

# The Feline Network

*A Kindhearted Approach to Feline Overpopulation*

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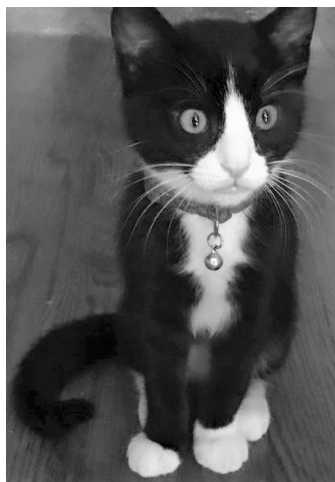
[www.felinenetwork.org](http://www.felinenetwork.org)

Summer 2022

## From Trash to Treasured

by Stephanie Finucane

What would possess someone to dump a tiny kitten in a garbage bag and abandon it in a dumpster like some half-eaten fast food? Leaving a kitten in a dumpster is practically a death sentence...and a particularly heinous act of animal cruelty.



"Whew, that was a close call!"

That's mostly a rhetorical question, because whoever did this will never be caught. Nor will the vast majority of other abusers who abandon animals at the side of the road or drop them off in some remote field under the mistaken impression that they will be able to fend for themselves.

The tuxedo kitten, estimated to be about six weeks old, was found in a dumpster near an automotive business. Luckily, someone heard his cries, hauled him out of the garbage and contacted Linda Cohen of the Feline Network for help.

Sylvia Torres, a volunteer foster "mom," offered to take the kitten into her home, where he joined a litter of foster kittens around the same age. Oscar, the name he was given at his foster home, got medical care, a flea treatment and lots of TLC.

When he was old enough, he was offered for adoption, which is how he came to live at my house. He even came with his own blanket and toys. (Thanks, Feline Network!)

(Abridged version of a story that was printed in The Tribune.)



Stephanie lovingly looks on as Oscar and Archie bond.

## Older Kittens Need Homes Too

If you or someone you know is considering adopting, now is a great time! We are overflowing with kittens! Adoptions have been very slow and new babies keep coming in. Adorable kittens approaching their teenage years that did not get adopted when they were younger are frequently passed over as adopters tend to choose very young kittens. Please help us find homes for our older kittens!



Ollie and Murphy, bonded brothers.

We encourage adopting in pairs, and we always offer a discount for two. However, during August, pairs of kittens four months and older can be adopted for the special rate of two for the price of one! Ollie and Murphy are one such pair. They were born in early April and are bonded brothers that get along well with their foster family's dog and cats. For more information about Ollie and Murphy and other pairs of older kittens, as well as all our cats and kittens available for adoption, please visit our website, our Facebook page, [adoptapet.com](http://adoptapet.com) and [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com).

## TO HONOR AND REMEMBER

### In Loving Memory of

**Herb Holt**, "husband of long-time FN volunteer and board member Debby Holt," by her friends at the Feline Network.

**Herbie Holt**, "who loved cats, all of them!" by Craig & Vicky Johnsen.

**Helene Elizabeth Maroni**, by Clark & Diane Hendrickson. "Prayers for your continued love, rescuing and service for our feline friends."

**Boris**, by Linda Clarke.

**Charlie**, by Jodie Wakefield.

**Cissy**, by Doug & Debbie Mitchell. "We lost our beloved Cissy recently. She blessed our lives since 2008.

And thank Christine for letting us adopt her. We will continue to support Feline Network, and thank all your volunteers for their hard work."

**Oliver HRH**, "and in honor of Roxanne, his awesome foster nanny," by Ruth Laitila.

**Serena**, "a precious little angel kitty," by Yvonne LeGrice"

**Sweet little cat Pinot**, by BethWyatt.

**Sissy Cute Face**, "my sweet adorable ragdoll," by Gloria Telecky.

**Smudge**, by Mary M. Whitson.

**Ted**, by Alice Thorp and Bob Mayberry. "Sad times at our house. We lost our 19 year old boy to a stroke two weeks ago."

**Will Feral and sister Paigie**, by Annie Dreizler.

**Zippy**, by Arlene Nunes-Day. "Thank you for all you do for our babies!"

### In Honor of

**Elaine Genasci**, by Sharon Dobson.

**Elaine Genasci**, by Joni Nelson. "I'd like to thank Elaine. She is terrific. I still feed the feral cats, seven of them. Without Elaine, I can't imagine what we would do. She is amazing."

**Malia Hennings**, by Margot Hennings. "In honor of my granddaughter, one of your volunteers, on her 6th grade graduation".

**Darcy Lazar**, "whose life is to nurture and love kitties," by Rosemarie D. LeRoy. "She makes the world a better place."

**Kristin Perl**, by Karen Rogers. "Kristin was outstanding to work with. She was responsive, thoughtful, thorough and delightful. This gift is in her honor for her valued volunteer work."



Playtime with dedicated foster mom Darcy Lazar.

### In Appreciation of

**Heather Burns**, "for taking care of our cats," by Kristin & Patrick Perl.

**Lynette Crane**, by Vicki Meagher. "Thank you again for the help with Meowser. She is very happy as an inside cat. The lion cut/shave relieved all the painful pulls!

