

FABULOUSLY FELINE Casa de los Gatos Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2008



Casa de los Gatos has helped thousands of cats in need by:

- Rescuing abandoned cats (and several dogs) from the streets and shelters.
- Adopting cats to wonderful families in Forever Homes.
- Providing TLC and medical needs for hundreds of cats 365 days each and every year.
- Funding public and T.N.R. (trap, neuter and return) spay and neuter surgeries.

During the Snip and Save Spay/Neuterathon in May, Casa de los Gatos sponsored over 400 surgeries for dogs and cats that otherwise may not have been done.

This prevented even more unwanted kittens and puppies from becoming homeless and saved even more lives within our community.

Casa de los Gatos is a non-profit, no-kill feline sanctuary & rescue organization. Providing nine good lives for cats in Tucson, AZ.



In September, Casa de los Gatos received an emergency call from The Pima Animal Care Center. Three nursing Mom cats and their 15 kittens had just been dropped off there. These kittens were too young to be neutered & spayed, and if something could not be done to rescue them immediately, they would all be euthanized.

Every rescue group, including Casa de los Gatos, was still very overwhelmed after a long "kitten season". Luckily a second day pardon was granted to this large family so that Casa de los Gatos could come up with a solution and save them from being euthanized.

Since our funds were depleted and foster homes were full, a plea was made and thankfully several supporters and new foster families quickly came forward to help us save their lives. After being treated for fleas, malnutrition and upper respiratory infections, these incredibly sweet babies are now thriving and will be available for adoption soon.

If it were not for the quick response of all involved, these perfect kitties would not be pouncing, purring and playing today.

Pictured here are Mom Cat "Lady Bug" and four of the rescued kittens.



Do you LOVE cats? Then we'd LOVE to have you join our volunteer team!!

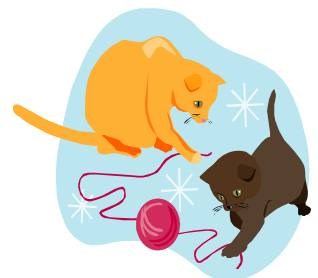
Saving the lives of cats in need would not be possible if it weren't for all of our wonderful volunteers and supporters; but we desperately need additional help as our organization grows, and you can get involved in many ways. We are always needing:

Kitty Kuddlers and Cat Care: at any of the sanctuaries, where hundreds of cats need lots of TLC.

Adoption Counselors: to help match our cats up with wonderful families in Forever Homes.

Transportation Volunteers: for Vet visits and to adoption locations and trips to San Diego where many of our kittens will be adopted by the Helen Woodward No-Kill Animal Center.

Foster Families: to care for the rescued kitties until permanent homes can be found.



“Rescuing one cat won’t change the world, but will change the world for one rescued cat.” –Anonymous



The Future Of Animal Welfare

Casa de los Gatos is lucky to have many wonderful youth volunteers who make a positive difference in the lives of the cats and kittens that they help us care for.

We realize that the future of animal welfare is in the hands of our young people. We are happy to participate in programs that promote kindness to animals. We stress the responsibility of owning a pet and the importance of spaying and neutering to reduce the pet over-population crisis in Tucson.

We would like to thank Pistor Middle School for inviting us to participate in their Annual Pet Day and for the many items that they generously donated to help lots of our needy cats and kittens!

Another thank-you goes out to Casa Hill Country Day School Kindergarteners who are busy collecting donations for our cats during their community outreach program. They have also made kitty toys that our cats will receive during the holiday season.



(7th graders at Pistor Middle School participate in a Q&A session with CdIG volunteers.)

Casa de los Gatos: Past and Present



Three years ago, one volunteer from Tucson helped rescue hundreds of animals during the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Several unclaimed cats with various special needs, such as “Butterscotch” a diabetic cat with FIV (pictured here) were left with few options and an uncertain future. So Butterscotch and his friends came back to Tucson with her, and thus began Casa de los Gatos’ mission to; “Provide nine good lives for every cat.” Initially CdIG functioned primarily for such special needs cats. Now thousands of cats and kittens of all kinds have found their way to Casa de los Gatos, which is currently the largest no-kill feline organization in Arizona and is caring for about 500 cats and kittens each and every day. Unfortunately, we have quickly run short on funds and need to expand our sanctuary so hundreds of special needs cats just like Butterscotch can have a safe haven for their entire lives and so that adoptable cats & kittens can be saved from euthanasia, such as “Lady Bug” and her family. Please join us in caring for and saving even more helpless felines for years to come, by donating to one of our programs listed below:

With your help, Casa de los Gatos can continue helping cats in Tucson!

Become a Casa de los Gatos Supporter:

♥ **Spay/Neuter Sponsor: (\$50.00)**

Help cover the cost of spaying and neutering cats and dogs.

♥ **Purrfect Pals Program: (\$300.00)**

Provide basic care for a special-needs cat for one year.

