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The **HART** of the Matter



HART IS WHERE THE HOME IS

For many forsaken cats and kittens needing shelter and care, the continuing generosity of members, donors, and volunteers keeps the HART home open. Cambria's Homeless Animal Rescue Team thanks all supporters who have contributed so generously in the past.

This year to date, the shelter has taken in over 200 cats and kittens, while bringing about the adoption of 150. Caring for so many animals requires an army of devoted volunteers—as essential to HART as monetary donations. But our volunteer numbers have been decreasing. That's where you come in.

During this holiday season, we ask you to open your hearts and consider making a donation of your time. The following jobs call for caring, supportive volunteers:

- cleaners ~ donation jar collectors ~ fosterers
- grant writers ~ trappers ~ supply shoppers
- med team assistants ~ office workers ~ pet pals
- closers ~ photographers ~ transporters ~ gardeners

We also need volunteers to help with fundraising events, laundry duties, and the Farmers Market information table.

If you are interested in group work that involves strategic planning, creative problem solving, and

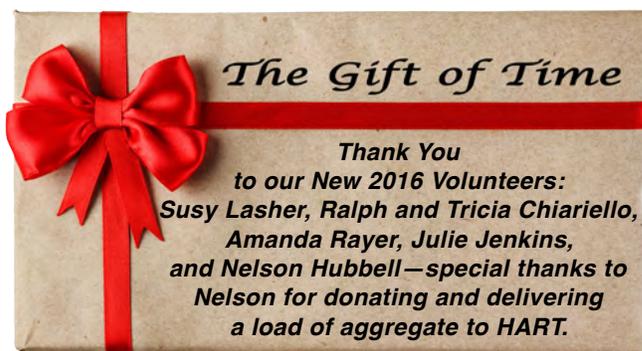
innovative fundraising ideas, we welcome you to join one of these committees:

- Adoptions
- Evacuation
- Events
- Guardian Angels
- Maintenance
- Publications
- Retail

Of course, we are ever in need of funding and always appreciate monetary support. If you are considering year-end giving, look no further than HART. All donations to our 501(c)3 nonprofit, volunteer organization are tax-deductible—and the feel-good bonus that comes from charitable giving is the best reward of all.

Thank you for your consideration and warmest holiday wishes from all of us at HART.

For more information, and to volunteer, call HART, and visit our website and Facebook page.



HART Business Sponsors ~ Thank You!

Business Sponsorships & HART: A Two-Way Advantage

HART features our 2016 business sponsors by placing their logos on our website and in our publications, e.g., newsletters, programs, flyers. Many HART patrons are animal welfare proponents and take note of our business sponsors' support. If you are considering a mutually beneficial HART business sponsorship in 2017, call us or [visit the website](#) for details on benefits, sponsorship levels, and website placement options. Business sponsorships renew each January.

Volunteer Spotlight: Santa and Mrs. Claus (AKA Tom and Betty Barton)



Tom and Betty Barton have lived in Cambria for more than 25 years. Before retiring, the Bartons worked and volunteered at Hearst Castle where they particularly enjoyed performing in the Living History tour: The tour featured docents dressed in 1930s period attire. "Getting to dress up kind of brought out the 'ham' in both of us," Tom says, and adds, "Especially Tom."

Following their retirement, a natural progression established their signature roles as Mr. and Mrs. Claus. At an after-Christmas sale, Tom remembers that he "found a Santa suit... and on a whim added it to my closet of dress up clothes." He goes on to explain. "The first year for 'the suit' was just Santa for our grandchildren." The following year, "Mrs. Claus got gussied up and joined Santa for an appearance at Cambria's Open House..." In high demand after being "discovered," the Bartons became the featured attraction at the Lions Club's annual Children's Christmas Party, enchanting children year after year.

"Our most fantastic gig," Tom reflects, "is now the HART Santa booth at the Cambria Christmas Market. It is so rewarding to see the faces of the children when they see Santa." For Tom, "it's being a kid again."

It should come as no surprise that Tom and Betty are owned by cats. Five years ago, two kittens chose Tom and Betty at a HART Open House. Tom describes them: "One boy, Chaplin, a real man's cat—no cuddling or playing around, loves the outdoors; one girl, Sophie, a real sweetheart, a lap cat, loves to curl up with us and loves to play. They are now a real joy for us."

