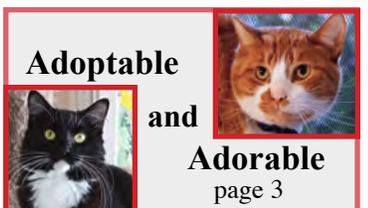




INSIDE THIS ISSUE



<p>Volunteer Spotlight Cleaners & Closers page 2</p> 	<p>Adoptable and Adorable page 3</p> 	<p>2017 Limerick Contest Winners page 4</p> 
---	--	--

The HART of the Matter

MEDICAL CARE VETTED

At the Homeless Animal Rescue Team (HART) shelter, two different funds cover medical expenses.

In addition to keeping HART's doors open, the General Fund (GEN) covers intake exams, treatments, and typical medical costs under \$150. The Guardian Angel (GA) Fund provides for more serious interventions, such as surgeries, dental work, and other costly procedures.

In 2016, HART's medical expenses, approximately \$41,000, totaled over 25% of the \$150,000 annual budget.

	GEN	GA
Medical Outlays	Cost*	Cost*
Spays/Neuters	5,500	
Lab work	1,500	4,800
Services: e.g., rechecks, x-rays	4,200	4,400
Medications	5,200	3,000
Dental/Extractions		5,300
Ear and Eye Procedures		4,900
Fracture Repair		1,700
Misc. (mouth biopsy)		400
Total	16,400	24,500

Why does medical care cost so much? The table at left provides a breakdown by funding source of HART's major medical outlays for 2016. Like medical care for humans, animal-care costs keep rising.

* Approximate

Medical director Evelyn Zanella does an intake examination on each new arrival and works tirelessly to keep our charges happy and healthy—for some, that means costly procedures. Medical expenses and services are subject to major fluctuations and depend upon the needs of our feline population as well as current economic conditions.

Photographer: Marilyn Zahn



Evelyn Zanella checks Clark's mouth during an intake exam.

During 2016, Honey underwent an eye removal, Garfield needed a mouth biopsy, and Frankie endured a fracture repair. GA covered all of these expensive procedures. The notable bonus: following their treatments, all three cats were adopted.

THANK YOU for your past contributions to HART. They have financed our mission and given our cats and kittens optimum medical care. Your generosity makes a positive difference in their lives. We appreciate your support and encourage you to donate as you can. Your wholehearted patronage keeps HART whole.

HART: A Kittenhanced Shelter

Photographer: Marilyn Zahn



The real meaning of "the whole kit 'n' kaboodle"

Kitten season is in full swing at HART. So it should come as no surprise to learn that we have kittens—black kittens, white kittens, tuxedo kittens, orange, tabby, and calico kittens—and continue to take in kittens weekly. All are adorable and need loving homes.

HART kittens are spayed or neutered when they weigh at least three pounds and are about 12 weeks old; after a week of recovery, they are ready for adoption. Vaccinated, treated for fleas, and microchipped, your kitten (or cat), comes with: a guide on introducing the adoptee to your home; a collar and tag; merchandise discounts; and a free, post-adoption wellness exam from a veterinarian.

"HART is a great place to get your kitten fix," says Evelyn Zanella, medical director and chairperson of the Adoption Committee. "We give our precious on-site and fostered babies lots of love and attention, and are committed to placing them in permanent, loving homes." Check out the kittens at HART, and reserve one—or maybe two—to take home.

A final note: consider whether you are prepared for a kitten. Kittens are babies, and just like young humans, they need close supervision and much attention until they mature. "If you're not sure you are ready for a kitten, try fostering one or more," Evelyn suggests. "It's a rewarding and enlightening experience."

Volunteer Spotlight: Cleaners and Closers



Rhys DeRose & Melon



Melon & Linda Turney



Loree Parral



Melinda Britz



Susan Lasher



Shale & Terry Hanson



Judy Mills & Leo



Mike Zarowitz



Julius & Julie Jenkins



Deanna Lydin



Left to right:
Pricilla Owens,
Melon, &
Krystal Wood

Volunteer cleaners and closers: HART's unsung heroes. The shelter needs them, the kitties love them, and everyone appreciates their hard work.

So what do they do? Working in the main shelter and/or the observation room (Obso), both cleaners and closers perform shelter-care and feline-care duties. And just as important, they often provide that extra bit of love our cats and kittens crave.

