The Scratching Post

2025

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We are a small non-profit organization. We have no paid staff, and don't receive any government funds. Since 2004, with our amazing volunteers, we have found good homes for over **9500** unwanted cats and kittens that almost certainly would have died or been euthanized.

President's Message

Cat Tails has been blessed to have a large and loyal group of volunteers. I have been here since we started in 2004 and right behind me is Jack Summers who came in 2006. We have some volunteers who have only been here a few times so far. It's fun to clean if you have a bunch of cats and kittens helping! But we all can tell you what isn't fun: the plethora of things we have! We have towels, blankets, beds, bowls, litter pans, toys, food and a million other things and each of them come in many different sizes, colors, etc., are used for different reasons, and are stored in different places. You need to be able to tell the clay litter from the clumping litter, where to find each kind and when to use each kind. Some things are used in unusual ways. For instance, you would think a rolled-up towel under the food and water bowls would be to catch drips and spills. But, it's really there so a kitten can climb up to reach all the way in the bowl. We have carriers all over the place, not to catch or carry the cats, but because they like to sleep in enclosed places. As you work you gradually learn what things are, why they're used and where to find them, at least right now. There is no guarantee that anything will be in the same place the next time you need it...except for the cats. I can guarantee that everywhere you look, you'

Trish

Thanks for volunteering!!

Patty and Tac were adopted in September.

In August, Tia and Nemo were adopted.

Josh and Jake found their homes in February.

THIS MIGHT BE MAGIC !

To me, computers are made up of equal parts entertainment, convenience, frustration and annoyance. So when Mary and Donna, two of the volunteers, suggested we set up an Amazon Wish List I ignored the idea, but finally agreed that they might as well try it even though I knew that it wouldn't work. However, to their credit, I was completely wrong!

This is how it works. We post on Amazon a list of things that we almost always need so people can donate and know they are sending things that we use and appreciate. In addition, we can tell them what we especially need or have run out of. They add a note about this to our list and usually add the information to our Facebook page also. In a day or two, the lobby is filled with boxes of the exact products we love and need for the cats. It's wonderful, but since I don't really trust computers, I think it's MAGIC!!

This was a "Tabby and White"

Some years we get lots of calico kittens or black and white kittens. Sometimes we even get a lot of orange kittens, but not this year. This year we have had lots and lots of tabby and white kittens. When we bring in a new litter, the volunteers just moan when they see a bunch of tabby and white kittens. So far, we have adopted out about 60 and we still have about 30. There are mackerel tabbies, marbled tabbies, ticked tabbies and spotted tabbies, all with a white trim. Some have little white toes and others are mostly white with a few tabby markings. To us, they all look different. If you look carefully, you can tell them all apart too!

Doris, Simon and Norm are tabby & white kittens adopted in June.

Jay, Jenny and Home are tabbies with white adopted in November

Perry, Roxy and River are tabby & white kittens adopted in July.

THE BOSS

In the middle of May 2022, a 4 day old kitten came to us as a single. He went home with Sherrie to join her other fosters and soon earned the name "The Boss". In Feb. of 2023, he was adopted by a wonderful family.

He thrived until early in 2025 when he got very sick. He had a urinary blockage from a build-up of crystals. His bladder had been flushed and he was eating special food but nothing was helping. The Boss needed a perineal urethrostomy, (PU surgery). Sadly, it was more than the family could handle and they called us intending to give up the cat. We didn't want The Boss to lose his family or his life. We asked Pawsability to help us with the cost, checked with ECVR, the only nearby vets that do the surgery, for a non-profit discount, threw in what we could afford for one of our favorite alumni, and got him the surgery. He still needed the special food, but he would be healthy since he could pass the crystals with his urine. Now, the family is happy, The Boss is happy, and we're happy. We call that a win-win-win outcome!

We're Now at the Shallotte Petsmart!

The new manager at the Wilmington Petsmart where we had been doing adoptions for more than twenty years, wanted to have the adoption center cages full of cats every day. Since we are coming from an hour away, we couldn't do it. We don't have people nearby to clean daily and every time a cat needed to come back to our facility would mean a two hour round trip for us. Fortunately, the Shallotte Petsmart had room for us! Homestead Animal Rescue is there half of the time and we're there the other half. It's much easier for us and for customers to run back and forth so we can do adoptions at our facility and at Petsmart!

Mitch was adopted in January, Whitney in May and Boo in December.

Yup, we heard the complaints, but we still had to replace the ceiling throughout our facility. It was a mess from water stains. Our leaky roof had been replaced so now it was time to fix the ceiling! Province Roofing and Construction replaced all of the old, stained drywall and the nasty insulation above it. Coastal Hardware donated new light fixtures and one of our volunteers donated new storm doors for the rooms and Province installed all of those. They replaced our old fan in the bathroom and they installed a new pull-down ladder to the attic to replace the one that was falling apart. Province even donated the paint so we could repaint the hallway and office when they left. Everything looked great!

So why had the cats been complaining? We had our usual population of about 75 cats living there during all of the renovations. First, they had to tolerate the noise of the roof replacement and now the ceiling! None of the cats could be in the rooms where the work was being done so we put as many as we could in cages that had wheels and the rest had to be carried or herded. In addition to the construction crew, we had to have volunteers in daily to clean cages and litter boxes and put out fresh food and water. The volunteers and cats had to move from room to room so the construction crew could work and the construction crew had to move their equipment around so we had room for the cats. The choreography had to be perfect or everything stopped.

In the end, none of the cats got loose or injured, none of the volunteers were too rattled to return and the ceiling is beautiful. We can give an enthusiastic recommendation to Province Roofing and Construction, LLC. They are located at 226 N Front St. #195 in Wilmington. The company's owner is Roland and he can be contacted at 910-800-1935, roland@provinceroofingconstruction.com, or through Angies List. Our project foreman was Axel – he was wonderful to work with!

Julia and Simba were adopted in April.

Lori and Torkay were adopted in October.

Jack and Sabrina were adopted in March.

Twins,

Friday and **Fritz** are brothers.

And Triplets,

Gumdrop, **Gomer** and **George** are brothers.

JUST FOR FUN!

And quads, oh my!

Doris, Mike, Alfie and River are not related!

Silly Moustaches !

Bing, Leon, Alice, Nico and Miles.

CAT TAILS
Cat Adoption Service

Yes, I want to help Cat Tails continue its work with stray, homeless and unwanted cats and kittens. Enclosed is my check to Cat Tails for:

_____ $75 pays for a spay/neuter _____ $50 pays for 5 flea treatments
_____ $ 25 pays for 100 pounds of clay litter _____ $10 pays for toys and treats
. $ _____ to be used as needed

Name _____ _____ Phone_____

Mailing Address _____

This donation is made:

In memory of_____ In honor of_____

For: _____ birthday _____ wedding _____ anniversary _____ other

Please send the appropriate acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Mailing address _____

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