



## WINTER 2013-14 NEWSLETTER

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE FROM CAT TAIL ACRES SANCTUARY!

It is hard to believe that we have reached the first anniversary of being in our new, wonderful location, and it has been quite a busy and good year! We did lose some of the cats to old age this year, but all the others are doing very well, and continue to enjoy their warm home filled with lots of windows and light. They also get plenty of love and attention every day from me and my Assistant, Brandy, as well as from the several board members and volunteers who regularly come out to help us clean and to groom and give attention to the cats. MY THANKS to all of them for their invaluable help!

Thanks to the generosity of CTAS Vice President Mary Rumble and her husband Mark, the big porch we had built for the cats in early 2013 was further improved this Fall by adding a roof vent, two ceiling fans with lights, electrical outlets, and a ceiling. Now the more skittish ferals won't be able to climb up into the rafters of the porch roof which made it hard for us to get them down. And it will be much cooler in the porch on really hot days.

We are planning to hold our second annual **OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, June 8, 2014 at 2:00 PM so MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and please join us! You will enjoy seeing our happy cats, meeting wonderful animal advocate people, may wish to purchase our t-shirts and other goods that help us raise funds, and can indulge in snacks and beverages under the large shade trees in our beautiful yard on over 4 acres.

A great big THANK YOU to all those who have been donating cat food, and those who set up and monitor our cat food donation bins. Because of these people and their efforts, we believe we saved money on cat food in 2013. Once we compile all of

our 2013 statistics, we will publish that information for you in our Spring 2014 Newsletter since we believe in showing our supporters how we spend their precious donor dollars.

Because of the pro bono kindness and talent of Dwiti Ved, our website is now greatly improved! We recommend her website design and management skills to anyone out there looking to hire a gifted, dependable webmaster. Email us if you would like to know how to contact Ms. Ved. I also want to thank Eileen Liska-Stronczer for providing the new content for our website, and Eileen and Janet Douglas for their terrific work on our Newsletters. We are now working on getting our Facebook page updated and running before the New Year too.

Last but not least, please remember that if you gave us one or more cats, we truly need you to help support their care through regular donations. We estimate that we spend \$20/cat per month. Since we were there when you and the cats you gave us needed us, please don't forget them and us now. Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary is blessed to have many regular monthly donors, as

well as many others, and in fact, our donor base has greatly increased. So, to ALL of you we send a **BIG HUG** and our deepest gratitude! To those who have not been donating, please realize how much it costs to properly care for 196 cats, so please don't forget us. Thank you so much. Have a safe and joyous holiday season. See you in 2014....

LISA KOESTER  
Founder and President



In October, Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary was really pleased to host the Director of the Macomb County Animal Control Dept. and Shelter, Jeff Randazzo, along with two of his staffers, Aimee Orn and Sherry LaBelle, as well as Marie Skladd, the Director of Community Outreach for the Michigan Humane Society, and our newest benefactor, Addy Shattuck who owns three Pet Supplies Plus stores in Oakland County and who ran a cat food matching program at her stores for us this Fall.

Since assuming his Director position in Macomb County, Mr. Randazzo has been instituting many new efforts to help the animals of his county, notably including a free Spay/Neuter program made possible by a temporary grant. He and his staff visited our Sanctuary in order to get ideas about how to design a new room at their shelter where cats are not caged. We are gratified to have this humane-minded person now in charge at the county shelter. Marie is well known to many animal advocates in Michigan because she founded the Michigan Animal Adoption Network and the Animal Care Network that goes into the poorest and roughest neighborhoods in Oakland County to rescue neglected dogs and those used in dog fighting. Since taking her position at the MHS, she has reached out to dozens of animal rescue groups and shelters around the state to form partnerships that allow animals to be given a second chance instead of having to be humanely euthanized. Addy Shattuck has not only been an angel of grace to our Sanctuary because of all the food she and her customers donated to us, but over the decades she has helped, and continues to help, so many animals and animal rescue groups. She instituted "Kitty Cities" in her stores so formerly unwanted cats and kittens can live in a cozy environment until they are adopted. It was so terrific to have them all visit us!



