

Mewsletter

For the friends of the Independent Cat Society, a no-kill cat shelter

Fall 2012 #135

Tuxedo Cats: *A class act!*

Cats are well-known throughout the animal kingdom for their elegance, but for sheer style and class, look no further than that epitome of feline fashion, the tuxedo cat. Tuxedo cats are actually one pattern of bicolor cats. All bicolor cats have the white spotting gene to various degrees, as well as a gene which inhibits expression of tabby markings. There are different “grades” of bicolor cats ranging from low grade which have little white, usually a small touch at the throat, to high grade which are mostly white. The tuxedo pattern is considered low grade. The classic tuxedo cat is black and white, but this pattern can be found with the tux in any solid color as well as tabby or tortie. These well dressed cats are found in domestic shorthairs as well as long-haired breeds. There are even “Snowshoes,” which are Siamese cats sporting formal wear, and wearing it beautifully. There are limits though: cats, having innate good taste, unlike some humans, would never be caught dead wearing a powder blue polyester tuxedo.

Not content with sartorial splendor, tuxedo cats have a distinguished history in literature, the arts, and entertainment. T.S. Eliot’s well-known book *Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats* features “Jellicle Cats,” which were actually tuxedo cats. The following is an excerpt:

The Song of the Jellicles

by TS Eliot

Jellicle Cats come out tonight,

Jellicle Cats come one come all:

The Jellicle Moon is shining bright

Jellicles come to the Jellicle Ball.

Jellicle Cats are black and white,

Jellicle Cats are rather small;

Jellicle Cats are merry and bright,

And pleasant to hear when they caterwaul.

Jellicle Cats have cheerful faces,

Jellicle Cats have bright black eyes;

They like to practise their airs and graces

And wait for the Jellicle Moon to rise.

The long running musical *CATS* by Andrew Lloyd Webber was based upon this book, and although the cats in the musical are not all portrayed as tuxedo cats, one of the lead characters, Mr. Mistoffelees, is a flashy and magical example.

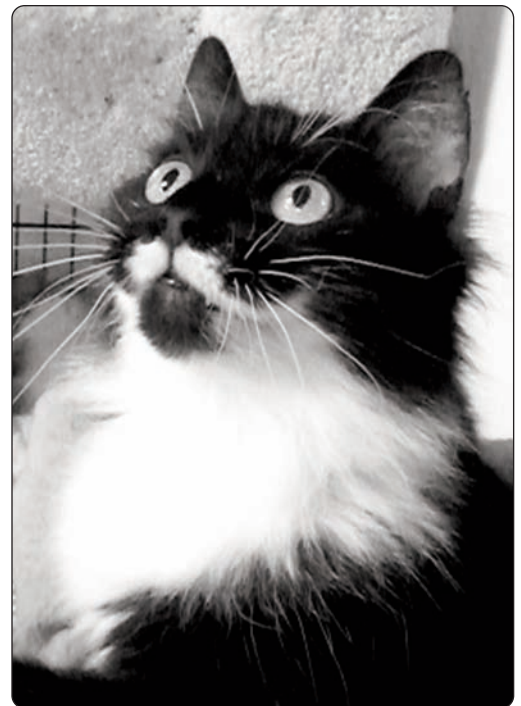
Cartoonists have always been “drawn” to tuxedo cats. **Felix the Cat**, who began his career in the era of silent films is still beloved today, and **Sylvester the Cat** has delighted audiences since 1945, winning three Academy Awards in the process. Cute little **Figaro** first appeared as Gepetto’s cat in *Pinnocchio* in 1940, and even helped the war effort by being the official mascot for a famous Royal Air Force flying ace. The newest addition to this distinguished group is the larcenous but alluring **Kitty Softpaws**, love interest of Puss in Boots, who is himself an orange tabby with tuxedo markings. Tuxedo cats definitely have charisma and just seem to naturally gravitate to the limelight!

Let’s not forget public service, because there has even been a tuxedo cat in the White House. **Sox** served the country under President Clinton by keeping the White House free of rodents, all the while looking tasteful and refined as befitted his august residence.

At the time this article was being written, we had 28 black and white cats who could be considered tuxedo cats. While they may have different lengths of fur and different personalities, every one of them is a classy kitty who would happily join your family and turn your home, however humble, into a stately mansion. Please come visit them at the shelter during our open hours—but don’t worry, you can come as you are. No formalwear required!