That Tom and Betty Barton are a real joy for HART says it all, and we thank them for their longstanding and generous support.



SO YOU THINK YOUR CAT IS ADORABLE... 2016 CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place



~**BARKLEY**~ Black from whiskers to tail, with large green eyes, Barkley the iCat is a 10-year-old Bombay male, who follows his devoted servant (of almost four years) everywhere. Assisting with computer work, he lies across the desk, dangling his paws onto the keyboard. "Now I appreciate

his efforts to help, but damn! His spelling is atrocious," says Barkley's person—then fondly adds, "nevertheless, he is one adorable cat."

2nd Place



~**DOLLY**~ In 2005, a beautiful black-on-white kitten trailed her feral mother to Lenore's yard, where food routinely awaited. When the mother disappeared, Lenore brought the orphan inside, naming her Dolly. Most striking were her eyes, "...one gold and one blue,"

says Lenore. Aloof at first, Dolly has grown close to Lenore over the years, now even "snuggling" with her at night. "She is my precious little girl!" Lenore confides.

3rd Place



~**MOUSE**~ Margot and her late wife, Erin, adopted 10-week-old Mouse in Atascadero. A birth defect left the kitten with a "bobbed" tail tipped with a fluffy black pom-pom that he "wags."

During Erin's illness, "Mouse slept plastered to her thigh," Margot continues. "He was the first pet who managed to crawl his way into Erin's heart and teach her about truly loving animals. What a wonderful gift he gave her...!"

4th Place



~**MISS SASSAFRAS LARUE**~ Sassy chose her new family during their annual visit to Three Rivers. Determining that she was a stray was "all it took," says her owner, Phyllis.

Returning to Cambria with her family, Miss Sassafras readily became an indoor cat. "She has a fondness for licking my hubby's bald head when he's asleep," Phyllis playfully adds. "We are blessed... she is such a joy."


Wines, Pines, & Felines


Cambria Pines Lodge - April 26, 2017

Icons made by Freepik from www.flaticon.com



DEAR TABBY

We are pleased to introduce the newest member of our newsletter team: Tabbitha Von Purrman, Ph.D. (Pheline Domina) and syndicated columnist. Tabby, a lifelong cat, will be dispensing invaluable advice to the lovelorn, forlorn, and timeworn of her species. Enjoy.

Dear Tabby:

In a lavish effort to indulge my Staff, I recently left them a unique gift on the new sofa. Contrary to all civilized standards of propriety, they began shrieking unprintable vulgarities. I immediately fled, bitterly dismayed.

As you well know, vole viscera require considerable effort/skill to: 1) obtain, and 2) tastefully arrange. I find the rejection grievously discourteous. How do I go about engaging a different Staff?

In Pain In Maine

Genteel Felid:

I, too, have encountered the philistines you describe; unfortunately, attentive domestics are impossible to find these days. Keep your Staff and experiment with a more personal gift, perhaps a trichobezoar, or, a creative interior design change, such as fringed drapes.

Tabby



“...and fresh salmon for dinner, except sometimes crab ...and my very own aquarium...and a new scratching couch...and real, live crickets...and counter/tabletop privileges... and sleeping *under* the covers BETWEEN the people...and...”

**YES, FLUFFY, THERE IS
A SANTA CLAUS**

We hope Santa finds HART's list much more doable; we know he would appreciate any help you can give:

- Friskies canned food (paté or turkey and giblets) no-gravy type*
- liquid bleach*
- 6" paper plates*
- paper towels*
- hand sanitizer*
- disposable rubber gloves (med. & lg.) Costco*
- baby food (meat only, without onion powder)
- cat treats
- laundry detergent (for low-water-use machines)

*Highest priority items

Relax-at-Home Appreciation Raffle



Each year HART has a special event to acknowledge those who support the shelter with their membership donations. This year we offered a Relax-at-Home Appreciation Raffle: Members received raffle tickets by mail, offering chances to win local wines and wine glasses. Membership levels determined the number of tickets each member received, from one to five, depending on membership category, i.e., Moonstone level members received one ticket, Amethyst members, two, and so on.

Congratulations to the five lucky raffle winners:

Carol Jean Attoe, Verlinda Bailey, Jane Coffelt, John Hennessy, Ann Pope.

This alternative to an appearance event was a first for HART. Let us know what you think of this approach.

