

Alley Cat Advocates



(502)634-8777 contactus@alleycatadvocates.org Volume 5, Issue 3
Spring 2005

Message from our Board Chair

Remember "It Takes A Village?"

No one needs to be reminded that tasks are easier to accomplish if everyone works together — from clearing the table after a big meal to.... getting cats healthy and happy again. Alley Cat Advocate volunteers experienced this in a BIG way after our March BIG FIX.

Although relatively uncommon, several of the cats who came to be spayed or neutered that warm weekend in March had severe medical issues beyond needing to be just spayed or neutered. One young, playful boy had a bite wound directly over his front elbow, one big, beautiful orange boy had had a broken leg for a couple of years(!) and dragging it around kept him with an open wound where he pulled it on the ground, and another big fluffy boy clearly had had a puncture wound to his eye that had resulted in a very bad infection. In each case, neutering the guys was easy and straightforward. But what about the other issues?

Fortunately, we had a little money in the Billie Emergency Fund. (See page 3 for a description of beautiful Billie and her fund.) But even more helpful were the volunteers, in particular the veterinarians this time around, who really made the difference for these cats.

The young, playful boy needed wound treatment, a skin graft, and cage rest for several weeks. One generous vet took this case on, for a very discounted rate, and got this little man up and playing again, fully healed.

The beautiful orange boy had two vets help him out. While one vet amputated his damaged leg at no charge, another provided cage rest prior to his amputation and her staff provided lots of physical therapy (and love!) afterward. What a lucky boy to have so many watching after him.

And our big fluffy boy had yet another vet remove his badly infected eye at a discounted rate while his caretaker kept him comfortable and quiet for several weeks while he healed.

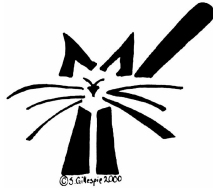
It isn't often (thank goodness!) that we have this many special challenges with the cats we spay and neuter but it sure is great to know that when we do, we know we can get the cats all the help they need. A special thanks this month to those vets who actively support the work we do (see page 2 for a list) and step in to give that extra help when needed. It is one thing to know that "it takes a village." It is another to see the difference it makes for the cats!

Karen Little

**Alley Cat Advocates is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization.
Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.**

TIP'S TIP

Food, fresh water, and a simple shelter are all we need! If you keep our living quarters clean, don't trouble us with scraps from your table, or cow's milk (we're allergic, you know), and keep our numbers down — spay & neuter, remember? — we'll return the favor by being healthy mousers, loungers, and sunshine seekers!



P.S. In case you haven't heard, we mouse BETTER when we're NOT hungry! We don't really need to eat those guys to keep their numbers down!

Thanks!

Dr. Patricia Kennedy and the staff at Jefferson Animal Hospital
Dr. Joe Deck and the staff at Deck Veterinary Clinic
Drs. Chris Albert, Elizabeth Banks, Denise Bevins, Leslie Brown, Kendall Clay, Marie Gagnon, Rusty Gailor, Teresa Gregory, Luanne Jensen, Carolyn Kacocha, Alexis Wallace, and Pam Williams for donating their veterinary services for our BIG FIXes and beyond
Bluegrass.net for hosting our website
Ron Reinstedler of Graphic Design of Louisville for printing services

Gifts in Honor of

Karen and Hoyt Little, by Noah Lee-Taylor

Nounoute, ami gentil of Richard & Cecile Spalding, by Elizabeth Spalding

Linda Rhodes, by Mrs. Callie Zimmerman

Norman "John Locker" Steadman, by Sharon Crabtree, Barbara Fessel, Kathleen & Richard Harrison, Pam Marsiliusen, Karen Straub, Margaret Straub, and Gary & Jackie Warner

Gifts in Memory of

Boots, a gentle black-and-white cat who lived to age 18, by Carolyn Gettler and Calvin Miracle

Franyee Dolbeare, in loving memory of my friend, by Kelly Riska

Miss Kitty, beloved pet of the Naber family, Cara, John, Julia, Olivia, and Johnny, by Nancy and Dick Adams

Kody, by Leana Phillips

Little Skipper, the most sweet, kind and gentle kitty ever, by Karen and Hoyt Little

Plasma Cell, you touched the lives of all who knew you — and there were lots of

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Alley Cat Advocates
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Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 634-8777

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Mission
To provide for the humane treatment of unowned cats by directing a safe, high-volume, cost effective Trap-Neuter-Return program

To be removed from the mailing list, please call us at (502) 634-8777.

