

## ANNUAL APPEAL

The **H.A.R.T.** of the Matter

This has been a very hard year for the shelter and we have real concerns about making it through another one, so we thought you might be interested in where the money goes.

While we are always looking for ways to lower costs, the reality is that our yearly budget is about \$145,000.00. This includes \$60,000.00 in fixed costs; the rest is, to some extent, dependant on the number of cats in our care. This year we had the added expense of completely rebuilding our website—a necessary tool in today's world. Typically, we spend about \$100.00 per cat, per month. Our \$5.00 adoption specials fulfill our Mission, but, certainly don't help balance the books!

Here's how you can help.

**Cleaners needed.** Maintaining clean cat living quarters is a daily job. Currently, we have 5 mornings with paid cleaners and 2 mornings with volunteers. Years ago, all of our cleaners were volunteers. Returning to all volunteers would save about \$1000.00 per month. Your cleaning commitment would involve one morning a week: scooping boxes, refilling food/water bowls, sweeping and general cleaning. This is the cats' favorite time of day: having their caretakers coming in, spending time with them and treating them like the little gods they once were. We guarantee you will make new friends, both human and feline.

**Medical team members needed.** Learn how to give oral and topical medications & how to handle cats safely (skills you can use with your pets). Depending on current needs, some cats need treatment up to 3 times daily (morning, midday, evening). Contact Evelyn Zanella at 927-2375 or email [hart.med.director@gmail.com](mailto:hart.med.director@gmail.com).

**Board and committee members needed.** As a board member, you become familiar with the inner workings of a non-profit. After a 3 month probationary period, you can elect to stay or go. If "stay", you can specialize in some aspect of the organization (medical, guardian angel, adoption, grants, maintenance, events, retail, etc.). Or, you can join any of the above "teams" directly. Contact our office or email us at [warmhearts@slohart.org](mailto:warmhearts@slohart.org) for meeting times. It's a great opportunity to get to know a cross-section of talented Cambrians.

**If monetary contributions are possible, there are various options.** Provide matching funds for publication costs (newsletters and event advertising), provide funds for supplies or medically-designated dollars for our Guardian Angel Fund. Purchase Shelter or Guardian Angel certificates for your friends, buy goods in our Gift Shop, donate any amount as a celebration or memorial for a loved pet or person. Leave the shelter a financial legacy in your will.

**New membership program.** As detailed on the card enclosure, memberships will provide a steady source of income for HART each year. You get a tax write-off for a registered 501 (c)3, and will be advised of upcoming events and specials: one event per year will be for members only.

**What we do.** Continuing and expanding HART's 31 year tradition of service, this year (through early November), in addition to monitoring local feral colonies, we have taken in 95 animals (24 locally relinquished adults) and adopted out 86, of which 3 were Guardian Angel special needs kitties. We coordinate with other



county animal rescue organizations. Our expanding humane education program is touched on in my accompanying comments (and is available to your group). Our semi-annual Goodwill Drive is an increasingly popular resource for local folks. HART humbly asks you to help us care for homeless animals by spreading a little kindness and compassion at this giving season.

Thank you for your help and have a fulfilling holiday season.

Mike Zarowitz  
President, Board of Directors



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Festival of Trees Dec. 6**

**Christmas Market Santa Booth  
throughout December**

**Farmer's Market Cat Adoptions**  
(Every Third Friday in Cambria)

**Lemo's Feed Cat Adoptions**  
(Every First Saturday in Morro Bay)

**Wines/Pines/Felines Event**  
April 12, 2015

**Goodwill at HART**  
April 24-26th 2015

HART's mission is to rescue domestic animals in need, place them in good permanent homes and eliminate surplus animals from being born through active spay/neuter programs. HART provides a unique, cage-free, free-roam environment.

HART is a non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Tax I.D. 77-0018508

2638 Main Street Cambria, CA 93428

[www.slohart.org](http://www.slohart.org) 805-927-7377

**BEHIND THE COUNTER: MEET OUR STAFF**

**Julie Harper** Though family history relates that her first childhood pet playmates were monkeys in Indonesia, and she recalls growing up in San Luis Obispo with 4-H lambs, showing quarter horses and raising dogs, Julie has always been a cat person at heart. Combine this with a family medical background (Dad was a Doctor, Mom is a nurse), and her enthusiasm for working at HART is understandable—she calls it her "dream job".

