



# NEWSLETTER OF THE ANIMAL CARE LEAGUE

## FALL 2009

### ANIMAL CARE LEAGUE'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

**Give'em Shelter Fundraiser on October 2, 2009 – 6 to 10pm  
at The Primitive Gallery, 130 N. Jefferson; Chicago**

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Give'em Shelter fundraiser, to be held again at the fabulous Primitive Gallery ([www.beprimitive.com](http://www.beprimitive.com)) in Chicago. This year's event will feature live music, including the legendary Shirley King and Pennies from Heaven, as well as food, drink, raffles and of course – lots of shelter animals.

Additionally, Rob Johnson from CBS 2 news will emcee the evening and we will be giving out our first annual Animal Advocate Award to Judy Baar Topinka for her years of humanitarian efforts for homeless animals. Ms. Topinka regularly discusses the plight of animals on her radio show and has supported shelters for a long time. She herself rescued a dog in Springfield, IL who was in very bad shape when he was found.

The price for this extraordinary evening is only \$75. To register, you may call the shelter (708) 848-8155; call the Primitive Gallery at (312)575-9600; visit [www.givemshelter.com](http://www.givemshelter.com); or clip out the form below and send it to the shelter.

Our animals thank you in advance and we hope to see you there.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) for me at \$75 each. Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card:  Visa  MC  Discover # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_



### ANIMAL CARE LEAGUE

1013 Garfield, Oak Park, IL 60304  
Phone 708.848.8155  
[www.animalcareleague.org](http://www.animalcareleague.org)

#### Hours:

Tues, Wed, Fri 12 pm - 6 pm  
Thursday 12 pm - 7:30 pm  
Saturday 11 am - 5 pm  
Sun-Mon closed

#### ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Special thanks to Alice Reimann of  
Wonderland Design for designing  
our Newsletter

### 2009 SPRING LUNCHEON REPORT

Taking into consideration the economy, we were prepared for the worst. But WOW!! Our supporters came through in a big way. One hundred and fifty five people attended our luncheon, the previous high being one hundred eighteen. We loved the addition of the cats and dogs, and next year we will see them again. Through the generosity of the Lynne Harvey Foundation and Paul Harvey, Jr., all our expenses were covered and the matching donation was more than met. We thank ABC-TV traffic anchor, Roz Varon, for donating her time and talent to emcee our event.

The entire event would not have been possible without the hard and dedicated work by the committee; Lisa Alamar, Kathy Capone, Joan Gumbel, Maggie McKenna, Karen Morava, Chatka Ruggiero, Stephanie Yeager, and Tom Van Winkle.

Our live auction winners were responsible for the best one ever. They were Karen Morava, Sally Greco, Cindy Pierpaoli, PJ Nania, Mary Shadid, & Dr. Richard Simcox.

The raffle prize winners were – Tracy Bolger, Jill Slechter (Westchester), Sarah Plovanch (Chicago), & Brian Cheske (Villa Park).

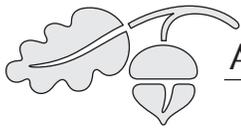
Our business supporters and friends gave us an exciting silent and live auctions. Many thanks to - Stephanie Yeager, The Barker Shop, Scratch 'n

Sniff, Sirius Cooks, M Santana, Lisa Alamar, Todd & Holland, OP Visitors' Center, Lisa Polk, OP Journal.com, Denise Kirk, Maggie McKenna & Diane Slezak, Careful Peach, Isla Bolen, Cathy Goldberg, Mary Petermann, Salon 212, Chatka Ruggiero, Joan Gumbel, Mary Ann Schott, ACL Resale shop, Olive Owl Organics, Mike Gumbel, Xterior Design by Zimmer, Joan Maxwell, Critter Care Pet Sitting, Rachele Houle, Susan Wrisley, MB Financial, Stephanie Skrine, Rick Simcox, Starship Restaurant, Dr. Lori Coughlin, Village Players, Court Theatre, Starbucks Coffee, Out-U-Go, Karen Linduska, Sandra Wilcoxon, Two Fish, Dinah Yeager, United Colors of Benetton, Val's Halla, Poor Phils, Book Table, Loyola Center for Health & Fitness, Cheryl Delby, Green Home Experts, Chicago Canine Club, Dazzling Diva, Dr. Julie Ann Moore, Arturo Express, Skin Care Co, Team Blonde, The Cat Practice, Dr. John Brancel, Flavour Cooking School, Gray Line Tours, Circle Theatre, Edwin Pegues, Good Earth, Competitive Foot, Spizzico, Trader Joes, Chicago Architecture Fndn, Marion St. Cheese Market, Tom VanWinkle, Marg Shadid, Christina Frank, Tom and Grace Ewert, Ben Pogofsky and the ACL Resale shop.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON  
– SUNDAY, APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>!!**

