



Inside the **Summer** Edition...



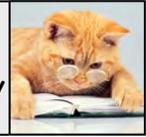
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Literary
Cat



The **HART** of the Matter

In CELEBRATION of CATS — and Their Progeny



Evelyn and
Charlie

International Cat Day, August 8, created in 2002 by the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

World Cat Day, February 17, in much of Europe; March 1, in Russia.

National Cat Day, October 29, in the United States.

International Hug Your Cat Day, May 30. (Didn't hug your cat on May 30? There is still time!)

For other days devoted to celebrating the cat:

http://www.gone-ta-pott.com/national_cat_holidays.html.



Chino Hills Clan, left to right:
Kyle, Oliver, Quinn, Tobias

Be Part of the Celebration

Here at HART, we celebrate The Cat every day of the year. By rescuing, nurturing, and finding permanent, caring homes for homeless felines, we honor our charges. Whether continuing, or just beginning your HART support, you become an automatic participant in our ongoing celebration. Your patronage *is* the HART of our organization. As a supporter, you help by volunteering, offering financial aid, or both.



Angel...
yes, she is.



Volunteer Closers
Terry and Shale Hanson

Volunteering* Your time and energy are invaluable assets to HART, and we gratefully welcome any time you can spare. Volunteer options include these special roles: shelter cleaners and closers, cat/kitten fosterers, marketing and grant writers, office assistants, housekeepers, and fundraising planners/helpers.

Monetary Donations* Direct financial donations, in any amount, are deeply appreciated. In addition, we offer a variety of monetary-contribution approaches: Guardian Angel and General fund memberships, Amazon Smile purchases, HART fundraiser support/attendance, HART Amazon Wish List donations, gifts of old or inoperable vehicles, and estate bequests.



HART extends an emphatic THANK YOU to our donors and volunteers. Your contributions of time and/or financial resources keep the shelter operating and ensure our resident felines remain healthy and happy. Without your generosity and support, we could not maintain—much less celebrate—Our Cats!

* For more information and a complete list of volunteer and financial support options, please visit the HART website: <http://slohart.org/ways-to-help.html>. HART is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit—your contributions may be tax deductible.

UPCOMING EVENTS: We look forward to seeing you as a participant, a volunteer, or both!

- AUG 8.....Chamber Mixer at HART
- AUG 25.....PG&E Siren Test
- SEPT 1-3Pinedorado Parade and Nacho Booth
- SEPT-OCTCause for Paws raffle ticket sales
- OCT 27.....Cause for Paws raffle drawing
- NOV. 2-4Goodwill Donation Pick-up at HART
- NOV 23-30*.....Santa Booth at the Christmas Market
- DEC 1-23*Santa Booth at the Christmas Market

* Closed some Mondays & Tuesdays

KEEP CURRENT: Find the latest HART info on our website: www.slohart.org/newsevents.html

FOSTER CARE: REWARDING AND CHALLENGING



Julie Jenkins with Max



Sunny & Zoe Wright with Bella



Beth Lindsey with Kyle



Rhys & Darcy De Rosa with Macho



Jennifer Ehlers with Hal

Last year, HART received an urgent call from San Luis Obispo Animal Services. Because of overcrowding at their facility, they needed a shelter to take in three litters of kittens. HART agreed to accept the twelve infants. Fosterers were called for, and Julie Jenkins, volunteer and HART Board member, offered to help with one of the litters.

Julie's adventure: While she had previously fostered Max, an adult cat, Julie had never cared for a very young kitten, let alone three of them. Nonetheless, Julie took Patrick, Ian, and Bonnie home, becoming their foster "mom."

Fostering requires effort, Julie told us, "... but on a personal level, it's really, really rewarding." She went on to explain that fostering gives kittens the kick-start they need to become affectionate, adoptable pets. When asked if she would consider fostering again, Julie responded, "Oh yes. Without hesitation."

Kittens have special needs. While gratifying, fostering young kittens presents challenges. Orphaned kittens—newly born to three weeks old—require

feeding every three to four hours. Fosterers temporarily adopt these nurslings and provide them with consistent, appropriate care. As kittens get older, supervised diet transitions, as well as daily socialization experiences with human caregivers, are important.

Is fostering just for kittens? No. Shy or fearful cats may benefit from quieter in-home environments and the socialization experiences that gentle human contact provides. Adult cats recovering from surgery, injuries, or illness require extra attention as they recuperate. Fostered felines prosper as a result of temporary in-home support, increasing their chances of being adopted.

Interested in fostering? Fostering is a vital part of HART's continuing effort to protect, nurture, and find loving homes for the animals in their care. If you have the time and interest, please consider fostering. Visit or contact HART for more information. **Thank you to all current (pictured) and past foster volunteers. Your special dedication continues to make an invaluable difference in the lives of many HART cats.**

Fostering is beneficial for both the fostered and the fosterer. Booker T. Washington said it well: "Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."

