

For more information:
 860-669-1347

www.forgottenfelinesct.org

Follow Forgotten Felines on Facebook



Please save your recyclable cans & bottles for Forgotten Felines! Drop them off at the Clinton Town Dump or the shelter so we can use the proceeds to purchase plastic tarps to cover our screened catios.



Winter 2011

Contents © Forgotten Felines, Inc.

US POSTAGE
 ORGANIZATION
 NONPROFIT
 PAID
 CLINTON, CT
 PERMIT NO. 21

Address Service Requested

FORGOTTEN FELINES

A NO-KILL SHELTER



www.forgottenfelinesct.org

Follow Forgotten Felines on Facebook



Winter 2011

FIV Cats Need Homes Too!

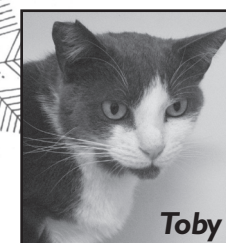
by Kringle

(with help from Debby Adams)

As the official greeter in the Forgotten Felines hallway, I meet many people looking for a new cat to take home and be a part of their family. They pet me on the head, scratch me behind my ears, and seem interested in getting to know me, until they find out I am FIV+. Then they move on to meet other cats in the shelter. My friends Danielle, Toby, who are also FIV+, are disappointed too. We are so friendly and relaxed around people, and would enjoy snuggling up with someone to call our very own. We think that there are still so many misconceptions about Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, that it is time to repeat the facts here, in hope that people and families will feel comfortable about adopting us into our forever homes.



their immune system. They should be fed healthy diets, though not a raw-food diet, as there is a risk of infection from uncooked meat and eggs. Most



Q: What is FIV?

A: FIV stands for feline immunodeficiency virus, a virus that weakens a cat's immune system, or its ability to fight infection and disease. It is a lentivirus or "slow" virus, and is similar to HIV in human beings.

Q: Can humans catch FIV from their cats?

A: No. FIV can only be spread from cat to cat.

Q: How is FIV transmitted?

A: FIV is primarily transmitted through deep bite wounds and scratches, particularly among unneutered, roaming male cats who fight over territory. It can also be transmitted from infected mother cats to their kittens, though this is rare. FIV does not spread from casual contact between cats, and so cats who are housemates in a stable environment and do not fight are not likely to pass the virus from one cat to another.

Q: Do FIV+ cats need any special care?

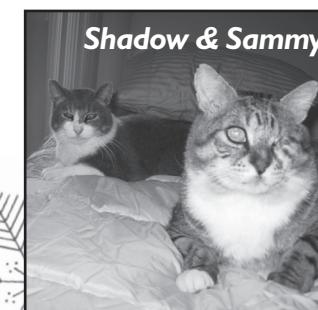
A: FIV+ cats must be kept indoors only, to prevent the spread of the virus, and also to protect them from contracting any infection or disease that would challenge

Some readers may remember Yancy and Grayson, who were adopted by Judy last year. Though rescued separately, when they were brought to the shelter, they became roommates and fast friends. Judy met them, fell in love, and now they are both happily sharing sofa space with her. Lucky boys!

"I fell in love with Grayson (Shadow) when he greeted me at the door and took the tour with me," said Judy. "And especially when he sat at the door as I was getting ready to leave. [He] looked up at me and said, 'Well? When are we leaving?'"

"Yancy (Sammy) was too shy to say hi to me. I will admit I was a bit nervous about the FIV, but truthfully, have almost forgotten they have tested positive. When I got Shadow home, he was as cute as a button, but ill at ease. I was feeling terrible about not taking Sammy. So, the next day, I went back and got the big guy. They greeted each other so cutely! Under the bed went Sammy!"

"It has been over a year. Shadow's fur is now thick and shiny and he is as lovable as ever -- snuggles under my comforter for naps -- and at night, I noticed he is getting a bit chubby now. [I'm] so glad to see that. Sammy...well, it took him awhile to trust me. Now, he is so affectionate. He's the one who meows me awake if I dare sleep past 7am. He allows me to cuddle him, but prefers to come to me for his scratches. He LOVES his belly rubbed."



FIV cats can't pg. 2

Winter Wish List

FORGOTTENFELINES is in need of the following:

- Baby food, stage 1, Beef, Turkey, Chicken or Ham
- Friskies - Canned and Party mix treats
- Whiskas perfectly fish pouches
- Fundraising volunteers
- Shampoos for cats and kittens
- HP 95 tri-color print cartridge
- Postage Stamps
- Advantage Multi
- Temptations (cat treats)
- Pill Pockets
- Scoopable litter
- Shift Volunteers
- Gas Cards for supply runs
- Yesterdays' News Litter
- Cleaning supplies
- HE laundry detergent



Attention all Essex Savings Bank customers: Forgotten Felines needs your vote!