Cleaners: The job title says a lot about what cleaners do, but their responsibilities go beyond cleaning. While they begin the shelter day with sweeping and cleaning, they also disinfect floors, cat towers, cages, and all other items the cats and kittens come in contact with, e.g., scoops, boxes, toys, and bowls. They feed their charges (Best time of the day!), give them fresh water, scoop litter boxes, dispose of the results, and bring in fresh litter to replenish the boxes.

Closers: They don't close the deal, they close the shelter—actually, a very big deal. Closers are often the last people the kitties see at the end of the day. They make sure the cats and kittens are fed (Best time of the day!) and have fresh water. Performing many of same duties as the cleaners, closers sweep, clean, and scoop; finally, they secure and close down the shelter for the night.

Obso: Under the watchful eye of medical director Evelyn Zanella, cleaners and closers working in the observation room may also be asked to follow instructions tailored to meet the special needs of Obso cats and kittens, e.g., administering appropriate medications, attending to restricted diets, overseeing newborns, and dispensing TLC as they help ease the transition process for new arrivals to the shelter.

On the behalf of our cats and kittens, everyone at the shelter extends a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of the cleaners and closers for their invaluable and boundless dedication.



Evelyn Zanella



Paul Yeager &
The Dinner Crowd



Left to right:
Amanda Raver,
Carol Jean Attoe,
& Ann Pope

Photographer:
Marilyn Zahm

How you can help:
**VOLUNTEER TO BE
A CLEANER OR CLOSER**

★ UPCOMING EVENTS ★

Please consider adding these dates to your 2017 calendar. We look forward to seeing you as a participant, a volunteer, or both!

- JULYKittens, Kittens, Kittens adoption special
- NOV 24-30*Santa Booth at the Christmas Market
- AUG 26PG&E Siren Test
- NOV 30Festival of Trees
- SEPT 2Pinedorado Parade and Nacho Booth
- DEC 1-23*Santa Booth at the Christmas Market
- SEPT-OCTCause for Pause raffle ticket sales
- Visit HART's website and Facebook page for event updates throughout the year
- OCT 28Cause for Pause raffle drawing

* Closed most Mondays & Tuesdays



Dear Tabby

Tabbitha Von Purrman, syndicated columnist, dispenses advice to the lovelorn, forlorn, and timeworn of her species.

FELINE FEARS FIERY FANTASY

Dear Tabby,
Ordinarily, my genial disposition serves me well during periods of stress. Unfortunately, my Staff’s recent and dubious cuisine selections reflect a persistent disregard for my discerning palate. I resent their total lack of sensitivity, even as I continue to partake of the swill they offer.

And here’s the worst part: I find myself plagued with savage, recurring fantasies. Closing my eyes conjures frightening scenes of retribution. I have included an example for your analysis. Help me, Tabby. My anxiety threatens to overwhelm me.
Awake in Castaic



Genteel Felid,
First, your fantasies are perfectly normal. Now were you, say, a bunny or a golden retriever, you might have cause for alarm. You, however, are a CAT, and we formerly exalted-as-gods felines carry justifiable resentment of those who no longer worship at our altar. Rest easy, knowing you will not act on your fantasies—and no one will sell you dynamite anyway.

Second, your Staff needs further training. I recommend the following:

- 1) When fed common slop, respond assertively. Walk to the dish, bend delicately to sniff, recoil violently;
- 2) Do not, DO NOT eat anything you find offensive or that does not meet your standards;
- 3) Yowl loudly and plaintively as you search the kitchen counter for food;
- 4) While Staff eats, stare intently at each bite as it moves from plate to mouth, lick your lips, drool if you can. (Hey, it works for dogs.)

You’ll be fine. You’re a CAT...act like one!

<p>Business Sponsorships: Mutually Beneficial</p> <p>HART features our business sponsors by placing their logos on our website and in our publications. Many HART patrons are animal welfare proponents and take note of our business sponsors’ support. Consider a HART business sponsorship. Call us or visit our website for more information.</p>	<p>THANK YOU!</p>
--	--------------------------

Kittens? Sure... But take a look at these ADORABLE, ADOPTABLE ADULTS



Photographer: Marilyn Zahm

Melon, Now So Zen

Melon arrived at HART as one in a litter of five kittens relinquished in February 2016. Named mostly for their botanical colors, Cherry, Mango, Melon, Peach, and Peanut were known affectionately around the shelter as the “Fruits & Nut” kids.

Melon found a home in May 2016 and life seemed good. Sadly, due to unforeseen circumstances, he had to be returned to HART. The friendly orange tabby soon won the hearts of all his caregivers. Volunteer Marilyn Zahm summarized Melon’s charm, “... loved by everybody, he has the sweetest personality.”