Jeff Randazzo, Director of Macomb Co. Animal Control & Shelter, and Marie Skladd, Director of Community Outreach for the MI Humane Society



Aimee Orn & Sherry LaBelle of the Macomb Co. Animal Shelter.



Left to right: CTAS Board Members Debbie Ward & Elaine Savage in the main large room w/Pet Supplies Plus store owner, Addy Shattuck.



Sherry with TUFFY

Please come adopt one of our formerly feral but now socialized, friendly cats. Or, if you already have pets, please consider sponsoring one of our cats. More photos of our cats can be seen at our website: [www.CatTailAcres.com](http://www.CatTailAcres.com)



BONKERS with Miss Fluffy in the background



Smokey



Three Spot

## Ways to Help Us Raise Funds to Care for the Cats

- ✦ Make a donation by mail, monthly or whenever you can: CTAS, P.O. Box 183164, Shelby Township, MI 48318
- ✦ Make a donation monthly or whenever you can, via our website using PayPal and your own credit card. (Remember that PayPal does take a small processing fee out of your donation.) (We also want you to know that we have explored other ways you can conveniently make donations, such as direct deductions from your own checking or credit card accounts, but they charge a **lot** more than PayPal, so for now we just use PayPal.)
- ✦ Become a SPONSOR of one of our unadoptable cats, or ADOPT one of our adoptable, formerly feral cats.
- ✦ Go to our website and click on the active logo link to AMAZON and purchase whatever you need knowing that we will earn cash back on your purchase. (MORE details on the main page of our website.)
- ✦ On your computer go to [www.SHOP.COM](http://www.SHOP.COM), if new, register as a new user, create a user name and password, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, reply to the referral question by saying you were referred by [lakoester@hotmail.com](mailto:lakoester@hotmail.com).....then just shop the stores you already know and like to purchase whatever you need. Then **YOU** and Cat Tail Acres will BOTH earn cash back. There are now OVER 3,000 retail and online stores at MarketAmerica's [Shop.com](http://Shop.com) website. (MORE details are on the main page of our website.)
- ✦ Participate in our fundraising efforts throughout the year as we make them known to you (e.g., Charity Poker, Jingle Bell Run-Walk, RV Show, our Open House).
- ✦ If you make nice craft items, or baked goods, or any special items, contact us to bring them to our next Open House where you can sell them and donate all or a % of the proceeds to us.
- ✦ Organize a Garage Sale in your neighborhood and donate proceeds to the Sanctuary.
- ✦ Get a cat food donation bin from us and set it up in a pet store near you.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**48th ANNUAL DETROIT CAMPER & RV SHOW**  
**Suburban Collection Showplace**  
**46100 Grand River, Novi, MI 48374**

On **Wednesday February 5, 2014 from 2-9PM**, Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary will have Volunteers doing the Coat Check for this Opening Day of the Show. We will earn all the money from the coat checks (\$1 per coat), and will also be allowed to have a display and donation box. So, please stop by and visit our Table where you can also pick up a Coupon that will discount the cost of an entry ticket. For more information about the show go to: [www.marvac.org](http://www.marvac.org) Hope to see you there!



## SANCTUARY WISH LIST:

- \* Foster Homes for kittens and socialized adult cats we divert to our Sister Charity, Cat Tail Kitties, until they can be adopted into forever homes.
- \* Large 13 oz cans of canned cat food, and/or Wal-Mart Gift cards so we can buy them ourselves since we get a discount from them for buying in bulk.,
- \* Bleach
- \* New or Used Video Camera
- \* K.O.E. (a special concentrated cleaning solution used by many shelters and vet clinics that lasts a long time and works better than any other product). Available online from manufacturer Thornell, or by phone: 888-873-3442.
- \* Someone who could mow our lawn every other weekend in 2014 (late spring through early fall when grass grows).
- \* Someone to do the labor to expand the wood gate to our backyard.

