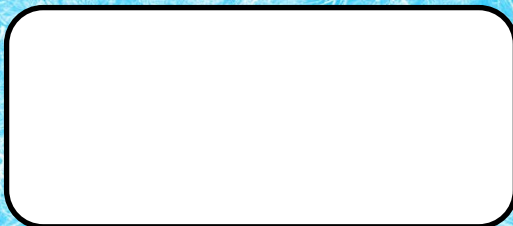


**TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL  
CATS-ARE-PURRSONS-TOO**  
P.O. Box 59067  
Chicago, IL 60659  
[www.touchedbyananimal.org](http://www.touchedbyananimal.org)

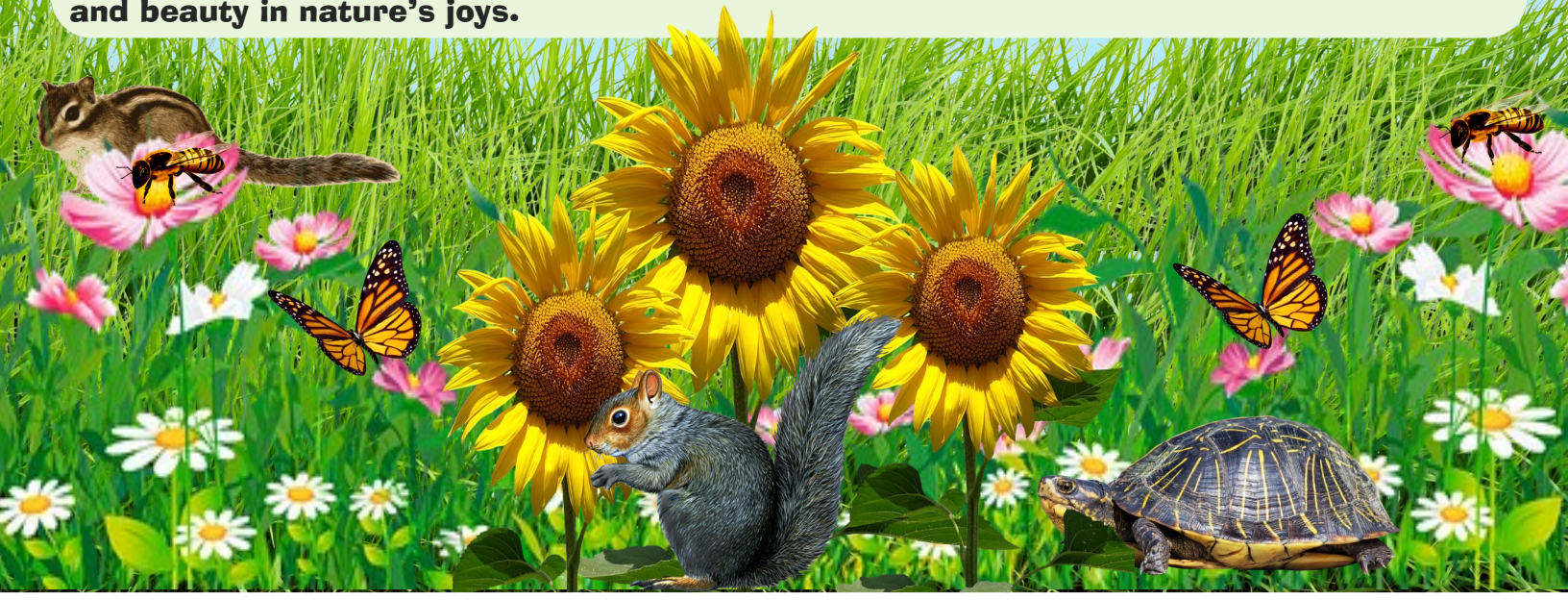


## **SPRING AND SUMMER**

**THE HAPPIEST, BRIGHTEST, MOST HOPEFUL  
TIMES OF THE YEAR**



Let's ENJOY buds bursting with life, colorful flowers, chirping birds, busy chipmunks and squirrels, productive butterflies, and honeybees. The birdfeeder hanging on the beautiful Cherry Blossom tree just outside my office window provides delightful moments of joy, surprises, smiles, and entertainment for me and my two cats (who are safely inside, of course!). We hope your summer is bringing you such days of delight and beauty in nature's joys.