♥ **Kitten Cupid: (\$100.00)**

Help provide toys, food and kitty litter for a family of kittens until they are old enough to find true love with an adoptive Forever Family.

♥ **Feline Friend: (CHOOSE YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT _____)**

Help keep rescued cats and kittens happy and healthy during their stay at CdIG.



PAYPAL accepted: For further details visit: www.CasaDeLosGatos.org

(It costs over \$17,000.00 every month to keep Casa de los Gatos in operation. Your donations are not only tax deductible but greatly needed and appreciated!)

Your name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Yes, I would like to receive future newsletters.

Please mail your donation to:

Casa de los Gatos / P.O. Box 31302 / Tucson, AZ 85751

Casa de los Gatos celebrates the holidays with five fun and furry events!!



The Twelve Purrs of Christmas will be celebrated at Casa de los Gatos from **December 12th to December 23rd** this year. Meet lots of great cats & kittens waiting for Forever Homes. Receive \$25.00 off the regular adoption fee and receive a special kitty gift bag along with a chance to win a Cat Lovers Gift Basket. **Visit our website for adoption locations and times.** You can also donate a gift of cat supplies for our rescued felines at a "Giving Tree"-located at our sanctuary or several Petco stores, where you can also have your pet's photo taken with Santa.



Grand Opening at the Oro Valley Petco Meet some of our cats and kittens available for adoption and help Casa de los Gatos celebrate the **Grand Opening of the newest Petco Store on November 14th, 15th & 16th.** Located in The Oro Valley Market Place (at Oracle & Tangerine Rd) Casa de los Gatos has found good homes for hundreds of cats while at Petco Stores. We appreciate the opportunity to feature our cats there during adoption hours and the generosity of the Petco Foundation for donating supplies and funds which have enabled us to enrich the lives of our cats and kittens even further. *If you love cats and just can't get enough of purring & whisker rubs from a fuzzy feline friend, there will also be several volunteer opportunities with CdLG available at this location.*



CdLG TAGS-Traveling Adoptions and Gift Shop Event With the holidays only a whisker away, this is the *purrrfect* opportunity to find your next furry friend, *and* support Casa de los Gatos by shopping for art work, crafts, jewelry, and much more! **December 12th, 13th and 14th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** at Tucson Feeds & Pet Foods, 7878 E. Tanque Verde Rd. on Saturday, Nov. 8th, and Saturday, Dec. 13th, bring your cat, dog, bird or reptile and get their picture taken by Photographer *John Wellsman*, from YOUR PET'S PHOTO for only \$10.00 you will receive a 4 x 6 print in a folder and the best part is that *half* of the proceeds to benefit CdLG!



Open House Celebration Come visit the future home of Casa de los Gatos kitties. Located at 10700 E Tanque Verde Rd. on **Dec 7th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.** Enjoy food and drinks, tour the new facility and meet cats moving in. Check out our TAGS (Traveling Adoptions & Gift Shop), **Benefit Rummage Sale (starts at 8:00 am)** and lots of fun and excitement for everyone! Admission is free but donations are greatly appreciated.



Wine Tasting at Cata Vinos If you love wine and you love cats, this is the event for you! **Sunday Nov 23rd, from 4-6 p.m.** located at; 3063 N Alvernon Way (a block south of Ft Lowell on Alvernon) \$20 includes a flight of 6 wines, plus cheese and crackers! \$10 of each tasting fee goes to Casa de los Gatos. Enjoy gift items, silent auction, friends and good wine! **RSVP by emailing us at Info@CasadelosGatos.org or leave a message at 881-0900.**

Casa de los Gatos hosts several adoption events and adopts hundreds of cats every year. This September during the 3rd annual Lucky Black Cat Adoption Month, 63 cats & kittens were adopted to wonderful Forever Families. Twenty four of them were black cats, including "Dakota" pictured here enjoying a nap in his new home. Casa de los Gatos always has hundreds of great cats and kittens available for adoption.



Casa de los Gatos Happy Tails with Happy Endings--notes from Forever Homes:

Thanks to all of the adopters that have sent updates and photos. There are hundreds of success stories of so many cats getting a 2nd chance with their wonderful Forever Families. Please visit our website to read even more Happy Tails with Happy Endings!

We just got your letter about Bingo (now Butters). Things are going great! But-



ters is an awesome cat and has fit into our family wonderfully. We love Butters dearly! Thank you so much for such a great cat. Sincerely, -The Kron Family

We are proud to submit a picture of Chloe. She has been such a wonderful addition to our family. We love coming home to her after a day's work and find her at the front door to greet us. Chloe wants to say hi to all her friends and wants them to know she loves her new home. Thank you Casa de los Gatos for showing Chloe such good manners. We love her!