Elmer



Silly

Mewsletter

Published for the
friends of the

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Also on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/indcatsociety

The **Independent Cat Society, Inc.**, founded in 1977, is a non-profit, no-kill cat shelter on US Rt 6 at the Porter/LaPorte County Line Road in Westville, Indiana.

The **Independent Cat Society's** mission is to promote the welfare of all animals, especially cats, by reducing pet overpopulation, educating the public, preventing cruelties to animals, promoting responsible pet ownership and working for more humane legislation.

Adoption hours:

Saturday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Others by appointment.
Please call (219) 785-4936.

Adoption fee: \$75

Includes: Spay/neuter, vet exam, feline leukemia and FIV test; age-appropriate vaccinations; parasite treatment; tattoo ID or microchip; 30 Day No Cost Pet Insurance; cardboard cat carrier; and free follow-up post-adoption participating vet visit. Companion Cat: \$25.

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Calendar of Events

September

ICS Annual Fall Yard Sale

September 29 & 30, 10 AM - 3 PM

At the ICS Shelter, LaPorte/Porter County Line Road
Also featuring Three Old Cat Ladies Cafe
Donation drop-off Friday the 28th from 9-3 at the Shelter

October

National Feral Cat Day (October 16)

Feral Cat Shelter Making

October 14

Ogden Dunes Volunteer Fire Department

November

35 And Alive! Anniversary Celebration

November 3, 6 PM - 10 PM

At the Old Town Banquet Hall in Valparaiso

December

Holiday Open House

December 15 & 16

Saturday 10 - 4, Sunday 1 - 4

At the ICS Shelter, LaPorte/Porter County Line Road

Baked goods available

Donations welcome - canned cat food, paper towels, cat litter

Aunt Kitty's Trash & Treasures Yard Sale!

Clean out those closets, because Aunt Kitty's famous Trash and Treasures Yard Sale will be here before you know it. Drop off your items on Friday, Sept. 28 from 12-3. No clothing or large furniture items please!

The sale will be 10-4 on Saturday Sept. 29th and 1-4 on Sunday Sept. 30. Food, fun and bargains galore! All proceeds support the cats and kittens at the Independent Cat Society.



President's Message

I want to apologize for the lateness of this Newsletter... and I have to admit to my own stupidity at the same time. After working the print industry for almost 20 years you think I would have known better than to not have appropriate backup for my data. My hard drive bit the dust and was holding the files and software I needed to complete the newsletter. What I thought was a backup was not a proper backup... technology reared its ugly head to bite me. Please know that we have taken strong measures to assure that it never happens again!

But there are lots of exciting things happening here at ICS!

The Rainbow Bridge Memorial Garden:

If you have not visited it yet, please stop by the shelter for a few minutes to stroll in the garden. You will see the initial bricks purchased by supporters and donors like YOU. The Rainbow Bridge Garden began some years ago as an idea and a dream... one volunteer envisioned a special place on our grounds where people could reflect on that unique animal-human bond. Somehow, we were lucky enough to end up with the perfect mix of people and resources to actually make it happen when we found Claudia Winter, a Purdue North Central student who needed a senior project for her degree in Construction Engineering Management Technology. Lots of blood, sweat, and tears went into that garden, for Claudia personally, and for ICS generally. And before you ask, "How can we afford this garden when we ask for donated food?", please know that not one dime of ICS money was used in the construction of the Rainbow Bridge Garden... More testament to Claudia's tireless work in not only physical labor, but in securing donated product for its construction.

We cannot say enough about Claudia! What we CAN do is to continue purchasing bricks until the Garden is complete and PACKED with memorials to our beloved pets. The Garden is not just a place for plants—it's a unique place in our community to reflect on the spiritual nature of our relationships with our pets. And it symbolizes the genesis of our journey to new space for our cats... we WILL get there, and this Garden signifies the starting point. All proceeds from the purchases of memorial bricks go directly into our building fund, which will function as seed money for either a major renovation or a new building. Whether you purchase a brick of your own, or admire and appreciate the messages of others, we encourage you to come visit: you will be pleasantly surprised!