Thank you everyone – Chatka Ruggiero, chair





## OUR PEOPLE

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President** Chatka Ruggiero  
**Vice President** Stephanie Yeager  
**Secretary** Lisa Polk  
**Treasurer** Mary Ann Schott



### BOARD MEMBERS

Robin Akers, Mike Charlie (ex-officio), Brian Cheske, Robin Dunn, Pat Gwozdz, Kris Lewis, Maggie McKenna, and Betty Moore



### ADVISORY BOARD

Mena Boulanger, Kathy Deets, Paul Harvey Jr., Errol Kirsch, Glen Joffe, Ruth McLaren, Tony Miezio, and Claudia Morgan



### NEWSLETTER

**Design** Alice Reimann  
**Photographer** Michelle Lytle



### SHELTER STAFF

**Executive Director** Tom Van Winkle  
**Assistant Director** Martin Contreras  
**Manager of Feline Operations**  
Marcia Watt  
**Manager of Canine Operations**  
Carol Craig  
**Office Manager/Behavior Consultant**  
Ellen Milad

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Jill Lebovitz

### Adoption Counselor

Gayle Smith, Chris Meyer, Sharon Jacknow, and Gretchen Decker

### Vet Clinic

Dr. Lori Decker, Dr. Mary Eisenlohr, Dr. Audrey Mareska, Sophia Kuznetzow, Danielle Pogue, and Dawn Sundstrom

### Animal Care Technicians

Gina Bianchin, Tanyenesa Brown, Renee Campbell, Blanca Contreras, Pat Cronin, and Andrea Schwartz

### Second Chance Shop

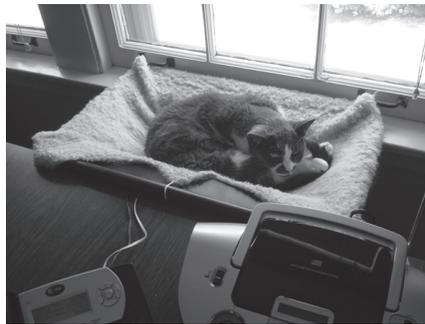
Stephanie Mandolesi



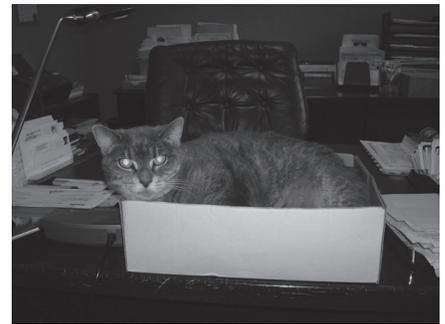
## President's Message Fall 2009



"Last newsletter I discussed office cats. Here are some pictures that demonstrate how well cats adapt to an office environment. However, you must be willing to accept some conditions - losing work on your computer screen, handwriting sloppy when you get bumped by a furry head, pen caps & paper clips missing, fax machine becomes a major attraction, papers get re-arranged, your desk chair may be occupied by someone else, paper shredder must always be covered - BUT it's all good for the soul!!"



Mussy gets some sun



Princess in box on desk



Crystal plays on desk



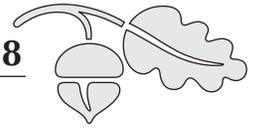
Bisinji guards files

## FOUR PAWS SOCIETY

Join our Four Paws Society! A minimum gift of \$5,000 with an ACL annuity, add to the ACL endowment fund, or include ACL in your will. There will be an annual luncheon at the Oak Park Country Club and the benefits of membership. Call us for details! The following people have already joined this prestigious club and we would love for you to join them.

Gatewood Foundation, Lynne Angel Harvey, Chatka and Tony Ruggiero, Emily Darak, Betty DiPasquale, Maria Schmidt, Georgia Dvorak, and OPRF Community Foundation.





## FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR



The world of animal welfare is an interesting business. There are so many animal lovers out there who are willing to go to great lengths to aid an animal in need, yet I have never seen an industry with so much in-fighting. We are all working towards the same ultimate goal, yet there is a tremendous amount of mistrust, much of which stems from the often-used term “no kill”.

On the surface, it seems there should be no disagreement on what “no kill” means. Taken literally, it can be, and often is, interpreted as describing a shelter which never puts an animal to sleep, regardless of the situation. In reality though, the term “no kill” refers to a shelter that does not euthanize adoptable animals. The person given credit for inventing the “no kill” movement is Rich Avanzino, who was working at the San Francisco SPCA at the time. Mr. Avanzino witnessed a large number of friendly animals being euthanized because of resource constraints at a local shelter and he wanted to start a movement where animals were not put to sleep simply because a shelter ran out of space. Mr. Avanzino did not mean that animals would never be euthanized, but instead that this terribly sad event would be reserved for only those situations where adoption was not an option. The two most widely seen reasons for euthanasia under the “no kill” movement are to end the suffering of a sick or injured animal and to prevent an animal with an unacceptable or unmanageable level of aggression from being placed in a home, where it would pose too great a risk to the adoptive family. By allowing “no kill” to mean that no animal is ever put to sleep, we not only stray from the term’s original, intended definition, but we also set an absolutely unreachable goal. In doing this, we hold ourselves to a standard that we cannot, and should not, attain. This may sound cold hearted, but hear me out.

First, there are some animals whose injuries or illnesses are such that no doctor could return them to a comfortable state of being. Keeping an animal alive, but unable to move without pain, is an inhumane act. This fact alone means that shelters should never be absolute “no kill” facilities. In doing so, we would become purveyors of the very thing we fight against every day: the inhumane treatment of animals.

Secondly, while it is nice to think that there is a home for every animal, the truth is that people do not, and should not, adopt highly aggressive animals. I champion the notion that, often times, it is not the animal’s nature that makes them aggressive, but an owner who “trained” the animal either intentionally or through abuse or neglect. Still, the fact remains that there are some animals that, regardless of how they became that way, have the potential to be very dangerous. We must remember that we are not just talking about adopter safety, but also that of their extended family, friends, neighbors, mail carriers, other animals . . . in short, anyone who comes into contact with the adoptive individual/family in any way is put at risk when an aggressive animal is adopted out into the community. There are no 100 percent guarantees, of course, but most people expect that shelters won’t knowingly send an aggressive animal into their neighborhood. While it is very sad to euthanize an animal that was made aggressive by a human, shelters must consider the safety of the adopters and the public when arranging an adoption. And if, in light of this, we accept the fact that there are some animals that are too aggressive to be adopted, then what are that animal’s current options? There are not enough sanctuaries to house them all, so the only other choice is to lock them in a kennel for the rest of their lives. We should consider that this kind of solitary confinement is exactly what we do to our most hardened human criminals. By practicing a strict never-euthanize policy, shelters are subjecting these animals to a life devoid of human or other animal contact, which is incredibly inhumane for social animals like dogs and cats.

Lastly, we must realize that simply not euthanizing an animal does not mean a shelter is “no kill”. Shelters have two choices - they can accept all animals that come to them or they can only take in animals when they have room in the shelter. Neither situation is right or wrong, it is just plain fact. If a shelter is an open facility, meaning they accept all animals, then they run the risk of running out of space and having to euthanize for lack of room, thus they can’t be termed “no kill”. If a shelter is limited intake, meaning they only accept animals when there is room, yet there is a shelter in their area that has to euthanize for space, then they too cannot call themselves “no kill”. I say this because when a limited intake shelter turns an animal away, that animal often times goes to the open facility down the street, where it may eventually be euthanized for space. Simply turning away from the issue does not give a shelter the right to call itself “no kill”. Once a community reaches the point where no shelter has to euthanize for space, then a limited intake facility could truly call itself “no kill”, as defined by Rich Avanzino. This is very rare, but I agree with Mr. Avanzino in that it is a goal worth working towards.