Proud owners,
-David and Linda



Jake and Elwood! Not only have they made themselves at home...they have pretty much taken over the house. They both are pampered and loved by the whole family...our daughter and our grandson and granddaughter are here almost daily making sure they have enough petting and holding. -Laurel





The people of Casa de los Gatos have a vision: We see a community in which no animal is killed just simply due to a lack of homes or because they have medical problems that could otherwise be remedied.

Since its beginning in 2005, CdLG has been working towards this goal by rescuing thousands of cats and kittens from certain death in local kill facilities and from the streets of Tucson. Recently an opportunity arose that was most likely a once-in-a-lifetime chance. A 6-acre parcel of land with several houses on it became available on East Tanque Verde Road. After much hard work and even harder financing, CdLG was able to obtain this property. You might question the practicality of this endeavor, given the current

state of the economy. We all believed it to be a wise financial decision, as well as providing a wonderful haven for our rescued felines. Owning this property will also allow CdLG to consolidate its operations and alleviate the necessity for renting space for the cats. This will result in much of our overhead costs actually being reduced. It will also serve as a central location for all of our activities; eliminating the need for staff, volunteers and visitors to travel to various locations around town.

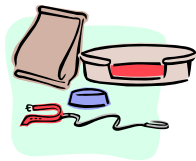
If you come out to visit the property right now, the first glance may be somewhat daunting. When I first saw the property, it was totally covered with tall weeds and brush and the houses were in various stages of repair. I am happy to tell you that after only a few weeks, we have made significant progress. The area around most of the houses has been partially cleared and major work is underway on the buildings. There is still a long way to go, but we know we can do it! This property will be restored to its previous beauty and the CdLG cats will have spacious, beautifully decorated homes to live in. We plan on building several screened-in cat enclosures on each of these cat homes so that all of our cats will have the opportunity to safely enjoy the fresh air, nature and birds that also live on the property.

We believe the future of the CdLG cats will be a happy one, filled with hope. We are currently asking our wonderful supporters for their help. Do you have some free time and the desire to get outside and do some dirty work for a good cause? There are still many weeds just waiting to be cut down and many mesquite tree limbs needing to be trimmed and sold as firewood to collect revenue. There is an extensive irrigation system (the property used to be a plant nursery) that needs a lot of attention before we can use it again. In the very near future there will be lots of painting and other fun projects to do, such as installing climbing shelves for the cats. In a nutshell, there is no lack of work to be done and we would greatly appreciate your help. If projects like this are not your idea of a good time, that's okay. Renovations on this property will be ongoing and we are in desperate need of many materials to get the work done. A gift card from any local hardware store to purchase supplies would be forever appreciated. We are also looking for individuals to sponsor a cat enclosure. This property can be made into an amazing cat sanctuary that will provide a wonderful environment for the adoptable cats awaiting a forever home while providing a forever home for our feline friends who cannot be adopted. With your help, we can continue making our vision a reality. Thank you again for caring. -Fred Yost, Casa de los Gatos Caretaker



Casa de los Gatos Wish List

- *Volunteers and Fosters!!!
- *Cat Litter; Scoopable or Clay
- *Printing & Postage for mailings
- *Cat Carriers and Kitten Condos
- *Cat Treats, Cat and Kitten Food; Dry or Can
- *Cat Beds, Scratching Posts, Cat Climbing Trees
- *Towels, Blankets, Custom Made Hammocks
- *Cleaning Supplies; Bleach, Paper Towels
- *KMR Formula & Bottles for Orphaned Kittens
- *Office Supplies; Paper, Ink Cartridges
- *Money for Vet Bills and Operational Costs
- *Building Materials & Labor for Renovations



We're also collecting items for our new gift shop event!

If you can donate new or hand-crafted items, we can use them and all proceeds benefit our cats and kittens. We also still need your empty inkjet or laser toner cartridges, cell phones, empty clean aluminum cans, & rummage items. **Please contact us for further info.**

Casa de los Gatos is fortunate to have the support of our dedicated volunteers and donors. We appreciate everyone who has helped make it possible to rescue thousands of cats in need thus far. We couldn't provide nine good lives for all of those felines without you! *We'd like to thank all of our friends for their support, including:*

These Veterinary Clinics for their continued dedication and expertise for our cats' medical needs:

Strickland Veterinary Clinic, Ventana Animal Hospital, Feline Limited Cat Clinic, ABC Spay/Neuter Clinic, AZ Spay/Neuter Clinic, Spanish Trail Pet Clinic, Southern AZ Veterinary Specialty Center, VCA Animal Hospital, East Side Clinic

These organizations, businesses and individuals: Spay/Neuter Solutions of Tucson, Diana Madaras Gallery, Rabbits & Rainbows, Chris Bubany Studios, Grant Rd Wal-Mart,

Tucson Appliances, Petco, Lise Troup with Realty Executives, donations made in memory of Daniel C. Furner and Anne Swanson and especially all of the generous supporters who helped Casa de los Gatos get thru very difficult times this year.