Her current personal pets are two feline, female litter mates, Comfy (a tortie) and Cozy (a tabby) who have seven acres in Atascadero to explore, but tend to stay close to home. Despite working as a music teacher for years (juggling many levels of skills and teaching various instruments), she was surprised by the complexity of the shelter job. Being the front office person involves not only working with the public and a constantly changing stream of volunteers, but knowing medical techniques and procedures, the inventory of the gift shop, doing financial reports and acquiring a long list of skills she looks forward to learning. Reporting positive feedback from our visitors (even those from other shelters) who remark on the friendliness of the people and the sociability of HART's cats, Julie personality and presence add to our welcoming environment. She hopes to be part of it for a long time to come.



l to r: Evelyn Zanella, Bear, Julie Harper

**Evelyn Zanella** A resident of Cambria and graduate of Coast Union High, Evelyn Zanella attended Cal Poly earning a BS in Animal Science. She then moved to Santa Maria to work as a vet tech for 5 years. When she moved back, Evelyn worked at Coast Veterinary Clinic as a senior tech and as an on-call tech for Special Care Veterinary Clinic; a mobile veterinary practice in Cambria. Married in 1987 she began a pet sitting service, called Auntie's Paws N the Pines, and became a member of Pet Sitters International and Central Coast Professional Pet Sitters Network.

After serving as a volunteer for many years, about a year and a half ago, Evelyn became HART's Medical Director. With Evelyn's organizational skills, past experience as a vet tech, and her fondness for all animals, we feel quite lucky to have her around. She works in close contact with our vet, ensuring all medical issues are covered. You will know her by her infectious laugh.

**ADOPTION CORNER: THE VERY SPECIAL EYELID KITTENS!**

A litter of 5 tiny, abandoned kittens--now named Leonardo, DaVinci, Penelope, Phoebe and Rosie--came to us from a parking lot in Paso Robles. DaVinci was very weak and dehydrated, but after some subcutaneous fluids and

of their lives). Surgery could be done, but as their case is not severe, a daily "lube" to keep their eyes moist should suffice. Our little Rosie--the smallest one--was adopted by volunteer Jennifer Ehlers and her family. She constantly entertains them with her silly kitten antics and is the light of their lives.

food in his little belly, recovered quickly. The rest just needed some food and a warm safe place to cuddle together. They went through a time of having heart murmurs and arrhythmia, but with lots of TLC from our Med Team Staff and in foster care, they all made it through. Eye Lid Agenesis is an incomplete formation of the eye lid, and, in the case of our five, involves only the edges of the upper eye lids. While its congenital, it has not affected their health and, unless you look closely, you won't notice anything other than the cutest expression and crossed eyes on their little faces. Their only need is a drop of eye lubricant 2 times a day (for the rest

Evelyn Zanella, Medical Director



## HART IN THE COMMUNITY



### GUARDIAN ANGEL CERTIFICATES

Give the gift of life, give a Guardian Angel Certificate for the Holidays or any special occasion.

This Certificate allows you to make a donation to HART's Guardian Angel Fund as a special gift to someone. The lovely Certificate announces your gift and thanks the recipient for helping save the life of a homeless animal. These funds are used to cover extraordinary medical expenses for HART's cats and kittens. The certificates are available at HART, 2638 Main Street, Cambria.

Read the stories of the animals that this special fund has helped on the Guardian Angel Facebook page: SLO HART Guardian Angels. Thank you!

I gave my presentation to the Cub Scouts Troop #217 recently. Aside from explaining to the kids the importance of spay and neuter (just kidding) it all went well. They wanted to talk more about their cats, the ones they got from HART (a big grey and white one), how they always come by and see the cats, how one is going to get a cat for his birthday this year, what was the name of the deer we helped save from the highway fence and how one of them was offered a job at the shelter when he gets older. I was in complete control the whole time (just kidding). They did ask if I brought any cats along—a good idea for next time. They gave us some donations. BTW, looking at them, I know I was NEVER that little!

The previous day, along with four other local non-profits, I was invited to talk at the Unitarian Universalist Community of Cambria. It was a very nice, warm celebration of giving—a reminder of all the good works being done in the community. We received a generous donation and I got to have cheesecake for breakfast.