Each year Essex Savings Bank donates 10% of its after tax net income to non-profit organizations and community development projects in its seven-town market area. Forgotten Felines will be listed on the 2012 ballot competing for a share of the money available through customer voting. Voting will run February 1 through March 15, so please stop by an Essex Savings Bank location and cast your vote for Forgotten Felines.



Amazon Wish List

Not sure what to get our Forgotten Felines for the holidays? Search for "Forgotten Felines, Inc. of Connecticut" on Amazon.com and see what they're wishing for.



WANTED: Used Cell Phones and Print Cartridges

If you have a phone you no longer need, please donate them to our shelter. 100% of the proceeds go directly to our programs.



WANTED: YOUR USED CAR! If you have a vehicle you no longer need, please donate it to our shelter. 100% of the proceeds go directly to our programs. You can save on your taxes too! Just call the fundraising hotline at 860-669-1347, and we'll come and take your old car away!

Please contact FORGOTTENFELINES at 860-669-1347.

New Year, New Volunteers

Make this the year you follow through on your resolution to volunteer by sharing your love of cats with us! Here's how you can help:

Shift Volunteers

•Come to the shelter one morning or evening per week to help feed the cats, change water bowls, empty litter boxes, wash laundry, and clean rooms, all the same things you do for your cats at home. Most important: give love to as many cats as you can!

•The morning shift is approximately 9-11AM, and the evening shift is approximately 4-7PM, flexible for those who work during the day.

Why volunteer at the shelter?

"I believe in Forgotten Felines and what they are doing. I want to help however I can. The cats have had a long, hard life already before they come here, and seeing them all snuggled in their beds at the end of the night is my reward." - Sue Mohr

"At the time of my father's death from cancer in 2007, much of my previous two years' energy had been spent on his care. I was suddenly in possession of a great many unclaimed hours... That's when I happened onto Forgotten Felines, where voiceless innocents are championed by volunteers. The people who give their time, exert their energies, and donate what they can amaze me every week with their

FIV continued!

"These are two of the most affectionate and sweet kitties. They play together, beg for catnip, and generally run the place. They are not sickly, but both are healthy, normal cats."

Now it is our turn. Please call the shelter today, and make an appointment to meet my friends Toby, Danielle, and me. We are cuddly lap cats, interested in everything you do, and you'll not find more loyal feline companions. Please give us a chance to show you that FIV+ cats are very much adoptable, forever friends!

Check Out Our New Website Today! www.ForgottenFelinesCT.org

generosity. We are all affected by the global economy, we are all affected by suffering anywhere. Our hands



Baby snuggles with his friend Ethan.

are freed from inertia when we use them to come together for the cause of homeless cats." - Stephanie Lombardo

Foster Homes

•If you can't volunteer at the shelter each week, the cats can come to you! We need temporary foster homes for mother cats and kittens and special needs cats. Special needs cats may require a special diet, daily medication, or a quiet home as they recover from surgery.

•Forgotten Felines provides each foster home with food, litter, and supplies, and pays for all vet bills.

•Foster homes should have one driver with a car to take cats or kittens for veterinary exams, shots, or spay/neuter surgery as needed.

•All you need is lots of love and a willingness to handle and play with the kittens or cats to teach them to be friendly and confident.

Why volunteer as a foster parent?

"I started fostering in memory of the cat I lost that was a rescue. Fostering allows me to be involved in the life and rescue of more than just one or two cats. Fostering can be far more

www.forgottenfelinesct.org
Follow Forgotten Felines on Facebook

rewarding and far reaching than adoption alone, and it's more flexible and fun!" - Eileen Maloney

"I became a foster Mom three years ago to Hope and her five kittens. Hope was abandoned with her six-day-old kittens in a closet. The owners moved out and left them behind.

When she arrived at my home, Hope was no more than three pounds, exhausted and scared. We settled Hope in with her babies and remarkably it did not take them long to trust and love another human. Animals like Hope are amazing because in spite of being neglected they still choose to love again. Since Hope, I have fostered 25-35 kittens. Currently, I am fostering a special needs cat named Baby. Baby is diabetic and needs shots twice a day. It only takes me seconds to give him his shot and off he goes to find a warm bed to nap on or a child to snuggle. Baby is one of the most affectionate cats I have had the privilege of fostering. My greatest hope for Baby is to find him a permanent home in 2012!" - Kristin Song

If you want to join us at Forgotten Felines and make a difference in the lives of homeless cats, there are many opportunities available, including fundraising and grant writing. Volunteer application forms can be found on our website, www.forgottenfelinesct.org, or you can call us at 860-669-1347 for more information. There's no better time than now to get started!