Janna Edwards
No photo available.



Sara Tiedeman with Storm



Martha Reese with Yum Yum



Bonnie Ahlstrom with Sammy



Mark Zanella with Alonzo



Evelyn Zanella with Challita



The Cat-Human Connection: Two Perspectives

From a beloved cat:

I am one lucky cat. Being a feral, I am hardwired with fear and mistrust. I can't seem to change this. I was born into pain with a broken leg. But my mother says she is the lucky one. It is pure love that flows between us. *Silver via Carol Jean Attoe*



Silver and "Mom" Carol Jean

From a grateful human companion:



Timothy (right) with "girlfriend" Lily

Last year, on my birthday, I started to have trouble swallowing. By 11 pm, it had gotten so painful and difficult, that I thought of driving from my house in San Simeon to the ER at Twin Cities Hospital. But I was worried about leaving my partner Timothy, a HART cat, alone for who knows how long. Then Timothy did something he has never done. He sat at my feet and cried. I realized that he was worried about my condition. That made up my mind. I was off to the ER. By the time I got to Twin Cities ER, my throat was completely closed ... and my last memory was trying to find just a little air.

Next thing I knew, I woke up in ICU on life support. I was there for 10 days. If Timothy had waited just two more minutes before he made his concerns known, I would have died. He is my Angel. And I love him with all my HART. *Mark Ray, Timothy's partner*

**Wines Pines & Felines
A Growing HART Tradition**



Left to right: Lois Scott, Midge and Pete Schulkin

HART's *Wines Pines & Felines* fundraisers have been impressively successful events—and the 2018 gathering, held April 4, was no exception. Over 100 attendees enjoyed fine food and wine in the lovely Peacock Room at Cambria Pines Lodge. The

Jukebox Heroes, a local four-piece band, entertained appreciative guests with pop-rock classics stretching all the way back to the 1960s.

As in the past, our inimitable auctioneer, Jill Turnbow, kept bidders motivated as they vied for a variety of packages. Raffle prize drawings and a silent auction were offered. To round out the evening, guests enjoyed dancing to the Heroes' memorable refrains.

In all, the fundraiser raised more than \$12,000 for the shelter. To all of our generous donors, underwriters, volunteers, and attendees: HART cannot thank you enough. On behalf of the shelter's well-cared-for residents and tireless volunteers, we would add—with a nod to nostalgia—YOU are the Cats' Meow!



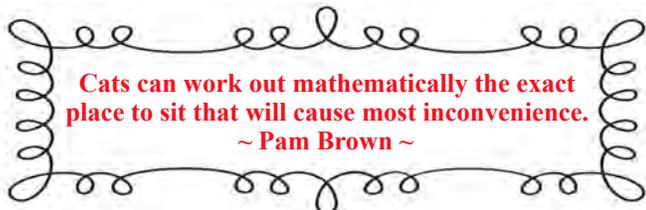
CATEQUIZM



Are you a feline pro—or decidedly pro-feline? Test your “tabby” knowledge. Some prompts may have more than one correct response.

1. Which statements about cats are false?
 - a. Cats mark you as “property” by rubbing against you.
 - b. Normal body temperature is the same for cats and people.
 - c. Cats hear better than dogs.
 - d. Cats are afraid of the water because they don't know how to dog paddle.
2. Aside from contentment, a cat's purr may be a sign of
 - a. pain b. fear c. self-healing
 - d. humility e. all of the choices
3. Cats' eyes and vision: which statements are true?
 - a. A cat's pupils may dilate or constrict based on emotion.
 - b. Cats have a third eyelid called a nicotine membrane.
 - c. While humans and cats have the same day vision, cats see better than humans at night.
 - d. Cats can distinguish some colors from others.
4. What is the name of a former feline mayor of Talkeetna, Alaska?
 - a. Morris b. Mr. Mayor c. Stubbs d. Frosty
5. When your cat leaves a lifeless (or live!) “present” on your doorstep, he's probably trying to
 - a. develop your inner predator
 - b. criticize your choice of cat food
 - c. let you know it's dinner time
 - d. intimidate you and your family

Answers on p. 4



Cats can work out mathematically the exact place to sit that will cause most inconvenience.
~ Pam Brown ~

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

Absent any major catastrophes, the board has been in a “consolidation” mode, focusing on fixing long-term “annoyances” such as the driveway repair, the front garden, etc. We learned and earned a lot from last year's Santa Booth. Moreover, this year our Wines Pines & Felines fundraiser netted over \$12,000, thanks to the Events Committee and all the volunteers. Adoptions have fallen off a little, relative to intakes. Fortunately, we started at a low shelter census this year—but are now in the middle of kitten season! (Which calls for a special thank you to the fostering crew.) The summer donation doldrums are with us, but we are in better shape than usual and are still looking to develop a fundraising event to cover this period.