Alley Cat Advocates honors your privacy. We neither give, sell, nor loan our mailing list to anyone.

We are always looking for assistance in a variety of different ways. If you are interested in supporting our cause at Alley Cat Advocates, please be sure to mark one of the adjacent boxes, include your name, phone number and address, then return it to us at:

Alley Cat Advocates
#204
3020 Bardstown Rd
Louisville, KY 40205

I would like to support Alley Cat Advocates . . .

- I would like to serve ACA as a volunteer. Please contact me so that I may learn more about the ways I can help.
- I would like to support the Billie Emergency Fund, helping cats who, in addition to their spay or neuter, need further live-saving medical care, with the tax deductible donation noted below.
- I believe in your cause and would like to make the following tax deductible donation.

\$10 \$25 \$50 Other

Name _____ Phone # _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Billie's Happy Story

And what a happy story it is to share! Well, it starts out sad but then it gets happy! In the summer of 2001, several of our volunteers were busy trapping, altering, and returning cats in a block where a momma cat lived. A neighbor watched this momma cat carefully moving her kittens over a wood privacy fence. Under the weight of one of her kittens, however, she fell and caught her leg between two wooden slats. It was severely broken. The nice man watching her came to her rescue or so he hoped. The momma, in pain and scared for herself and her kittens, fought the man, bit him, and scampered away with her very painful leg. After many long hours and much neighborhood reconnaissance work over the next three weeks, an Alley Cat Advocates volunteer finally trapped the momma cat. By then, it was clear that the momma would die unless the leg was amputated.

At that time, thanks to many generous donations,

Alley Cat Advocates had the funds available for the procedure. As a result, today, Billie, as she is now known, is a feisty three-legged girl with no more wood privacy fences in her way — just sunshine and kitty friends fill her day.

We were glad that we didn't have to make the decision to euthanize Billie due to lack of funds to pay for her amputation. But we recognized that this situation would probably arise again. And we didn't want to find ourselves without funds as we might have to make a different decision. To help prevent such an outcome, we established a special fund in Billie's honor to cover the cost of just such life saving procedures for the cats we've trapped to spay and neuter. If you'd like to help future Billie's (such as the young, playful boy or big, beautiful orange boy from the March BIG FIX!) please consider supporting the Billie Emergency Fund. The cats thank you for making their lives better by leaps and bounds!

(Continued from page 2)

Gifts in Memory of

us who were lucky that way, by Karen and Hoyt Little

Sami, beloved cat of Melissa Laning, by an anonymous donor

Sebastian, by Angelika Kasey and Gordon Hall

Clifford Schmidt, husband of Marie Schmidt, by Sue Smith

Sugar, you wanted so badly to feel good, play, and purr, and we tried so hard . . . , by Alley Cat Advocates' volunteers

Wally, it was so hard to resist kissing you on the head, you were just so adorable, by Karen and Hoyt Little

Wills, my bright, handsome, well-mannered, most loving, outstanding kitty. You will never leave my heart, by Sharon Hilton

Mr. X, beloved companion of Sandy Walker, by Karen and Mike Bose



BIG FIX SCHEDULE

One weekend per month by appointment. Call for schedule and details.

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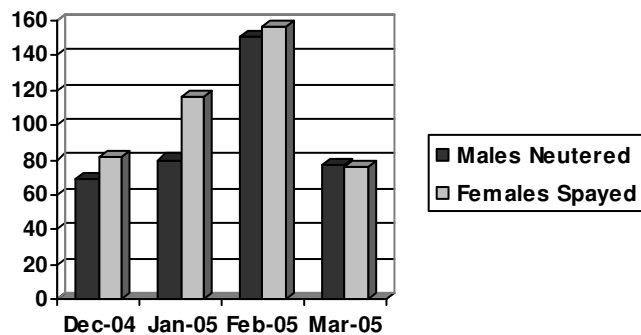
We can make a difference.

We are a not-for-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

We're on the web!
www.alleycatadvocates.org

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Charting Our Progress



Yeah! Lots of cats spayed and neutered just before kitten season. What a wonderful thing! We did two BIG FIX events in February to "head 'em off at the pass." We got lots of the males neutered — who now don't know what to do with all their free time! And lots of females spayed as well. They're just sleeping in the sun, chasing mice when they feel like it (which is often now that they don't have those kittens to care for), and putting on some much needed weight! What lucky kitties!

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