

FORGOTTEN Cats

MAY
News

2018

Forgotten Cats, Inc.



Kitten Season is Upon Us!



Hi friends of Forgotten Cats,

As happens every spring, we are in the midst of what is known as "kitten season". Female cats outdoors usually give birth to their litters starting in February, and the challenge is to trap the family, get the kittens into foster homes to be socialized, and then into adoption centers to go to their forever homes. This is a very hectic and challenging time of year for all shelters and rescues. Feral kittens need, ideally, to be in foster care by the time they are 8 weeks old to become thoroughly socialized to people. As you know, Forgotten Cats always needs fosters, and provides a cage for the mom and her babies to care for them for a few weeks and help them become socialized so they are easily adoptable. Guidance for new fosters is also provided. And, of course, they are not put into adoption centers until they are sterilized and

vaccinated, all of which can happen at our clinics when they weigh 2 pounds, which is about 8 weeks old.

Often "neonates", newborn kittens who are orphans, are euthanized by other shelters, as they do not have a foster network of people experienced in bottle-feeding tiny kittens. Forgotten Cats is a no-kill organization, and we work to find fosters for cats and kittens of all ages, but can always use more fosters. Bottle feeding is a huge commitment, requiring nearly a 24x7 commitment for the first few weeks, but so very worth it. Of course, special training is needed to care for kittens that tiny, and FC can provide that for anyone who may be interested. As with infants of all species, they stay where you put them when they are tiny, and don't start to wander very much until they are 2-3 weeks old, so housing them is pretty easy when they are tiny. These bottle babies are guaranteed to be wonderful pets, and are seen as very desirable for adoption.

For those of you who volunteer, this is a critical time of need for FC, and if you could foster yourself, or help us recruit new fosters, it would really help save lives!



FC now has eleven adoption centers, and the kittens are adopted very quickly, often with multiple applications on each. The time commitment to foster is just a few weeks for each litter, plus it is just plain fun to watch them grow and play. If the mom cat is feral, after fostering she goes back to her colony. Even feral moms are usually quite docile with a foster handling her kittens.

In addition to our FC adoption centers, those in PetSmart stores will be participating in PetSmart's National Adoption Event on May 18-20, giving even more opportunity for kittens already in foster to find their forever homes.

**Please give some thought how you might help us in this busy season.
We are grateful for any and all help you might be able to offer.**

Did you Know?

Most cats give birth to a litter of between one and nine kittens. The largest known litter ever produced was 19 kittens, of which 15 survived.



Volunteer Spotlight on Kate Jamal By Anne Meddings

Do you follow Forgotten Cats on Facebook? More than 5,100 people do. If you are reading this article, hopefully you are one of them. This month we'll get to know the woman behind our Facebook page, Kate Jamal.

Many of our volunteers know that Kate Jamal manages the Ten Thousand Villages store in Greenville, Delaware. Her store regularly hosts shopping events to support Forgotten Cats, like the recent "Cinco de Meowo" event. Other volunteers may not know that Kate is also co-owner of the new Bread & Buttercream Bakery at 1709 Marsh Road in North Wilmington!



Kate and her husband Imad opened their bakery last October. Bread & Buttercream is best known for flaky croissants, beautiful and delicious cakes, and fresh homemade breads. Plus all the usual goodies you'd expect to find in a bakery - cupcakes, cookies, macarons, and more! Imad, who has a passion for baking, serves as Executive Chef. Kate helps serve customers at the front end, manages the business side of things, and keeps up their Facebook page. Opening the bakery has been a dream come true for Kate and Imad.

The couple, who have been married for 13 years, live in Wilmington and share their home with five rescue kitties. There's Rusty, Orangina, Sasha, Butters and Mango. Mango was a Forgotten Cats "foster fail" and Kate says he is one very naughty boy,

always into mischief!

Kate first learned about Forgotten Cats when people would come into Ten Thousand Villages in Greenville looking for Forgotten Cats, mistakenly thinking there was an adoption center in the vicinity. Intrigued, Kate Googled us and found that our organization has a Greenville mailing address but no physical presence in Greenville, which led to some of the confusion people were having.

A cat lover, Kate reached out to Forgotten Cats and offered to host shopping events at Ten Thousand Villages. She also began following us on Facebook. When she noticed the site was no longer being updated regularly, she enquired about it. She learned the volunteer who used to keep it up had left the organization.