## CAT FOOD DONATIONS

THANKS to:

Kelly & Betty Tower, Leigh Arrathoon, Carrie McDavid & Susanne Krispien, Scott Slater of Pet Supplies Plus in Milford, Marcus at Marketplace Pet Supplies in Clarkston, Samantha at Petsmart on Orchard Lake & 14 Mile in W. Bloomfield, Jonathan at Petsmart on Adams & M15 in Rochester, Megan Leitch at Pet Supplies Plus on Walton in Rochester Hills, Mike at Premier Pets on Southfield & 13 Mile in Beverly Hills, and Addy Shattuck, again, for all her incredibly generous food donations.

Margie Goldman for her generous donations of large cans of cat food, blankets, and other goods...all of which she buys for us from Amazon THROUGH OUR WEBSITE so we also get \$\$ back from her purchases for us!

Kellie at the Humane Society of Huron Valley for donating dry cat food, and to Jan and Michael-David BenDor for picking it up and delivering it to us.

Curves on Hayes near Canal Rd. in Sterling Heights and Carol Watterson for setting up a donation bin there in which not only cat food but blankets, towels, etc. have been donated.

Purina's People & Pets Program and the Michigan Humane Society for arranging a major donation of pallets of dry food.

If you live in or near these areas, please stop by and make CANNED cat food donations for our donation bins in these stores, and also please show them your appreciation by shopping there and thanking the store managers for helping Cat Tail Acres Sanctuary. And don't forget to let us know if you want a food donation bin from us which you can set up and monitor in the pet store where you shop. Thanks.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you have an email address PLEASE email it to us at: [CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:CatTailAcresSanctuary@gmail.com) so we can save on postage costs. We will be sending out regular letters and e-letters to all donors in January with their charitable donation totals for 2013 so they can have that data for their tax returns. Thank you.

## SPECIAL OCCASION & MEMORIAL DONATIONS

THANKS to:

John Kosniewski for his donation in honor of his sister Elaine and Mike Savage's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary! (And OUR Congrats to them as well!)

In loving memory of CTAS Bd. Member Elaine Savage's mother, Sophie Kosniewski, known to the family as "Grandma Kitty": Ken and Andrea Bazydlo; Brzner Family; Bob & Pat Covault; Diane Evans; Margaret & Roger Guilbert; Diane & John Mazzara; Sophia Milek Family; Frank & Donna Schonhoff; Judy Shearer; Charlotte Sopolinski; Carol & Tim Watterson; and Mike & Carol Zajac.

Craig & Velina Fulton, Don & Josephine Fulton, Karen & Jim Gregg and Jamie Russom; Jeff Lamb & Valerie Tchorz; Billie Lou & Michael Lamb; Sara Lanave; Kellie & Zak Love; Lisa & Marv Roten; Kristin & Russ Scott; Marie Skladd; A.J. & Kelli Stronczer; Sue & Joe Vernengo; and David & Lesley Williams for their donations in honor of Eileen Liska-Stronczer's birthday.

Ron Stronczer & Eileen Liska-Stronczer for donations in honor of the birthdays of Billie Lou and Michael Lamb.

## OUR 2014 CHARITY POKER FUNDRAISERS Sunnybrook Lanes, 7191 E. 17 Mile Rd Sterling Heights, MI 48313

- ✓ **Thurs.-Sun. Feb. 20-23**
- ✓ **Thurs.-Sun. May 7-10**
- ✓ **Fri.-Mon. August 7-10**
- ✓ **Sat.-Tues. Nov. 7-10**

**Mark your calendars** and plan on helping us earn crucial operational funds by either volunteering to help sell gaming chips for us, or by stopping by to actually play Poker, Blackjack, or Craps. The owners of the Gaming Room have remodeled it into a pleasant atmosphere, overlooking Sunnybrook's revamped golf course, and there is also a restaurant to serve both our volunteers and gamblers. The important thing to note is that we are able to raise a quarter of our annual operational funds just from these charity poker fundraisers, so please help out or stop by! **WE WANT TO PUBLICLY THANK THOSE VOLUNTEERS WHO WORKED SO HARD, OFTEN MORE THAN ONCE, TO HELP US RAISE NEARLY \$10,000 AT OUR 2013 POKER FUNDRAISERS...WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT THEM!**



**Have a Very Meowy Christmas  
or a Happy Hannukah!**