PetPoint Management System:

More new stuff! We have employed the PetPoint Shelter Management System that takes our shelter management to a whole new level. Participation in this system streamlines our paperwork and adoption process, and allows us to purchase 24PetWatch microchips at a very reduced cost. As a result, every cat at ICS will be microchipped moving forward. And when you adopt a microchipped cat from us, there is no registration fee for the chip! Your adopted cat will enter the PetPoint database and your ownership will automatically transfer in case, heaven forbid, he or she should ever become lost. (We are in the planning stages of holding microchipping events for the public, so keep an eye out for further developments on that...!) We will also now offer 30 days FREE pet insurance to all adopters through PetHealth's ShelterCare Insurance program.

Our participation also gets our cats listed at the Petango website (www.petango.com), a pet adoption website where you can also purchase pet-related items at the Petango Store. Another bonus: ICS gets a percentage of all sales generated by the link on our website, or by your purchase at Petango! When you checkout at the Petango Store, you will be presented with a drop down menu from which you can select your shelter of choice... just select Indiana, then Independent Cat Society, and you are set! You've made a donation! So encourage friends and neighbors to check us out!

Alas, in the midst of all these positive changes for us, **the kittens keep rolling in...** we found this year that the "kitten season" was a little later than normal, but is now making it up with a vengeance. Those litters of adorable kittens means kitten food, vaccines, spays and neuters, etc. for litter after litter... and more urgent trap, spay, and neuter activity, reminding us that we need to keep asking for your support to keep doing this work. I have mentioned before that I consider donors and supporters to be *partners* in this endeavor, rather than extraneous entities whom we merely ask for money. We need your continued financial support to help us maintain our quality of care, and to help us keep moving forward... and we truly appreciate it.

So what do gardens and software and kittens mean for us? It means that after 35 years, we are still growing strong and supporting the original mission statement of the founders of the Independent Cat Society, and what a fitting way to begin celebrating these 35 years in the no-kill cat shelter business.

Connie Szawara

Wish List

Please note: *We do not use litter pan liners, newspapers, or pine cleaners like Pine Sol. Thank you!*

Office Supplies

Stamps
Various colored **2-pocket folders** with business card slots
Letter-size manila file folders

Cleaning Supplies

Bleach
Laundry soap (prefer unscented)
Dryer Sheets
Liquid hand soap
Dish Soap
Paper plates
Paper towels
30 gallon trash bags
Tall Kitchen Garbage Bags
Simple Green cleaner
Shaklee Basic G concentrate

Medical Supplies

Microwaveable heating discs
Science Diet AD, ID
Wellness Grain-Free food

Building and Grounds

20 x 25 x 5 Aire Bear Furnace filters
Water softener pellets
16 x 20 x 1 fiberglass furnace filters
Replacement filters for Hunter Air Purifier model #30930

Other

Dry cat food, kitten and adult, Prefer *Eagle Pack*, but will use other brands for donating to the needing public
Ground flavors of Friskies and Fancy Feast
Tall cat trees
Scoopable and clay litters
Gift cards to Lowe's, Menard's, Home Depot, etc.
Safeguard SG-36D humane traps
Turbo-Tracks replacement scratchers
Extra large litter scoops
Small blankets, rugs, towels

Special Services

Carpenters, plumbers

The cats thank you! Ask us for a receipt for tax-deductible donations.

Avast! September be upon us soon, and that be meanin' PIRATE CATS!*

The Black Purrl will be setting sail this September again with Cap'n No Pity Kitty and his fearsome crew: Blood-Lettin' Tessa, Cloudy-Eyed Lefty, and Mad Chester Squint. Since last year, Hack 'em and Hang 'em Hope is on shore leave, and the Black Purrl has taken on a new shipmate: Guillermo, aka the infamous "Blackbeard." Since last year we also have on board the dignified and law-abiding Sterling, although rumor has it that once upon a time he was feared as the notorious "Silvereye." (For Sterling's side of the story, see "Catty Comments.")

Grab a cup of grog and plunder our **Pirate Cat Online Arrrrrction** on Facebook from September 16-21st. This is your chance to grab some pirate booty as well as other valuable swag while helping support the shelter. Look for a link on our Facebook page, where there will be directions about bidding and pictures of the items. PURRRRGH!

*In honor of Talk Like a Pirate Day on Sept. 19th (see talklikeapirate.com), we feature our cats who are missing an eye or have a problem in one eye as swash-buckling feline buccaneers!



Blackbeard sends a message:
"Make yer bids generous, ye scurvy dogs, or else the pirate cats will make ye walk the plank!"

New Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a few hours a month to give to the cats? These openings may be for you! We are looking to expand our donation jar program and do more tag days, but we really need more people to do these things. Here are the job descriptions:

Tag Team:

- Be able to commit to 2 hours on a Saturday for most months April through October. We will start with the people we can get and add as we can, so please don't hold back if you can't do every month.
- Volunteers would be stationed at various locations with donation containers, newsletters, and cats when possible. If cats are involved you will be assisted by an experienced volunteer.
- ICS would provide all the materials and set up the locations. This is a great opportunity to bring your kids along to help, especially if they need service hours for church or school!

Jar Captains:

- Locate businesses that are willing to place an ICS donation jar on their counter.
- Place the jar there and collect the money on a monthly basis.
- Place newsletters/copies of appeal letters there as well if they are willing.
- Count the money and e-mail amount to the Fundraising Chair, then bring to shelter and place in donation box with a note.
- We are hoping to find people for all the surrounding areas, such as LaPorte, Chesterton, Portage, etc. The larger areas could use several people.
- This job can be done at your convenience as long as donations are collected and reported monthly.
- ICS will provide the jars.

These jobs don't require a large investment of time, but would really help the bottom line. If you are interested in either of these positions or just want more information, please e-mail mewsletter@hotmail.com. **Here are some other volunteer jobs that just may be waiting for you!**

Adoption Counselors, Adoption Reviewers • Foster Care Coordinator • Distribution Coordinator for the Mewsletter • Phone Message Takers • Human Resource Chairperson - needs to be available to take phone calls and make decisions during the day.

Again, please e-mail mewsletter@hotmail.com if you'd like to get involved!

New Way to Support ICS!

We get \$5 for every shirt sold, whether it be our logo or any of their other wonderful designs. Please check them out!

<http://www.lacroixtees.com/animal-rescue/IndependentCatSociety/>



Lonely Hearts

Here are just a few of our tuxedo cats! Could one of them be your newest family member? Come check them out at the shelter - no fancy clothes required!



Ebi

Ebi is a lovebug! She will jump in your lap give kitty kisses. Need some love in your life? Come meet Ebi!



Elise

Elise is Ebi's more reserved but just as sweet sister. She waits for you to come to her, but start to pet her and she's yours.



Frankie

Frankie is a dapper dude in Disco. To meet him is to love him!



Farfalla

Farfalla is a cuddly kitty who would love someone special to cuddle with.



Cassandra

Cassandra is an older lady whose youthful looks make us wonder what her secret is. Might this quiet beauty be waiting for you?



Kit Kat

Kit Kat is cute as she can be and loves people, just not other cats. Could you use some love from this sweetie?

35th Anniversary Celebration

35 and Alive!



Please join us on Saturday evening November 3rd, 2012 at the Old Town Banquet Center in Valparaiso from 6-10 PM as we mark 35 years of providing hope for homeless cats. Tickets will be \$35 and will include dinner, a silent auction and an evening of feline fun. Here's a sneak peek at a few of our silent auction items: an autographed picture of Betty White, an autographed poster of Jackson Galaxy (host of "My Cat from Hell"), and an amazing cat playhouse. And that's just for starters. Want even more fun? Jan Shaw from KaraHTess in LaPorte will be on site to make ICS t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hoodies in your choice of color and size.

More information will be coming soon, but please save the date and help us celebrate being **35 and Alive!**

The Rainbow Bridge Garden is Open!

Have you visited our beautiful new Rainbow Bridge Garden Yet?

The Rainbow Bridge Garden officially opened on June 23rd with opening ceremonies including live music, poetry readings, ribbon cutting, and of course a lot of thank-yous. It was a wonderful day in the garden and so rewarding to see people enjoying the peaceful atmosphere. For a little taste of the experience, here is a link to hear Kimmy Ebert's moving original song "Waiting at the Rainbow Bridge."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmPDa5IPThY&feature=youtu.be>



THANKS!

**Purdue University North Central, with a special thanks to Dr. Howard Jablon
Lowes, Michigan City
Indiana Campus Compact
Menards Michigan City
Michiana Stone
Rose Brick
Healy**

and especially:
Claudia Winter





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Memorial Bricks Are Available!

INDEPENDENT CAT SOCIETY RAINBOW BRIDGE GARDEN ORDERING FORM FOR MEMORIAL BRICKS

ICS partnered with Purdue North Central to build a Rainbow Bridge Garden on shelter grounds and completed the first phase in June of this year! This garden is a beautiful place where the human animal bond can be celebrated and your special pet of any species remembered. Engraved bricks in two sizes are available.

