



CAT TALES

Spring 2016

Cat Action Team www.cats-pei.ca

Editor: Jeannette Verleun

jeannette.verleun@dal.ca

Anyone can submit!

From The President's Corner...

The year 2015 seemed to go by so quickly. We at Cat Action Team continue to work for the feral, stray, and barn cats of Prince Edward Island. We had a busy year at the neuter clinics.

Thank you to all those who donate their time, energy, and often money to help the cats. We have strong volunteer support helping the cats, and our TNR program continues to reduce populations.

As we ended the 2015 year we received a grant from CanFel for printed material so that we will have new and exciting brochures, banners, and Banner-bugs, to begin reaching out more to the community to educate and inform. CAT members have been working very hard at every task to help the cats of PEI.

On a personal note, I will not be re-offering to be on the CAT Board this year but will endeavour to assist CAT in the area of Education of the Community of our programs to help cats on PEI.

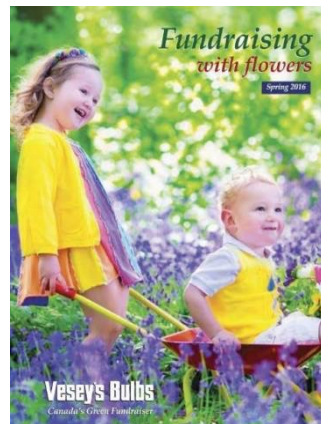
prince_edward_island@hotmail.com
Bob Stanley, President C.A.T.



Fundraisers

The Cat Action Team is participating in the

Vesey's Spring Fundraiser 2016. If interested in making a purchase, please send Paula Connolly a private Facebook message, call 902-368-2216, or email at



paulamconnolly@eastlink.ca. The deadline for orders is April 22, 2016

Yard Sales:

CAT's yard sale in O'Leary will take place around the end of May or first of June. In Charlottetown, please look out for our yard



sale on the first or second Saturday in July. Details to come!

The Cat Action Team has t-shirts (white, as shown) available for purchase. The shirts are made by Gildan, are 100% cotton, with current sizes ranging from small to XXL. They are \$15 each. For more information or to purchase, please message Debbie Reid via Facebook or send an email to reid.debbie@rocketmail.com

The CAT MEOW 50-50

Thanksgiving Draw took place Friday, October 9/15. The 1st prize winner was Sylvia Durant of St Nicholas, and the 2nd prize winner was Cynthia Hickox of Stratford. The tickets were drawn by Colin Scales of Blue Ribbon Pet Supply.

The annual Christmas Cheer Basket was drawn for on Dec 19/15. The 1st prize winner was Sharon Pineau of Queen's County, and the 2nd prize winner was Cindy Johnston, also of Queen's County. Josh Binder of Global Pet Food drew the winning tickets.

Finally, the catnip mice continue to be a source of regular income. Thank you to all the Vet clinics and other stores who allow us to place mice in their places of business.

Special Features For the Love of Cats

Paula Connolly is a name well known to most Cat Action Team familiars. Long-time volunteer, fundraising queen, and catnip mice deliverer, Paula has put a tremendous amount of effort into CAT over the years. However, even the most dedicated ailurophile (“one who loves cats”—yes, it’s a real word!) needs breathing space every once in a while, so Paula has decided to concentrate on being Registrar, working with donations of food, and continuing to distribute catnip mice.

Paula credits her commitment to CAT to a friend who was most interested in spaying and neutering stray cats. When this friend learned of the Cat Action Team, she encouraged Paula to join as she loved

animals. This was way back in 2003, within a couple of years of CAT’s incorporation.

Paula likes that CAT is run by volunteers who are concerned about the health of the stray/feral/barn cat population of PEI. Not only do the cats get spayed or neutered with the



help of many veterinary clinics and the Atlantic Veterinary College, but there are many caretakers across the Island who watch out for these cats, making sure they are fed and healthy. The hardest part about being so invested in the wellbeing of these animals is to know that cats are being abandoned—whether left behind when

owners move, or being dropped off at a country lane. Sadly, there are also other ways that cats and other animals are abandoned that are equally, if not more, worrisome.

This is where CAT comes into play. Since CAT started its Trap/Neuter/Release program, the incidence of disease has decreased, cats are not fighting so much, and the generosity of caretakers help make sure that the cats are fed and healthy.

Let's offer Paula a big round of applause for what she has contributed to CAT over the years!

Trey's Diabetic Journey

Trey joined Kathleen Williams' family in 2003 as an abandoned, skinny little fellow. His new mother made sure the bowl was never empty, and soon Trey couldn't walk pass the dish without stopping for a snack. Soon enough, he was a fat, happy boy, weighing almost 18 lbs.

Unfortunately, he was not a happy cat at all. Trey was a very sick cat. In May 2010, it was discovered that he was diabetic.



Kathleen was devastated; she though Trey was dying. Her vet suggested she go online and check out FDMB (Feline Diabetic Message

Board) for information. Kathleen is a reader, and this message board had so much

great information...she read, and read, and asked question after question. She jokes that she could write a book with all the questions she asked!

When diet changes alone couldn't lower Trey's blood sugar, Trey was put on insulin. FDMB stayed online with Kathleen until 3am a few times as they were learning the ropes!

The funny thing is, Kathleen used to be so scared of needles—but home blood sugar testing is a must. A couple of deep breaths for momma and a couple of treats for the good kitty is the way to make the entire event positive. Now, once a week, Trey jumps up on his blanket on the corner of the table, where they always do the testing, and stares at Kathleen to say, "... isn't there something you are supposed to be doing...right now?"



Trey's diabetic equipment: blood sugar meter, sock with warm beans for bringing the blood into the vein, and lancet.

Cats are amazing animals and with the right help can go into remission. Trey was only on insulin for 2 months the first time. He was discovered to be diabetic again in 2014. This time, they had to endure 8 months of insulin and lots of pokes to the ear, but he entered remission again. However, he was getting older, and 16 months later, he was started on insulin again in February 2016. On insulin or not, diabetic cats can live a long, healthy life with a conscientious caregiver.

Kathleen would like to thank you for reading about Trey's journey about being a diabetic cat, and if you have any questions about him, she invites you to email her at kathbrian@hotmail.com

My Favourite Ferals



This is Shadow, the 22 year old cat of Dawna Smith from Summerside. He has been a part of their family since he was 8 weeks old. They can't imagine life without him!



This is Georgie, Diane Minick from Charlottetown's cat. He was originally supposed to be a CAT cat, but 15 years ago, he peeked out from behind a piece of plywood as Diane came to fetch him, and within minutes he was in the house. He lucked out, and so did she.

Thank you for reading the spring edition of CAT TALES ☺ Look out for the next edition to be published next summer!

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

... by cat owners & caregivers

WHERE DOES KITTY LITTER GO?



Used kitty litter (along with feces) goes into the **COMPOST CART**. The only exception to this is kitty litter made from silicone which would be disposed of in the **WASTE CART**.

Notes:

- soiled newsprint used to line litter boxes also goes into **COMPOST**;
- if using plastic liners, dispose of dirty liners in **WASTE**.

SORTING INFORMATION:

www.iwmc.pe.ca • 1-888-280-8111



IWMC

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To submit, please send anything you think might be interesting to our readers to me, your editor, at jeannette.verleun@dal.ca