In early May our Little Blue House on Berwyn is already bursting at its seams with **KITTENS, KITTENS, KITTENS,**



**Frito**



**Rhapsody**



**Fun-Yun,  
Poptart,  
Melody**



**Melanee  
Our Super Mom**



**Tiger &  
Miley**



**Minxy, Cheeto, & Lyric**



**Beyonce & Kittens**



some with protective Momcats, brought or left in boxes, some nearly newborns squealing their needs -- immediate and persistently often -- for bottle-feeding and cuddling. Some found in alleys or bushes, some abandoned, some from people who just don't want them, or cannot afford them, or are feeling overwhelmed with changing health, family, or landlord issues.

**We open our door, as we have for 38 years, with a RESIGNED SIGH and a PRAYER** for the rescuer whose motive is clearly caring and not for us to judge. Even as we smile reassuringly at the frightened newcomer, we mentally review the well-learned list of steps that will



**Mama Lucy & Kittens**



interrupt rest of the day -- and trust that **GOOD FRIENDS** who know that **CATS ARE PURRSONS TOO** and who, themselves, are being lovingly **TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL**, will provide the **ADDITIONAL MONEY** and **VOLUNTEER HELP** we will need to care for these precious little ones.

**Our faithful HOUSE MOTHER, MELANEE, must FIRST** prepare bottles of "Kitten Milk Replacement" for the screaming tiny ones, and while she is feeding/cuddling, she plans how to rearrange already occupied cages and cubicles.

Then a quick look-over checkup for each newcomer -- fleas? Ear mites? Ringworm? Eyes clear? Signs of a cold, upper respiratory infection? Any wound? Pain when touched? Normal movement? Obvious need for a quick bath? Isolation? Or just a cozy bed and reassurance, maybe soft music, with plentiful food and no feline visitors for a day or two.



**Next, start health file, inform evening visit Vet Tech, schedule appointments for next 6 to 8 weeks: contact a volunteer driver to take to our vet for first exam, FIV/FELV test, first of 2 to 3 dewormings, first of 2 FVRCP vaccines, microchip, spay/neuter, rabies vaccination, treat any abnormalities or questionable progress, complete bloodwork, dental as needed.**

**During the next few weeks, observe and describe each cat's unique personality for prospective adopters. Field inquiries, interview, spend time with visitors, be a matchmaker for each cat's lifetime, loving home.**



**Dr. Ashley Rossman, DVM**



**Flapjack**

**THEN IS OUR MISSION COMPLETE FOR THAT CAT BROUGHT TO OUR DOOR, ENTRUSTED TO US, CARE ENABLED BY YOU.**

**By now the orphaned newborns are awake and again squealing for more warm milk and secure feeling of mother's heartbeat. Melanee will take baby(ies) home with her to continue filling these needs every two hours**

**throughout the night, sometimes engaging husband Tom and two daughters. We know that statistically only 1 to 2% of orphan kittens survive without their feline mom's colostrum and immunity provided in her milk and saliva licking them -- and sadly we do lose some, but at least they feel secure and content in Melanee's wrap-around love.**



**Melanee, our SUPER MOM, with Tom, her caring husband, & Ella her helpful daughter**

**SO—WHO DO WE CELEBRATE ON MOTHER'S DAY? MELANEE, and our motherly staff and volunteers, and ALL OF TBA'S sweet, tired feline MOMCATS who deserve LOVING PAMPERING HOMES themselves.**



**Eva, cat whisper**



**Rhoda, cat comforter**



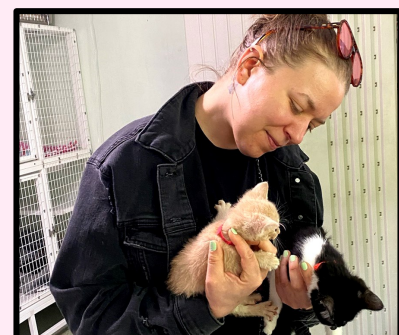
**Cassie, our faithful volunteer for 8 years and counting**