“Scooperman” Zarowitz



Shelter upgrades: driveway & front garden

The board is making changes to our bookkeeping system to make it easier to match event revenues with expenses, etc. As the number, complexity, and profitability of our fundraising events have increased—including Guardian Angel program growth—the old structure has become less useful. Finally, we are prioritizing capital projects (e.g., fence and gate repairs) to initiate as funds become available. As always, HART appreciates your support and welcomes your comments and ideas.

Mike Zarowitz, Board President

Update to the Update The shelter recently received a generous bequest from a long-time central coast resident and feline fan. HART's newly formed Finance Committee will establish policy for investing and using the funds. The committee will also select appropriate short-term capital projects (see above) to finance. HART is most grateful for this auspicious and welcome gift. For more information on leaving legacy gifts, please visit our website. <http://slohart.org/ways-to-help.html#estateplanning>.

Trap-Neuter-Return Progress With Feral Cat Colonies

One Success: *Libby, a feral gray tabby nursing six kittens, is hungry, weak, and painfully thin. She melts into the underbrush when Leah Cox, a HART volunteer, arrives at the feral cat colony to leave food and water and to set humane traps baited with food. Soon after Leah leaves, though, Libby smells the tuna. Her desperation masters her fear, and she enters the trap. As the cage door slams closed behind her, Libby gulps down the food she cannot ignore.*



Humane cat traps are used by trappers.

This was a productive night for Leah. As part of the care she provides to the cat colony, Leah safely captured Libby and her kittens. She promptly delivered them to HART, where they received care and medical attention—and were ultimately neutered. Over time, Leah also tried to socialize Libby through fostering, but Libby was just too terrified by close contact with humans. All six of Libby’s kittens were successfully adopted. Libby was returned to the cat colony to live out her life.

Pragmatic Compassion Libby’s story constitutes a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) success. Over the past year, HART has captured and neutered over 65 felines through its TNR program. Felines that respond positively to human interaction are made available for adoption; those who cannot be socialized are returned to their place of capture, where caretakers regularly provide food and water.



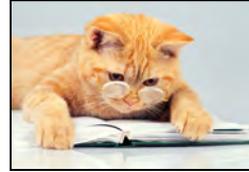
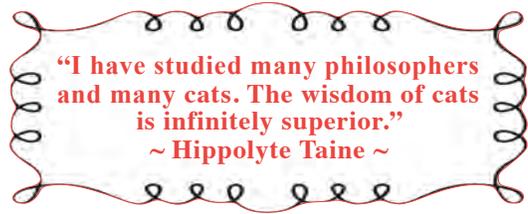
Little Bit: another TNR rescue (and adoption) made possible by Leah’s work.

This approach to managing homeless feline populations has proven humane and effective. TNR community programs and scientific studies attest to the benefit of this approach in reducing cat overpopulation. “TNR improves the lives of cats, addresses community concerns, reduces complaints about cats, and stops the breeding cycle.”

<https://www.alleycat.org/our-work/trap-neuter-return/>

It takes a special volunteer to do this demanding and fulfilling work. Call the shelter or visit <http://slohart.org/ways-to-help.html#volunteer> to find out how you can support HART’s TNR efforts.

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A spot of sunshine and a good book, Mmmurrrrrr...

The Literary Cat*

by guest columnist and
Felidae Book Critic

Devonne “Queenie” Rex

Great summer reads by—and for—discriminating felines

FICTION

Dickens, Li'l. *A Tale of Two Kitties*—Novella (PG13 — Parents strongly cautioned)

The ribald story of two teen cats, and how they learn the true meaning of “catting around.”

Lee, Carper. *To Kill and Eat a Mockingbird*—Short Story
Lost and on her own, Fluffy learns to survive while fending off an unrelenting pack of mockingbirds...will her family find her in time?

NONFICTION

Evans, Hobbs. *The Hoarse Whiskerer*—Autobiography
After divulging his persistent laryngitis problem, Hobbs faces heartless bullying on his Ffsst!book page. A mistakenly posted selfie of his allergic reaction to tuna—ossified whiskers—only adds to his woes.

Hemingway, Hisser. *For Whom the Ball Rolls*—Self-Help Guide

“Doc Hisser” explores the rivalries and difficulties that arise over proprietary rights to toys in a multi-cat household. Newly updated section: “Litigation and Staff Liability.”

*Currently enjoying a well-deserved vacation, *Tabbitha Von Purrrman (Dear Tabby)* will return in December.



CATEQUIZM ANSWERS

#4 Fun Fact: This cat was mayor for over 15 years!
 #3 Fun Fact: Cats blink at each other, as well as the humans they love, with a slow eye blink “cat kiss.”
 1. b, d 2. a, b, c 3. a, d 4. c 5. a

HOW DID YOU DO?

5 correct: Feline pro 2–1 correct: Cat’s-paw
 4–3 correct: Pro-feline 0 correct: Cat food