These can be copied if more forms are needed, and can also be found on our website at www.catsociety.org or on Facebook. Payment can be made by sending in a check or by Paypal. Please make sure to include your contact info so we can double-check spelling with you if necessary. Proceeds from the sale of the bricks will go towards our building funds for much-needed shelter renovations.

The form below is for an 8x8 brick. The cost per brick is \$125.

15 characters-5 lines- spaces and punctuation counts as a character

The form below is for a 4x8 brick. The cost per brick is \$75.

15 characters-3 lines

Please include contact info so we can verify spelling and make sure we turn the order in correctly!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone# _____

email _____

Best way to contact you: _____

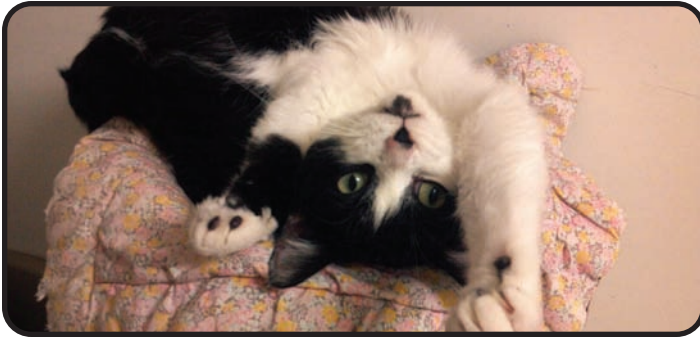
Thanks for being a part of the future of ICS!



Catty Candidids

...behind the scenes at the shelter

Note: Some of these cats have been adopted, but we thought they still deserved their fifteen minutes of fame!



Cutie-Batootie



Courage

Cats often have a unique way to look at the world, and ICS cats are no exception!



Cosmo



Paisano has a lot on his mind.



Puff is waving like the royalty he is!



Bradley, Lilac, and Rusty



Lynx and Bradley

Peace, love, and cuddles in Nursery. Are they always this sweet or are they up to something?



Orphan Annie, up for adoption

Catty Comments

Notes on life at the shelter by Orphan Annie

ELECTION ANALYSIS – *Sweetheart Results!*

Note from Catty Comments: *This was originally written in March of this year, but was unable to be published. But we think the contestants deserve to have their say, since with their help we had our best Sweetheart Contest ever!*

The Election is Over and the Spin Begins!

Annie: The results are in, and may we present the results of Sweethearts 2012: **Gizzy and Taffy, tied for First; Patches, Second; Sterling, Third; Neeko, Fourth; Chaka, Fifth; Melvin, Sixth; Lil Girl, Seventh; Fireball, Eighth; and Kiki, Ninth.**

This was a very highly contested race, and your Catty Columnist is here to bring you the latest spin and let the contestants have their say about the results. The rules are simple: no hissing, spitting, or scratching. And definitely no spraying!

Lil Girl will not be participating, because she got the Grand Prize: she got adopted!

Candidates will be interviewed in reverse order. So Kiki, sorry to see you in last place. How are you handling your loss?

Kiki: Well Annie, somebody had to be last and I know that I did my best and that I am really a sweetheart. Besides, what I really wanted was the exposure, hoping that there is somebody out there who will see my Sweetheart picture and recognize me as the one they have been waiting for. I came to ICS as a kitten, and I'm still here, waiting and hoping my time will come.

Annie: **Kiki**, you ARE a real trooper. Keep the positive attitude, sweetie! **Fireball**, if you had your campaign to do over, what changes would you make?

Fireball: I think I would be more aggressive about selling myself, starting now. *Is your energy level at a new low these days? Are you feeling like something is lacking in your life? Try Fireball, guaranteed to warm and spice up your life!*

Annie: I like it! Hope it brings in lots of people interested in meeting you. Or at least gets you started out on a career as one of the "Mad Cats"! **Melvin**, here's question for you: We have heard that before coming to ICS you were on Death Row. Do you think this rumor affected your candidacy?

Melvin: I don't know, but I'm not ashamed to admit that it's not a rumor. I was at a place where all cats who are FIV positive are euthanized, but was lucky enough to make it out alive. I'm proud of being chosen to be a Sweetheart candidate, Annie, and with my history I feel like a winner every day.

Annie: Well said, **Melvin**, not to mention inspiring. **Chaka**, it's been charged that you have a long history of flip-flopping. Was that a factor in this race?