**Mireya, our super dedicated cat care & house cleaning person, with a fresh load of towels**



**Cynthia, our evening meds Vet Tech & helper**



**Corrine, our Vet Tech that checks each feline weekly**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**



**Beautiful Kittens  
Blooming Everywhere!  
Come Pick Your Choice to  
SPONSOR, ADOPT, OR FOSTER.**







**Dr. Richard Rossman, DVM**



**Scott, with Minxy our super patient Grandpa Cat who nurtures every kitten especially orphans.**



**Tom & Queenie**



**William**



**Bill & Bear**



**Maurice**



**Chip & Cheeto**



**Chris & Cats**



**Roy & Terry**



**Andy,  
Board Chairman,  
Webmaster,  
IT Consultant**



**Pat & May**

# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

**To Our Super Dedicated and Helpful Dads!**





# WHILE OUR KITTIES ARE ENJOYING SUMMER FUN in our triple-screened CATIO



**Rich Redig**

## We are most grateful to our SKILLED, GENEROUS, FORWARD-THINKING DADS & THEIR HELPERS

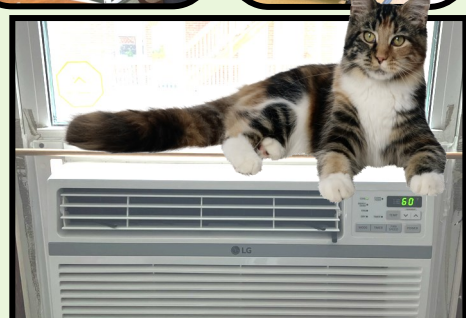
who are working on our 125 year-old house REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

RICHARD REDIG, has been, for many, many years, our GO-TO Professional for electrical, plumbing, and repair needs. This Spring he and his co-worker Ron, have spent many days updating and replacing all electrical outlets, ceiling fans, faucets, and plumbing.



We MEOW LOUDLY our BIG THANK YOU to PETER DEIMEL for our 4 new window air conditioners, and to KAREN CRANE for designated donation. Peter and Karen have both furnished our isolation and maternity/kitten rooms with easy-to-clean, comfortable, 2 and 3 tiered cages, lots of toys and supplies from our Chewy.com and Amazon Wish Lists.

PETER has hosted fundraising evenings at his River North restaurants, AZUL and FAME SUPPER CLUB, to replace our refrigerator, washer, dryer, wheelchair ramp, and repair/paint our front porch.



**THANK YOU, PETER, FOR  
KEEPING OUR HOUSE COOL  
WITH 4 NEW  
AIR CONDITIONERS!**



Watch for your invitation to this Summer's delightful evening at Peter's beautiful Azul Rooftop Restaurant, the proceeds of which he is contributing to replace our vinyl flooring and kitchen cabinets. Meanwhile Julia, Alice, and Daniel are beautifying our front yard with lovely Hostas and Coleus.



# Congratulations Graduates! Touched By An Animal Summer Class of 2022.



Ruffles



Cheeto



Tango

Like all teachers and parents, we can only hope that our little graduates will go on to long, happy CAREERS that enhance, amuse, and comfort their family members.

MUTTS by Patrick McDonnell



Dabney



Rhapsody



Dorito



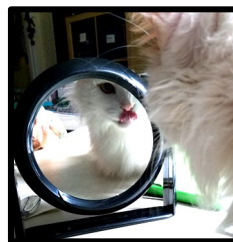
Sonny



Cartoons used with permission ©.



Kelly,  
Adopting  
Cholula &  
Tabasco



Gotta look my  
best



for meeting  
Adopters!



Brian & Piper

We also hope they will inspire their humans to CONTRIBUTE REGULARLY AND GENEROUSLY to CATS-ARE-PURRSONS-TOO ENDOWMENT FUND, PAYING IT FORWARD, for the upcoming feline enrollees.

Each of our alumni has already TOUCHED MANY HEARTS in our home, and we trust their humans will remember that other cats and families will need the same opportunities.

Let's keep our SPECIAL CONNECTION. Read and SHARE our quarterly newsletters, website updates, social media posts, infrequent E-Mails. NOTIFY US of address and contact changes. BE ASSURED that we are ALWAYS here to help our alumni and their families. Let us know of changing circumstances – We CARE!



# MARIJON'S GRADUATION ADDRESS To Families & Friends



Even as I write this summer-sunny newsletter, and am happy to share with you the daily joys of caring for our safe, contented, rescued cats and the kind, gentle, generous, people of TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL, I am saddened, by continuing news of unrelenting suffering in Ukraine, Buffalo, Uvalde, others. Looking back at our cover page, designed in early May, with theme of “the happiest, brightest, most hopeful times of the year,” I know that caring people – you and we – are struggling to see how our Mission can “GENTLE THE EARTH” as we muse over the innocence of animals, nature, seasons. I know that I, even together with you and all the good people we know, cannot change the whole world. But we can, and do daily, effect great changes in the purrsonal and personal world of those we work with each day.

I PRAY with Francis of Assisi, known worldwide and through centuries, for his gentle caring about animals and nature,  
“Lord make me an instrument of your peace;  
Where there in darkness, let me sow light,  
Where there is sadness — joy, despair, — hope, doubt, — faith,  
For it is in giving that we receive.”