Kate volunteered for the job, and is so happy she did. It's an ideal volunteer job for her, because she can work on it whenever it's convenient, even on the go. She can schedule posts in advance if necessary. She's been managing the site for over two years now. Kate tries to post something every day. She also monitors comments and messages posted to the site, responding when necessary.

Kate also updates the landing page for the Forgotten Cats website on a regular basis, posting upcoming events, the Cat of the Week, Happy Endings, etc. (Our extensive Cat Gallery of adoptable cats is also housed on the website but is managed separately by volunteer Anita Lowman).

Kate grew up in Newark, Delaware and is a University of Delaware graduate. She left Delaware for a few years early in her career to work as the Assistant Manager at the Ten Thousand Villages store in Center City Philadelphia. When the Greenville store opened, Kate was happy to come back to Delaware to manage it. Kate is proud to work at Ten Thousand Villages, a non-profit fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home decor, personal accessories and gift items from across the globe.

Although her life is crazy busy right now, Kate loves volunteering with Forgotten Cats and said she wouldn't give it up for anything. We're so glad to have Kate helping us out on one of our most visible public outreach mediums, our Facebook page.

Thank you Kate; you do a great job!

Foster Memorial - Slick



Instead of an adoption update this month, we felt it was fitting to share a foster's story. Slick touched the hearts of many volunteers during his time with Forgotten Cats. May his beautiful and loving soul Rest in Peace.

I just wanted to let you all know that Slick passed away yesterday. I found him curled up in one of his beds looking very much at peace.

I brought Slick home on October 19th. Many of you remember how sick he was and had helped get him over the initial hump with his hyperthyroidism. I had no idea how long he had left - it could be days, weeks or months. There was still a spark in his eyes and I knew in my heart he wasn't done fighting yet. Melissa told me that when he stopped eating that I would need to bring him in.

Well this cat never stopped eating. He would always remind me when I was late serving him his breakfast. If I ever tried to sleep in past 7am he would sit on my chest and stare at me

until I got up and fed him. I have never seen a cat who enjoyed French fries as much as him. He would literally take his paw and reach out and grab a fry and then run away with his prize so none of the other cats could take it from him. I have witnessed him attempt to grab an entire piece of fried chicken off a plate, or swipe an entire slice of pizza. Anytime someone opened the fridge door he would run over and check out the contents to see if there was anything to steal. This cat was never short of spunk.

This cat made me laugh and smile at his antics every day and brought me much joy. For as much as he loved food, he would always share his wet food with the foster kittens I also brought home. He never swatted at them or hissed he would just move over and let them share his bowl.

The point of this email really isn't about rehashing funny stories about Slick, but it's about what Slick exemplifies. He truly was a forgotten cat - a cat dumped on the streets of Philly, skinny, dirty and sick. Left to fend for himself and slowly starve to death. FC took him in and all of us immediately jumped in and started doing what we do best. We take the beaten, the sick, the old and the not so friendly cats and we give them a chance to shine. With a lot of patience, love, kindness and respect we show them that not all humans are bad. This is what I love about our group - we look past the fleas, the wounds, the matted hair, the bad attitudes and see the true potential of these cats that cross our paths.

From the bottom of my heart - thank you to each of you who helped Slick on this journey and looked past his flaws and into his soul to see what a unique and special cat he was.

Much love,
Kerry and Sir Slick of Willow Grove

STATUS UPDATE:

In April, we sterilized 766 cats and placed 70 cats in loving forever homes.

Visit our website at
www.forgottencats.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events.

May 19-20, 2018 - PetSmart National Adoption Event
Brandywine, Christiana, Levittown, Jenkintown, Brookhaven, King of

Prussia, and Berlin PetSmarts

May 19, 2018 - Grand Opening of Berlin, MD PetSmart Adoption Center

June 3, 2018 - Painting with a Twist

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Jenkintown, PA

June 10, 2018 - Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza Fundraiser

Wilmington & Pike Creek locations, DE

June 24, 2018 - Yoga with Cats at Tulaa Yoga

12:30 PM & 1:45 PM

Wilmington, DE

Lets Keep in Touch!

302-429-0124 (DE)

215-219-8148 (PA)

4023 Kennett Pike, Suite 422

Greenville, DE 19807

Donate Today!

STAY CONNECTED



Try it FREE today.

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