Chaka: Of course not. I'm a tortie- that's our birthright. 'Nuff said.

Annie: Can't argue with you there, **Chaka**. **Neeko**, you had a respectable finish. What's next?

Neeko: Now that the contest is over, I'm focusing on finding a home! I'm a really young guy, but I love retro music, and as the "Ol Blue

Eyes" of Boppers, I really enjoy doing things "My Way" and keeping those Boppers bopping. I plan to have "High Hopes" until someone finally comes in and says "I Only Have Eyes for You".

Annie: Aha! So that's where all that Sinatra music was coming from. Now if I could only figure out who's playing all the Twisted Sister.

Sterling, I couldn't help but notice you have a problem with one eye, and there's some loose talk around the shelter that there may be some piracy in your background. Did that hurt you with "Law and Order" voters?

Sterling: What arrrrrrrr ye talkin' about? Just kidding! Whatever my past might have been, I am a law-abiding landlubber now with a "sterling" reputation. I believe I polled well amongst all demographics.

Annie: Very "punny" guy! **Patches**, you are justly famous for your signature cute move, showing the tip of your tongue. We are wondering why you didn't make use of this, because many cats think that "The Tongue" would have clinched the election. Was this a missed opportunity?

Patches: No Annie, I needed to make a stand. I chose to keep my tongue hidden for my photo shoot because although I do appreciate being known as cute, I wanted people to see that there was more to Patches than a gimmick, however adorable. I was in it to win it, and I think I did pretty darn well!

Annie: Now **Taffy**, you are one of the two First Place winners, but you were criticized that your views are too far out of the mainstream to be a Sweetheart. What is your response?

Taffy: I just don't understand that. Lots of cats believe that they are really humans trapped in a cat's body. I'm really a people person! As such, I am a perfect Sweetheart.

Annie: Somehow that seems to make sense, **Taffy**. **Gizzy**, you've been jumping all over the place here chomping at the bit to have your say. Now's your chance.

Gizzy: Gucci! Now that I'm a Co-Sweetheart, I am setting my sites on a new career, as the world's first feline rapper!

*I'm from da hood of Nursery and I'm called Giz-Z
Don't call me dawg cause I'm a phat Kit-T.
I'm a ganstgsta cat, a Sweetheart, yo.
If Giz-Z sees Chester, betta call the po po!*

Peace out!

Annie: Well, **Gizzy**, I suggest you do yourself and the shelter a favor, and when you represent ICS at meet and greets, stick to some nice meows and purrs.

We certainly can't end this year's recap without a great big *Catty Comments* thank you purr to all the Team Leaders, members, and of course Stephanie the photographer and everyone who helped take the pictures. A HUGE thanks to all of generous voters, because no matter who you voted for, every vote is a vote for our shelter and for ALL of us.

And that's the scoop for now!





Memorials & Tributes... from 10/20/2011 - 7/17/12

In Memory of —

Diana Vollmer from James Jasperson

Ron Wyller and his ICS cat **Zena**. From Mary Williams.

Robert L. Rhoda, Jr., from Mr. & Mrs. Brian Rhoda, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gothmann, Tina Hudson, Mr. & Mrs. Coan Freyberg

Bandit, much loved dog of Eva Risner. From Sharon Brooks.

Barney Owen, who we lost this past August and miss terribly. From Kevin and Meredith Nevers.

Sparkles from Marie Choucalas.

Jim Ramsey from Dr. Dean & Vicky Boldin.

Godfrey and my mom, **Evelyn**. I know I'll see them both someday. From Marilyn Felix.

Mildred Tract, Tiger and Butterscotch from Sandra Ilgen.

Joan Frazier from Jean Polka

Emma and Katie from Carol Galloway

Squeaker, Shalom #1, Fruit Loop, Shalom #2, Guinevere, Muffet, Goliath #1, Grinch, Shalom #3, Goliath #2, and Sammi from G. David Stoneburner

Aunt Ruth Pangborn from Jeffrey & Gwen Glotfelty

Mark Bevil, our beloved son, from Lucille Bevil

Natasha Lee & Nadia Lu – Gone one year. We still miss you both. From Wayne & Carol Albrecht

Umberto, Mary Lou's much-loved cat, from Sally & Rich Biel

Richard Munshower from Matt Schueler, Rick Conley, Dorothy Konrady, Annette Bologna