Catio Update

Check out our newly finished catios. Our cats from the peach and blue rooms are enjoying the new outdoor spaces. A big thank you to all who made this possible!



Catio photos by Kristie Valentino

First Adoption Day

On September 25th, Forgotten Felines hosted its first ever 'Open House Adoption Day' at the shelter. Finding forever homes for our cats is our priority and we needed to think of a new approach to boost our adoptions. Though we were a bit apprehensive about opening our doors (and publishing our address) to the public, we took every precaution to ensure our feline friends' safety. A kind volunteer offered to install surveillance cameras at our front door and back catios without charging us for labor and we had more than enough volunteers step up and offer to help run the event.

At least 70 people walked through the shelter that day and the event resulted in three adoptions. One of the adoptions was for a very special kitty with health issues and we were all thrilled that this cat found such a wonderful, caring family. Everyone who came to the shelter was impressed with the facility, its cleanliness and the wonderful variety of cats that live there.

We will be doing other Adoption Day events in the future. Please keep an eye out and tell your friends who may be considering an addition to their family.

Our Mission

FORGOTTENFELINES Inc. is a charitable, non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers and supported solely by contributions. Our mission is to stop the proliferation of homeless cats in our community. At our humane, no-kill shelter, we provide rescued cats with nutritious food, warm beds, and expert care, with the goal of finding them permanent, loving homes.

All the cats we rescue are spayed or neutered, given thorough examinations, vaccinated, and tested for fatal feline diseases. Feral cats are released into managed colonies or barn homes, where they receive food and shelter.

Thanks to all our generous supporters and volunteers, including newsletter editor Debby Adams; graphic designer Sarah Maxwell; the contributing writers and photographers; and our volunteers for assembling.

Thanks also to the following local businesses: Shore Publishing for featuring our articles, notices, and cat adoption photos; Killingworth Animal Hospital; and Shoreline Animal Hospital.

Special thanks to all our wonderful volunteers!

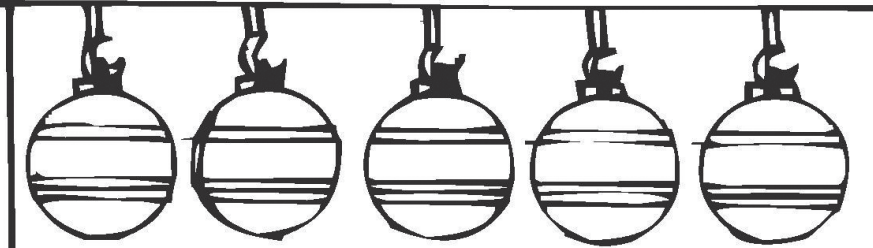
www.forgottenfelinesct.org
Follow Forgotten Felines on Facebook

Forever in Our Hearts

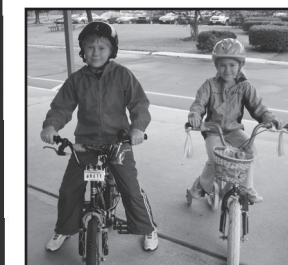
By Virginia Van Norden
Forgotten Felines Director

To the dear friends we have lost this year, please know that you will never be forgotten. Whether you were with us for over a decade or a few short days, your lives touched us more than you can imagine, and we find comfort in knowing that we will meet again at the Rainbow Bridge. Almond, Antony, Blake, Dennis, Domino, Hokey, Jeffrey, Jet, Joey, Jordan, Kitchee, Layla, Maggie, Mattie, Nutter Butter, Sophie, Sylvie, Will and Zoe, we love you, we miss you, and you will forever have a place in our hearts.

Pedal for Paws Success



A little morning shower didn't stop the eighty riders who came out to Pedal for Paws on Oct. 1. Families and friends enjoyed our shoreline views and baked treats while raising valuable funds for our felines. A big thank you to them and our sponsors!



- Sapia Group LLC
- Getcontrol.net
- The Cheese Shop of Centerbrook
- Carpe Diem Racing LLC
- The Sawtelles
- Finkeldey's B.M.J.
- Essex Vision Center
- Guilford Savings Bank
- Deep River Snacks
- Fiore's Pizzeria & Restaurant
- Clarke Cycles
- Starbucks of Old Saybrook
- Madison Stop & Shop
- Guilford Big Y
- Lyman Orchards
- Eye Doctors of CT
- Shoreline Medical Associates