The Animal Care League has always practiced the ideals of the no kill movement in that we never euthanize an animal for lack of time or space. This means we can’t accept every animal that is brought to us, but those that are adoptable stay with us until we find them a new home. Nonetheless, in 2005 we stopped calling ourselves “no kill” because of the misunderstanding of the meaning of this term and because it has become very divisive in the animal welfare world. Open shelters are not the bad guys and should not be looked down upon simply because they can’t call themselves no kill. As evidenced by my example above, none of us can truly call ourselves no kill until we ALL can call ourselves no kill, thus we must work together. Even though the ACL adheres to the no kill policies, we choose not to use a term that creates bad feelings among shelters, and instead, use the term “limited intake” to describe our practices.

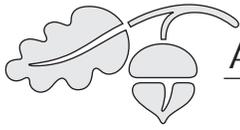
Does this mean you will never again see the Animal Care League referred to as a “no kill” shelter? Probably not. We have many supporters who still call us “no kill” because we have consistently practiced the ideals of the movement. And that’s okay. The main point I want people to consider is not which turn of phrase their favorite shelter employs, whether it be “no kill”, “limited intake” or “open”, but why shelters exist in the first place. Homeless animals are caused by societies, not shelters. Shelters work every day to do their best to help manage the onslaught of homeless creatures, and I would ask everyone to focus more attention on “what can we all do together to end animal homelessness in our community” and not worry so much about who is and is not calling themselves “no kill”. Because, much as the borders between countries are invisible from the sky, so too are the dividing lines between shelters when viewed from atop the pinnacle of our loftiest goals. When there are so few homeless animals that every shelter has their ‘vacancy’ sign aglow, then, and only then, will any of us truly have achieved the “no kill” ideal.

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### LATE BREAKING NEWS

The 2nd Chance Shop will be moving to 808 Harrison St., in Oak Park on October 1st to give us more room for additional merchandise and animals. Please visit us in our new home. We appreciate your support and hope to see you soon.

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**MEET 'OREO** a one year old neutered boy who was found on the streets as a stray. He's

litter trained, loves to play in his cardboard box and is looking for a forever home.

This year the Animal Care League has rescued and adopted out some very special pet bunnies. Bunnies are the third most popular pet in the U.S., just after dogs and cats, and we thought we'd answer some questions about pet bunnies and their care.

**Do Bunnies Need to Live In a Cage?** No. Bunnies can easily be housetrained to live freely in your house. You will however, need to 'bunny proof' so that the bunny can't get hurt. Some people start by keeping the bunnies in an x-pen (typically used for puppies) and then slowly expand the space. Spare rooms often become the 'bunny room.' If you have to use a cage, we suggest using rabbit condos made by Leith Petworks. These cages have solid bottoms multiple levels and will fit a large litter box. If you do keep your bunny in a cage, it's recommended to give them four hours of 'outside the cage' exercise and social time. We do not recommend housing bunnies in outdoor hutches.

**How Do You Housetrain a Bunny?** Rabbits are very smart and catch on quick. Like cats, they clean themselves often and want a clean area to 'do their business.' Simply get a large litter box (they bigger, the better! We use cement mixing tubs bought at the hardware store at the shelter), line the bottom with a paper based litter such as Care Fresh or Yesterdays News, never use clay, it's toxic to bunnies, and top with lots of fresh timothy hay. The Bunny will naturally hop in the litterbox to nibble on hay do his business. Always fill the litterbox with lots of hay! We top it with fresh hay twice a day, it also makes great compost! Simply dump the entire contents of the litterbox when cleaning in your compost bin or container, the worms love it!

**Are Bunnies Social?** Bunnies can be very social but prefer a quiet environment. They typically don't like to be picked up a lot and do best in homes with older children. They prefer to live with other bunnies and we encourage people to adopt pairs. Bunnies become very closely bonded with their partners and thrive with the attention of another bunny.

It's important to keep your bunnies active with lots of exercise, play time, and interaction with the family. They love to play in boxes, will toss around paper towel rolls, love to chew on apple sticks, and will run and jump in the air (binky's).

**Do Bunnies Need To Spayed or Neutered?** Yes. All bunnies should be spayed or neutered, even if they live as a single bunny. Rabbits that are not altered have a very high incidence of cancer (80 %!). By altering your pet bunny you will also

significantly reduce urine odor, marking tendencies and territorial aggression. And of course, because there are so many rabbits dumped at shelters (especially after Easter), there is no need to encourage breeding of bunnies.