Umberto, who came to his forever home from ICS, from Mary Lou Bertoluzzi

Linda Edwards from Sandra Mason

Abby Gayle, my crazy little feline girlfriend. I'll see you on the other side. From Carol Albrecht

Lena Wyller from Randy & Beth Childress, Mary Williams

My beloved cat **Molly**, from Roxanne Myers

Elroy from Aunt Dee

MacGuyver Finnerty, a sadly missed dog. From Timothy & Judith Zaparucha
The sweetest cat, **Brendalee**, adopted from ICS. From Leroy & Sylvia Charbonneau

Dini from John & Susan Jaksch

Ann Rainier and her two ICS kitties **Mitzi & Susi**. From Norman & Shirley Duerr

Lena Wyller from William & Marie Frazier

Mendy, who passed away 5 years ago, from Sally Benson

Boy George & Shannon from Dorothy Ripperdan

Spencer Deutsch from Louise Vale

Linda Treadway, who was a true cat lover, from Geraldine and Donald Engel

Boy George from Janet Henson

Ruth Weiler from Judith Standiford

My dear **Molly** from Evelyn Hutton

Phyllis Gaede from Glenda Barrett, Rebecca Hus, Sarah & Adam Holterhoff, Susan Waldschmidt, Barbara Schack, Mary Persyn, David & Julie Young, Naomi Goodman

Buddy Vereb from Linda Romano

Bo & Rory from Gary Grygotis

Baxter from Louise Vale

Donna Novak from Treva Collignon

Neve Shepherd from Robert & Lou Ann Shebel, Suzanne Armstrong

Ilene Leon's mother from Susan Smith

Cheryl Carravetta from Douglas & Viki Laurerman

Rosie, who passed away 6/30 and was a very unique little kitty, from Jack Gilbey

Daniel Goodman from Deborah Blennerhassett

In Honor of —

Rebecca Mason for Christmas. From Kris and Arlene Miller.

Sharon Brooks' birthday. From Karen Flaherty.

Yvette Note from Holly McCain

Karen Hazewinkel from Jim & Jan Niederlob

Kathy Heath from Marian Heath

Martina Rukavina & Chrissy from Laura Barich

Dan & Stacy Saros from Jennifer Shelby

R. Graham from Louise Vale

Beverly Overmyer from Miriam Neal

Elizabeth Canright's 12th birthday. From Jane Canright, Walter & Kim Wigley

Karen & Lewis Reif's 25th Wedding Anniversary. From Delilah Euler

If we have omitted anyone, please write or call us so we can include them in the next newsletter.

Heartfelt Thanks...

We thank the **John W. Anderson Foundation** for their generous grant. John W. Anderson has been a supporter for many years and we can't thank you enough.

Many thanks to another long time supporter, the **Unity Foundation** for their wonderful grant to help keep people and their pets together.

Robert Gordon who yet again donated many hours of service for the Walmart Community Service Grant, and to **Walmart** for their monetary donation of \$250.

Many thanks to **Fairmount Minerals and Subsidiaries**, in Bridgeman, MI, for their \$500 donation in honor of the volunteer work of their employee, Sandy Stemmler.

More wonderful updates! The cats from Nursery want to thank **Karen Villarruel** and **Brittany Justice**, and her father, **Henry Justice**. If you'd like to see the results, check out Facebook where Independent Cat Society Nursery has their own page with pictures.



Sponsor-A-Cat!

from your Spokescat, Corky

You may remember our Sponsor-a-Cat Spokescat Boy George's picture in our last newsletter. Or you may have met George while he was sitting on the counselor's desk greeting visitors. The sturdy orange tabby spent most of his eighteen years making the shelter his "forever home."

Last March, just weeks before his nineteenth birthday, George peacefully crossed the Rainbow Bridge in his sleep to be with his friends from the shelter waiting for him on the sunny side. It was heartbreaking for all of us who loved him and received his enthusiastic purrs and headbutts for so many years.

But sadly, it's come time to choose a new Spokescat for the Sponsor-a-Cat Program. We have usually chosen one of our dignified senior cats to tell our members and donors about our popular and profitable programs. This time, we opened the honor to any of our shelter cats who wanted to take over the lofty position. As soon as the opening was posted, a gray youngster leaped over his roommates through the open door of Disco meowing, "Pick me, pick me! I can do it. I've got a great idea!"