A big thank-you to all HART members: Your membership donations are tax-deductible, and more important, your donations help keep our shelter open and our vulnerable charges well-cared for and safe.

New Improved Membership Card Don't miss our recently revised membership card. Based on feedback from our supporters, and enclosed with this newsletter for your convenience, HART's new card is much easier to use, offering ample space for writing and clear directions. Whether renewing your membership or joining the Homeless Animal Rescue Team for the first time, memberships renew in January.



- dish soap
- sponges
- mops, brooms
- tall drawstring trash bags: 13 gallon
- cotton balls
- toilet paper
- toilet bowl cleaner
- Band-aids
- copy/printer paper, multipurpose (20 lb. weight)
- stamps
- monetary donations for vet bills and medications

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Christmas Market Santa Booth: Nov. 25–Dec. 23 (Wed–Sun)**
- **HART's Gift Shop for Cat Lovers holiday specials: through December**
- **GA Holiday Certificates: December 2016**
- **Goodwill Collection: Feb. 1–3, 2017**
- **Pet Topics: The Cambrian, February & May, 2017**
- **Wine, Pines, Felines Event, April 2017**
- **Farmers Market: HART Info Table and Demo Cat, Third Friday of each month**

Catequizm

Know your cat facts? Take this test to find out.

1. A group of dogs is called a *pack*; a group of cats is called a
 - a. bunch
 - b. caterwaul
 - c. litter
 - d. clowder
 - e. finnikiee
2. Adult cats meow only
 - a. to communicate with humans
 - b. to communicate with other cats
 - c. when they are hungry
 - d. when they want to be annoying
3. It's best not to give your cat milk because
 - a. some nutrients in milk may be addictive
 - b. lactose intolerance is common in cats
 - c. dairy products can cause atopic feline dermatitis
 - d. milk does not contain enough protein
4. The technical term for a hairball is
 - a. ergasiophyte
 - b. agouti
 - c. cataphract
 - d. trichobezoar
 - e. yuck!
5. In cats, the strongest sense is
 - a. olfactory
 - b. tactile
 - c. auditory
 - d. visual
 - e. nonsense
6. Polydactyl cats are also called
 - a. three-toed cats
 - b. Hemingway cats
 - c. Elliot cats
 - d. big-paw cats



Honey

Honey: "I'm Home!"

Honey, a beautiful senior cat, arrived at HART in January 2016 after her owner passed away. Born with a deformed, non-functional right eye, Honey came to HART in need of eye-removal surgery to prevent additional infection or possible eye cancer.

Expensive surgery, such as eye removal, costs more than the HART General Fund can afford; in a medical situation like Honey's, the HART Guardian Angel (GA) Fund steps in and covers the costs. Thanks to GA, Honey had her surgery in June. GA's year-round fundraising ensures that money will be available for such special medical needs.

Happily, Honey was adopted in September. Her new person reports, "Honey is doing really well. She's very active and loves to play." She noted that Honey is very social, greeting and "talking" to guests that come to the door. Honey also performs the welcome task of waking her new owner for work each morning at 6:30 sharp—which she does from her comfy lookout post on the bed. Honey is home.

Third Time's a Charm

by Julie Harper

It looks like the third time's a charm for Dusty. Dusty, a dove gray, green-eyed senior was relinquished to HART in 2013 when her family had to move from their home. She arrived at HART with her housemate, an aggressive male cat who had been her tormentor.

The HART staff works hard to match cats with qualified adopters. Dusty was adopted in July 2015, but was returned after five months because she was being aggressive to the resident male cat. Soon after, she was adopted by a HART volunteer who had a mellow male cat. Dusty had problems with this male cat as well, and after three stressful months she was returned to HART.

Then the magic happened. A couple came to HART to visit the cats. They met Dusty and instantly fell in love with her and adopted her. Recently, we received a picture (right) and the following note: "We adopted

Cammy (formerly known as Dusty) from HART in early July for my fiancé's birthday. The staff matched us with her and did a great job; she was the perfect fit and is his best friend!" Third Time's a Charm.



Cammy



Catequizm Answers:

1.d 2.a 3.b 4.d 5.c 6.b

How did you do?

5–6 correct: Cat Whisperer

3–4 correct: Apprentice Staff

0–2 correct: Fsssst!!