We put the "O!" in Pinedorado! HART again took part in the Lion's Club Labor Day Pinedorado Celebration by manning the Nachos booth. Numerous HART volunteers assembled the chips, cheese, chilies, and peppers over the three-day event. In addition to basking in the fun and spirit of Pinedorado, HART earned \$450.

Mike Zarowitz, President

### GIFT SHOP FOR CAT LOVERS

Our gift shop for cat lovers opened its door on September 4th, 2014, with a ribbon-cutting and unveiling of our Cat Bench, donated by Diane Matzner of Ocean Heir and charmingly repainted by local artist, Judy Lyon. Our new gift shop is brimming with merchandise for all the cat lovers in your life.

In addition to quality pet "necessities" for Felines like food, litter boxes, beds and flea products (and a few goodies for Fido, too), we have cat-themed: art, aprons, books, bowls, collars and custom tags, greeting cards, magnets, mousepads, tee-shirts, totes, toys and treats.

All sales benefit shelter animals: some are earmarked for our Guardian Angel Fund (which covers extraordinary medical procedures). Prowl on by: 2638 Main Street in the historic East Village of Cambria. Our store offers lots of options for caring and creative holiday gifts this year.



### AN INVENTIVE INDOOR/OUTDOOR CAT SPACE

Verlinda and Gail wanted their two cats, Sedona & Salsa, to be able to live inside and still be able to enjoy the outdoors without the fear of harm. They melded their ideas with the expertise of their contractor, Gary Montgomery (of Los Osos) and a beautiful structure was built across the whole width of their backyard and several levels high. A fully enclosed area with ramps, walkways, logs, and spiral stairs all combine to make this an unbelievable cat space. The cats have a tunnel leading to a cat door that allows them to enter into the house whenever they please. For more information you can contact HART....927-7377.



### MEET BEAR: OUR NEW OFFICE CAT

After an extended time in foster care, Bear is back & settling in as HART's newest Ambassador, with the official title of Office Cat (although he is still available for adoption). Back in April he had his remaining teeth extracted, then in September he had three nasty little stones removed from his bladder and is now on a special diet to help reduce the chances of getting more in the future. Since he can't have any other type of food, he now has the privilege of being the office cat which he seems to be enjoying. He gets a lot of attention this way, although he will try to con you into thinking he is starving. Don't believe everything he says. Come see Bear and he will take you on a tour of his new accommodations.

### THE HART HOLIDAY WISH LIST

#### DIETARY NEEDS:

Fancy Feast canned  
KITTEN food  
Turkey flavor only  
Friskies canned pate food  
5.5 oz. cans

#### MEDICAL NEEDS:

Flea meds Vectra or Revolution  
in large quantity  
Microscope slides & cover slips  
ProBiotics - Forte Flora

#### EXTRA-SPECIAL NEEDS:

Small under-counter  
refrigerator for ISO (ours died)  
Thunder jackets for the shy &  
easily stressed cats in ISO  
Durable & easily cleanable  
cat trees or towers  
by Feline Snoozers  
(you can donate to HART  
through their site)

Gift cards from Home Depot,  
Lowe's or Walmart

Video Screens & players in  
rooms for kitties to watch  
entertaining videos  
Mini-blender for cat food

#### SUPPLIES

Paper towels  
Bottles of bleach for cleaning  
New terry cloth rags  
Laundry detergent for low water  
usage machines  
Mops & brooms  
5'-6' ladder

### TRENDING NOW: THE KITTEN SHOWER?

Recently we had an adoption of a kitten from a couple who had waited a long time to get another cat after the loss of their cat five years ago. While talking to the husband, he slipped out that they were given a "kitten shower" by their friends. This was something new to us, but upon listening to their description of the shower, we thought, what a great idea. A way to share the new bundle of joy with family and friends.

Friends make you a cat cake, give you cat gifts such as a litter box, cat toys, cat bed, cute cat bowls, cat food, cat cards and on and on. While kitten showers may not be a hot new trend yet, we think they're a sweet idea that deserves to catch on.

#### H.A.R.T.

Homeless Animal Rescue Team  
2638 Main Street  
Cambria, CA 93428

[www.slohart.org](http://www.slohart.org)  
805-927-7377

Visit our updated  
and expanded website  
and find us on Facebook  
at SLO HART Cambria