The rambunctious little gray kitten was originally put in Disco with the calmer, older male cats to settle him down. He noticed there that people came into his

room who weren't hoping to adopt a cat or give them medicine or shots, but instead brought treats, took their pictures, brushed them or just sat and petted them.

Beauty, a green-eyed, black beauty, told Corky that these people were his roommates' sponsors. These nice people pledge an amount of money each month to help pay for the cats' food and medical care. They want a special cat in their lives, but cannot have one, or one more, in their home. And besides, Beauty mentioned, they don't have to dump litter boxes, carry bags of food or litter, or pay unexpected vet bills.

In return for their donation, each sponsor gets a picture of their sponsored cat and a story of the cat's life before he reached the shelter.

When he heard this, Corky decided that every cat in the shelter deserved a sponsor to make him or her feel special until they were adopted. We agree that despite his youth and exuberance, Corky is the perfect choice for our next Spokescat—the first candidate to have a solid platform.

A SPONSOR FOR EVERY CAT IN 2013

First, as the new Spokescat, Corky asked us to pass along all the kitties' thanks for the donations of sponsors in 2012 who have made our cats feel special, and many

adopted into "forever homes."

Please, if you have room for one or more cat in your heart, fill out the coupon at the bottom of the page and mail it with your first month's pledge to ICS. Please be sure to include the billing information. You may also sponsor a cat as a gift for a friend and give them the joy of picking out their own special friend.

If you'd like, you can request a cat with your favorite kitty characteristics—male or female, black, white, tortie, calico or tabby, younger or older. We have all ages from under a year to senior citizens.

If someone is already sponsoring the cat of your dreams, that lucky kitty can have more than one sponsor. But there are more than 50 cats without sponsors as of this fall. Please make one of them your special friend today.

Here are some of Corky's picks waiting for sponsors:



Corky, your new Spokescat



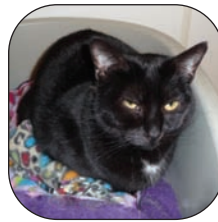
Satina



Cuti-Batootie



MJ



Divinity



Elmer



Eva



I want to Sponsor-A-Cat from the Independent Cat Society

I have enclosed a check for:

_____ \$180 for one year of Sponsor-A-Cat

_____ \$15 or _____ for the first month of Sponsor-A-Cat. I pledge to send \$15 each month to Sponsor-A-Cat.

The sponsor will receive a photo and biography of his or her Sponsor-A-Cat.

Name of sponsor _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Telephone _____

Month of sponsor's birthday _____ email address _____

Clip and mail to: **Independent Cat Society, Inc., PO Box 735, Westville, IN 46391**





Independent Cat Society
 PO Box 735
 Westville, IN 46391

Non-Profit
 Organization
 US Postage
PAID
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 Permit No. 134

Don't miss these events!

- **ICS Annual Fall Yard Sale**
 September 29 & 30 – at the ICS Shelter, Westville
- **National Feral Cat Day (October 16) - Feral Cat Shelter Making**
 October 14 – at the Ogden Dunes Volunteer Fire Department
- **35 And Alive! Anniversary Celebration**
 November 3 - The Old Town Banquet Hall in Valparaiso
- **Holiday Open House**
 December 15 & 16 – at the ICS Shelter, Westville

If you'd like to receive the Mewsletter via email,
 let us know at newsletter@hotmail.com.



Can you help the Independent Cat Society cats?



Become a Member!

Annual Dues:

- _____ \$1000 Corporation
- _____ \$500 Life
- _____ \$100 Gold Star
- _____ \$50 Family
- _____ \$25 Individual
- _____ \$10 Student
- _____ \$10 Senior

Donate or Volunteer!

- _____ I am donating \$_____ for the care of the cats and kittens.
- _____ I am donating \$_____ to the building fund.
- _____ I am donating \$_____ to the TNR/Assisted Spay & Neuter Fund.
- _____ I will help groom cats at the shelter.
- _____ I will help give cats their medications.
- _____ I will help at fundraising events.
- _____ I will be a foster parent.
- _____ I will donate my cat-themed artwork or crafts for fundraising events.
- _____ I will bake for fundraising events.
- _____ I will make adoption follow-up telephone calls.
- _____ I will help cats get good homes by becoming an adoption counselor.
- _____ I will help take care of the grounds and maintain the shelter.
- _____ I will distribute flyers for fundraisers.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

_____ This is a new address. _____ Do not send a "thank you" note. Phone _____ email _____

Clip and send to:

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