*Gentle the Earth*



Why in our Mewsletters, are we eager to show you these photos, to tell you more “good news stories” each season, albeit limited by page space to only a few when there are so many daily?”



We want to RECOGNIZE, NAME, HONOR, the MANY, humble “INSTRUMENTS” who do effectively, CHANGE THE WORLD every day for the cats, kittens, callers, visitors, who reach out to our organization hoping for changes in their lives, their world. Each has been TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL, and are TOUCHED BY YOU, with the HEALING KINDNESS, EMPATHY, CARING RESPONSE, they so need and APPRECIATE.

Our diligent STAFF and generous VOLUNTEERS are the LIFEBLOOD that courses through our organization, keeping us going and generating NEW LIFE DAILY to our staff and cats. We like to picture, name, and THANK them.

BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE – It is YOU, TBA's FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS, especially MONTHLY CONTRIBUTORS, who pay the inevitable bills for medical care.

YOUR SELFLESS SHARING purchases our essential cat food, litter, cleaning supplies, house repairs, utilities, gasoline, office and computer needs, etc.

YOU ARE THE VILLAGE TRUSTEES in whom we place our faith that we CAN say YES to wide-eyed kittens, a second-chance cat, a humbled person.

YOU ARE THE DECISIVE ENABLERS that make possible the very existence of a home where CATS ARE PURRSONS TOO and where persons TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL can confidently ask for help.

YOU are INSTRUMENTS of PEACE – where there is sadness, you bring joy, despair – hope, doubt in human kindness – faith.

The photos we share are of YOUR CATS, the SUCCESS STORIES, are of the animals and people whose worlds YOU have changed. We pray that in YOUR giving, you receive blessings and feel the LOVE our heartfelt gratitude sends. YOU are the HOPE of feline generations whose FUTURE is NOW.

Minimum for each kitten \$200+ possible specialty or emergency vet care. Yearly updates for cats: minimum \$100++ more for diagnostics, dentals, and expected aging problems.



# Please Contribute to Our Scholarship Fund



Some much-loved cats are awarded FULL SCHOLARSHIPS to continuous CAMP in our little blue house where CATS ARE PURRSONS TOO.

TBA'S PRIMARY MISSION is to enhance the bond that keeps people and their loved pets together with whatever help, physical or financial, or resource networking might be needed.

That is why we do not call our organization a *shelter*, but a HAVEN or HOME, and our wonderful staff and volunteers and feline houseguests our FAMILY.

These numbers change weekly/often daily,

CURRENTLY we — and you, our reliable donors, are supporting:

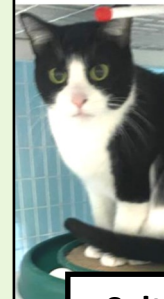
- 39 Cats (including 3 pregnant)
- 40 Kittens (newborn - 12 weeks)
- 12 Boarders (whose grateful people visit often)
- 8 offsite monthly provisions -- of food, litter, medicines sent to needy families



Astro, Missy, & Star

Cheryl's apartment building has been sold recently to a "no-pet policy owner." Although she lived there for many years, her 3 cats are more important to her than her place, so she has brought them to us for safekeeping while she searches for a new full family residence.

Noah had to have an emergency surgery. His friends stepped in to feed and scoop litter box for his 2 cats, Salt and Pepper. But he suffered medical complications, more surgeries, and extended rehab time. Confused and unsettled by Noah's long absence, Salt and Pepper huddled together in hiding places when their helpers entered their home. They are now with us, accepting lots of reassurance and petting until Noah can take them home.



Salt & Pepper

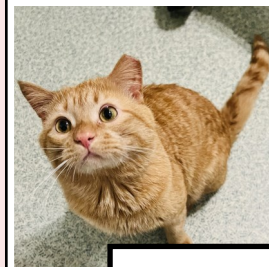


Kitten

Kitten's family struggled financially through the pandemic, with both parents losing their jobs. They had to move in with a friend while they get back on their feet, and do not want to surrender 8-yr. old Kitten, so pleaded with us for his temporary boarding. We are glad to help because we understand their close bonding.



Jean's grandmother died, leaving two beautiful cats and plea for their lifetime home with Jean, who also loves them & wants to keep them in her beloved grandmother's memory. But her landlord will not hear of it. So Jean asked if these grieving cats can board with us while she relocates to a new place and cleans out both her grandmother's and her apartments. We cannot ease Jean's loss of her grandmother, but we can appreciate her loving attachment and eventually reunite her with her feline reminders.