Nine weeks later, Melon was adopted for a second time, and it seems he has found his well-deserved niche. His new owner, Ashley Richter, wrote to us:

“I just wanted to drop you a note to let you know Melon has adjusted beautifully to being a member of our family.

“He just loves having the run of the house, and really enjoys all the attention we lavish upon him. We were surprised to see that he always chooses a front row seat to our boys’ antics. Even when they are being wild, he chases after them and wants in on the action.

Photographer: Ashley Richter



Kelby (left), Tobyn (right), and Zen (né Melon) enjoying a play break.

“He is so mellow that we have renamed him ‘Zen,’ as in the Zen Master of our family. Already, he has brought us so much joy, laughter, and comfort. We are so fortunate to have adopted him.”

Many thanks to the Richters for sharing the joy, laughter, and comfort this HART graduate has brought into their lives. Namaste, Zen.

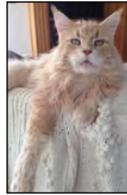
St. Patrick's Day Limerick Contest Results

HART is pleased to announce the winners of its 2017 Limerick Contest. We received 21 delightful entries. First, second, and third place, as well as an honorable mention, were awarded.

Congratulations to our four winners!

First Place: Betty Malone

Irishman Mr O'Malley
Has never set paw in an alley
Spoiled and well fed
At our house he's the head
And his charms are too many to tally



Mr. O'Malley

Did you know that you can give HART additional monetary support beyond what you already donate? FOR FREE! With an AmazonSmile account, Amazon will donate 0.5% (half of one percent) of your eligible purchases to HART—and it will cost you nothing.

One HART supporter reports that after two years, her eligible purchases through AmazonSmile contributed \$15.14 to HART, a small donation, true—but there is power in numbers. If 500 AmazonSmile members purchased the same amount, HART would have received \$7,570 extra dollars. That is real money.

Here are simple directions for signing up:

- 1) Go to www.smile.amazon.com.
- 2) If you have an Amazon account, sign in; if you don't, you must create one before you can sign up for AmazonSmile.
- 3) The "Pick Your Charitable Organization" page will come up. Scroll down and type "Homeless Animal Rescue Team" in the "pick your own charitable organization" box, then click on "Search." You will see a list of organizations.
- 4) The list includes many "Homeless Animal Rescue Team" groups. Be sure to click on the "Select" button beside "Cambria CA."

You are now signed up for AmazonSmile! Remember, to qualify, your purchases must be made using your smile.amazon.com account, not your regular amazon.com account.

HART's website also has a link to AmazonSmile.

Second Place: Dolores Burson

My cat is quite naturally smart
Because she's a Persian in part
She loves to eat cheese
And always says "please"
And, of course, she's a member of HART!



Third Place: Betty Malone

There is a three-legged Coon
Who's Mom loves him over the moon
He runs through the house
With a big catnip mouse
Then he sleeps everyday until noon



Cooper

Honorable Mention: Tom Bauer

A cat can always be sure
A rub and seductive purr
Can melt any human
With whom it's been roomin'.
What a cunning bundle of fur.



HART would like to thank all poets who sent in a limerick or three. What a talented group!



Wines Pines & Felines Gala



HART's 2017 Wines, Pines & Felines fundraiser was held at the Cambria Pines Lodge—and what a gala it was! Over 100 attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner, wine, and exceptional entertainment provided by Cafe Musique, the musical ensemble well known for delighting audiences with a mix of gypsy, swing, tango, folk, and "wild-classical" music.

The evening's program included an intriguing selection of raffle prizes and a live auction. Auctioneer Jill Turnbow energized bidders with her vitality and rapid-fire bid calling. Notably, over \$1,000 was bid on each of two prized auction packages. Event proceeds will cover shelter operations for one month, providing support for HART's mission: sheltering and caring for homeless cats and kittens.

Thank you to all our patrons who supported HART by attending this event, and to all donors whose generosity contributed to its success.

Photographer: Tom Lott



Table Guests: (clockwise from left): Gail Robinette, Verlinda Bailey, Ted Siegler, Joyce Renshaw, Tom Loganbill, Susan Loganbill, Ken Renshaw, Suzy Siegler, Becky Kincaid *Cafe Musique, on stage (left to right)*
Front: Duane English, Brynn Albanese, Craig Nuttycombe
Back: Eric Williams, Fred Murray