the Feline Network in August of 2010. We had an amazing eight years with him until he left us without warning on October 14th. Thank you for fostering him and bringing him into our lives."*

Sweetie, by Beth Wyatt

In Honor of

Cats and Kittens of the Cat's Nest, by Carolee Hunt of the Cat's Nest. *"This is our annual 'thank you' to our clients in their kitties' honor. Love to the babes."*

Elaine McDermott's 9th birthday, by Jennie Bonifacio. *"Elaine is turning nine and has asked for donations for the Feline Network instead of presents. I am very honored to know such a kind little girl! Happy Birthday Elaine! Thank you for helping kitties!"*

In Appreciation of

Roxanne Bohn, by Michole Nicholson. *"This comes with a special shout-out to Roxanne Bohn. She is Awesome! I read her descriptions and photos on Next-Door. She makes me wish I could adopt them all."*

Roxanne Bohn and Carol Dee, by Rindy & Frank Cummings. *"Thank you, Roxanne & Carol, for our kitty Pismo adopted May 2017. We love her. Brings us joy!"*

Lynette Crane, by James & Sandra Wolfe. *"Thanks again for the help with our cats. To John and his trainee Linda, our thanks and gratitude. God bless you for your work."*

Lynette Crane, by Gloria Telecky. *"Thanks for helping me with the Orange Creek kitty. He's adjusted to his new home and older sister quite well. He seems to be very happy. He is a good kitty and we have named him Baxter as he did come to the back door."*

Lynette Crane, by Evelyn Major. *"Thank you for your help with 'Laila'. She's a sweetie!!"*

Lynette Crane & The Feline Network, by Steve & Stacey Avelar. *"A big thank you for helping Callie, who was abandoned in Shell Beach. Thanks to you, we know she is healthy and can stay with us and our other kitties safely. She is already fitting in. Even gave her a bath yesterday. No more fleas and dust, she's a beauty!"*

Debby Holt, by Diane Boyer. *"So nice to receive your kind words and such a great explanation of all that you do for the kitties!"*

Debby Holt & The Feline Network, by Jody Neal. *"I had called several rescue groups about placing that mom and her kittens that my neighbors had left behind. Feline Network was the only one that offered any help at all. Hope donations are rolling in for your work."*

Calendar Girl

A Feline Network alumnus was selected as a calendar girl in the 2018 Page-A-Day Cat Calendar. "We are so proud that our cat was selected from thousands of entries! Cissy's new-found fame hasn't gone to her head. Ha-Ha!!" say parents Doug & Debbie Mitchell."



"I'm more than just a pretty face!"

To Honor and Remember *(Continued from page 6)*

Dave Richards, by Christine Henry. *"Thank you, Dave, for your help with a feral kitten in our neighborhood."*

Janet Windman, by Nancy Heitel and Brian Malk. *"In honor of your new volunteer, a dear friend".*

Shadow Kat, Kubla Kat & Kimba Kat, by David Grant

The Feline Network

by Sheila Eckert. *"Thank you and keep up the wonderful work you do. Spaying and neutering definitely abolishes the death sentence for many cats and dogs by curtailing their over-population."*

by Francie Johnson. *"I want to thank you for helping our sweet babies."*

by Jackie Johnson. *"Thank you for all the things you do for our felines. I can only imagine the endless hours all of you put in. So many cats, and more cats. I have trouble dealing with my own four and the regular visitors."*

by Luanne & James Johnson. *"Rustle (10 yrs old) and Riley (6 yrs old), adopted from the Feline Network as kittens, are doing fine."*

by Glori Keech. *"You people are a rock of hope in this community. Bless your efforts!"*

by Lorna E. Kirk. *"Thank you for your efforts on behalf of all the feral cats and kittens at Windmill Farm."*

by Mary K. Martin. *"Thank you for all you do to make life better for kitties. My little four-month-old (Sushi – now Fergus) is a doll! Very busy and very fun."*

by Linda Rose Meyers. *"Thank you for all you do! You saved five little lives and I appreciate it!"*

by Michelle Shipley. *"Thank you so much for taking the precious little kitty we found and keeping her safe and healthy. You are all wonderful and I am so grateful for you."*

by Marion H. Soltz. *"You are our heroes! Bless you for all you do!"*

HEARTFELT THANKS

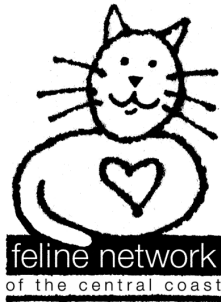
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Return Service Requested

Trappers: First Responders in Cat Rescue

Even as late as October we were still rescuing kittens. These kittens were born to a feral cat that showed up at a feeding station in Oceano. We had known about the cat for awhile, but our trappers were too busy trapping in other areas and had not gotten to her. The kittens might well have perished or grown up feral without our intervention. Instead, they were trapped and taken to a foster home to be cared for and socialized.

Trappers are essential to the work we do. Without them, the feral cat population would soar. We desperately need trappers in Morro Bay, Oceano, Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach. Please call Lynette (805-556-0717) for the South County or Christine (805-544-6138) for Morro Bay and the City of SLO.



"We are very happy to report that we will not be homeless now."