Autumn & Smokey



To **RESCUE & REHOME** is for us a **SECONDARY MISSION**, although, sadly, the need is more visible, often urgent, and numbers overwhelming.



Sandy & Doc



Basket of Kittens



Pebbles



Judy & Bella

We, and the caring people who rescue, or for some reason must surrender a family feline, are glad our **Little Blue House** and our welcoming staff and volunteers are here. They do not see, so cannot thank, **YOU ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL BEHIND-THE-SCENES DONORS** who make our work and our home possible, who **ENABLE** our **EVERY "YES, WE CAN HELP."**

After many attempts to lure a young mother cat with five babies into a large cage, a kind woman ("not even a cat person") she says, called several listed shelters, but received repeated, "no room" or "apply on-line and we'll call you" or simply no answer. She left the cage under a stairwell for another day, but when she returned in 100+ heat, she saw that the mother cat was almost motionless, dehydrated, and unable to eat. Her five babies lay still. Our Melanee answered the evening call and met the woman at our home to discover the cage crawling with maggots. Cynthia, our evening vet tech, was there, so together they were able to gently wash and revive each kitten and Momcat. In days since, lots of TLC from volunteers and visitors to Melanee's office, have brought the little family to life, although a young Mama is understandably cautious.



Calpurnia

Melanee's text to me that evening began with an **APOLOGY!** "I'm sorry; I know we are overfull, and you told me today that our bank account is dropping dangerously short of our safety line, but I just couldn't leave these or this good woman's efforts."

**My Answering Text:** "Melanee and Cynthia, you are apologizing for being **HEROES**, devoting your evening to saving lives and validating this dear woman's efforts? **THANK YOU!** and **MANY THANK YOU BLESSINGS** from the Creator of these innocent little ones!"

Surely this story would cap those in our Summer Newsletter, still being composed with happy-ending stories to let you know how we have been spending your gift monies and the lives changed by our Mission. I feel confident our friends will respond with contributions to keep us going.



Pavlova





**TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL'S  
PRIMARY MISSION**

*Helping people to keep their beloved pets in their homes, derives from our*

**CORE VALUES**

*of respecting, valuing ALL living beings, and affirming the mutual love and healing benefits that humans and companion animals give each other by enabling people to keep their pets through health and financial challenges.*



The next morning our confidence was tested further.

Melanee found on our porch a closed gym bag left overnight. Inside was a very frightened, confused, pregnant cat, with no room to turn around, no food, no water.

As she was bringing the cat inside a man walked up the porch stairs and explained that in his car (98° already) are his two much loved cats (M+F, not "fixed") whose offspring, 6 months old kittens, Melanee had accepted last week, explaining that we would board the parent cats as soon as adoptions gave space.

She did not know that they were all living in his car while he hunted for an affordable apartment. "Yes, bring them into our air conditioned home, and you stay for awhile to cool yourself. You can help settle them in."



**It takes more than a village to change our world; it takes a value system living in the hearts and daily actions of BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE who bring the SUNSHINE to our lives in EVERY SEASON.**



Just these stories out of similar daily/ weekly ones over this Spring and Summer. I began this Newsletter in early May to share with you

**WHAT WE DO and  
WHY WE ARE GLAD WE ARE HERE.**



We hope they make you smile as you recognize YOUR SUCCESS STORIES and meet YOUR CATS and the PEOPLE whose world YOU have indeed changed. We TRUST that you will continue to support TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL and the home where CATS ARE PURRSONS TOO.



Minxy & Doc



Tabasco & Tiger



Max



Bear

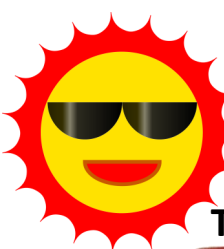


Fun in the Sun!

# Our Cats Dreaming of Fantasy Travels!

How about a trip around the world?

THE WORLD IS A CAT



PLAYING WITH AUSTRALIA



But our real dreams are of loving families



to be **LOVED FAMILY MEMBERS** for a **LIFETIME** of seasons and celebrations with our humans.

We do not speak of "forever homes" because circumstances do change, and we want our adopters to know that every cat we take in always has a welcome home here if needed for any reason - temporarily or permanently. Don't hesitate to call; we are here for you, and for the feline who once was a valued member of our family where **CATS-ARE-PURRSONS-TOO**.

Electra & Frito



Savannah & Doc McStuffins



Eidelman Family, Sunny, & Lyric