**Kathy Schwanitz**, by Wendy Liepman, "for fostering my adopted cat."

### The Feline Network

by Linda Borders & Vaughn Hasslein, "Cinder sends her love."

by Ken and Melissa Cook. "We love our kitty that was fostered by Feline Network."

by Shelli English. "Thank you for caring for the tuxedo boy now known as 'Moonshine.'"

by Danielle Fogg. "Thank you for all of your help!"

by Marleta Garner. "As always - From the bottom of my heart... Thank you for the work that you do. You are all Angels!"

by Cindy & George Hansen, "in continued gratitude for Sammy, adopted from Feline Network in 2014."

by Sharon Kamm. "Thank you from Daisy, Dearest, Boo, and Gray Kitty too!"

by Marina & Randy Matthews. "We appreciate all the Feline Network folks!"

by Jody & Ryan McLean. "Thank you for all that you do for all the kitties on the Central Coast. It makes our hearts so happy."

by Susan Moore. "Thank you for saving these precious cats."

by Mardell & Bob Perez, "from Willow, Whisper, Meadow, Autumn, Scooter, Bear, YoYo and Mischief."

by Elana Peters. "What wonderful work you do with these intelligent precious creatures!"

by Juliane Roberts. "Thank you for all the good work you do."

by Rosa Rojo. "Thank you for helping the abandoned kittens in Nipomo."

by Suria Zarate. "To all the lovely volunteers, thank you for helping me. It means the world that you were able to keep the mama cat and her babies together. So grateful!"

# Abandoned

In mid-July Tammy Williams was driving by her property on Sheehy Road in Nipomo when she noticed a plastic bin tipped on its side against her fence. She was shocked to see four tiny kittens nestled together inside the bin. Two of the kittens didn't even have their eyes open.

There was another older kitten nearby. Kibble was scattered on the ground around the bin.

Tammy called Feline Network, and Linda Cohen soon arrived at the scene. Because of the kibble, Linda thought it was possible a mama cat had been abandoned with her babies but had gotten spooked and fled. The four tiny kittens were about two weeks old. They appeared clean and well-fed. The fifth kitten was about five weeks old, emaciated and flea-ridden, but sweet!

Linda took the kittens to a foster home, and Tammy walked around her property looking for other cats but did not see any. The



"We were stranded on a country road."

following day, however, she did find another two-week-old kitten, alone and covered with burrs, quite some distance from where the bin was left. The kitten could not have gotten there on its own, or survived a night alone, so we assume the mama cat must have carried it. Traps were set in hopes of reuniting the mama with her offspring, but to no avail. It is heartbreaking to think of this frightened mama cat, alone in unfamiliar territory and unable to care for her babies.



"I was really thirsty."

The five two-week old kittens were placed with two experienced bottle feeders, Benita Smith and Pamela Werth. The older kitten was joined with a group of kittens of the same age at the foster home of Sylvia Torres.



"I was alone in a field."

## Throw-Away Pets

We rescue a number of cats and kittens every year that have been "disposed of" in ways that put their lives in peril. These cats are often tame. Some are actually thrown away like trash, and some are abandoned in the country. Others are discarded in ways too awful to contemplate.

For those cats and kittens that are abandoned in the country, people may assume they will know how to survive, but this is not the case. In time they become emaciated and/or infested with fleas and worms, develop serious skin conditions or other illnesses, become wounded, and sometimes, once rescued, require an eye removal or a limb amputation. Many do not survive.

Financial pressure or housing difficulties could be driving people to give up their pets. Whatever the reason, there are lots of safe things people can do. There are many resources in our county where people can get help, including vet offices, humane organizations (such as Feline Network) and the Department of Animal Services. The internet has information on over a dozen shelters and rescue organizations in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

**"When ordering from Amazon, shop Amazon Smile and support the Feline Network. Go to <https://www.smile.amazon.com> to learn more."**

**Donations may also be made through our website at <https://www.felinenetwork.org> and on our Facebook page.**





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## **A Magnificent Mama Cat**

Linda Cohen has been working with a homeowner in rural Nipomo for a couple of years trapping feral cats for spay/neuter. The homeowner called her in mid-June about a mama and kittens on the property. She had been feeding a stray cat and one day the cat just disappeared for about a month. When the owner saw her again, she was nursing six kittens.

Linda was able to pick up four of the kittens that were hiding behind a hay bale. She set traps for the mama and the other two kittens. The kittens went in the traps two days later and mama two days after that. When the homeowner looked at mama in the trap, she thought there was something wrong with one of her legs, but she was not able to see clearly.

Linda took the cat to Dr. Maxwell Conn at Cat & Exotic Care in Pismo Beach to be spayed. Once she had been anesthetized, Dr. Conn noted that her right hind foot had been severed. He said the leg had to be amputated to prevent infection and further injury, and surgery was scheduled in two weeks.

The mama (Trike) was placed under Anna Stewart's expert care. Anna was shocked when she saw the condition of the leg. It had been completely severed at the hock. Trike was rundown, thin and depleted from nursing. Fortunately, she had two weeks to recuperate before the amputation. One can only wonder how she sustained such a traumatic injury, and it is hard to imagine how she managed to care for herself, much less six kittens, with the pain and disability she had to have endured.

Trike has recovered well from her surgery. She is semi-feral and would be vulnerable to predators if she were returned to the rural area that she came from. Anna offered to provide her with a safe home where she will be cared for.



**Trike recuperates comfortably in her new home.**