**Should I Consider Adopting A Bunny If I Have Dogs or Cats?** House bunnies can live with other pets. Cats and bunnies have many similarities and they are common companions. Well mannered dogs that are trained to respond to commands can live with bunnies too. It is important to be very cautious and patient when introducing them and keep them supervised and separated until you are very confident that they can socialize. Much of the success will depend on the demeanor of the dog and the patience of the owner. It's becoming more common to have a dog, cat and rabbit household!

**What Do Rabbits Eat?** The most important part of a bunnies diet is fresh hay (75%), followed by greens such as parsley, cilantro, and romaine lettuce (15%) followed by a small amount of pellets (10% stay away from foods with seeds, peanuts, etc). We recommend Oxbow brand pellets and hay and sell them at the shelter.

**How Long Do Bunnies Live?** Bunnies that live indoors, are spayed/neutered and given a healthy diet and exercise can live 10-12 years. It's also important to bring your pet rabbit to a rabbit savvy veterinarian for yearly check-ups. Exotic vets specialize in rabbit care. Adopting a rabbit is a serious commitment, just like a dog or a cat.

The Animal Care League holds periodic Bunny Spa Days with free grooming and advice. We also sell Oxbow hay and pellets at the shelter!

To be added to our bunny database to get alerted when we're having bunny events, send an email to: [aclbunnies@yahoo.com](mailto:aclbunnies@yahoo.com)

## IT'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR TIME AGAIN!

It is time to mark your calendars! The 24<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Bazaar is just around the corner. The important dates to remember are December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss out on the fun this year! All those great gifts, holiday décor, and pet gifts are already coming in. Santa will join us all day Saturday for pictures (pets welcome!). Aside from all the treasures for sale, we will have baked goods, music, and our famous basket raffle! Stephanie Skrine will be available for chair massages for our weary shoppers!

Plans for this huge event are in the works, but there is much to do to help make this event a success. We need volunteers to help price items, make easy crafts, bake, help with setup and tear down as well as be available during the event to help our customers. If this sounds like something you can't resist, please contact Robin Akers at (708) 771-2719 or e-mail [Roba656@aol.com](mailto:Roba656@aol.com).

Every year, it is amazing to see what people find in the way of great gift items, crafts, holiday décor, and perfect pet gifts for your favorite four-footed friend! When you are doing your fall house cleaning, please remember us! We can use donations of any kind. We can find a good home for many of your gently used holiday decorations, gift items, jewelry, etc. Pass them on to us and help our homeless pets. We are also in need of raffle prizes for our basket raffle. Contact Robin to make arrangements for drop off, or stop by the shelter. The sooner we get things to price, the better.

Be part of our festive event this year! If you cannot work, please come and shop, eat some baked goods, listen to music, and get in the holiday spirit with us as we help the animals!

Don't forget to mark your calendars: Friday December 4 3:00pm-9:00pm and Saturday December 5 9:00am-3:00pm. The location this year? Well, at press time we are still on the search, but look for information on our web site as the date draws near! We will also be sending out postcards to the mailing list to inform you of the location. Tell all your friends . . . it is an event that is not to be missed in Oak Park! Find that perfect gift and help our furry friends!

## ANIMAL CARE LEAGUE WISH LIST

### Animal Care Supplies (should be dropped of at the shelter)

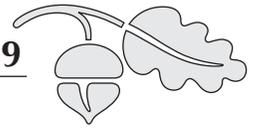
- Kitty litter (non-clumping)
- Cat toys (pipe cleaners, sparkly pompoms, feather wands, etc.)
- Dog toys (stuffed animals, large rope toys, squeaky toys, Kong toys . . . NO tennis balls please)
- Catnip
- Cardboard box tops from cartons of paper or the bottoms from cases of canned food (used as litter boxes for cages)
- Canned cat, kitten, dog or puppy food
- Soft dog treats
- Hard dog treats
- Old towels and blankets

### Laundry and Cleaning Supplies

- Liquid fabric softener
- Liquid bleach
- Laundry detergent (powder or liquid – to tabs please)
- Dishwasher detergent
- Antibacterial dish detergent
- Clorox or Lysol Antibacterial Wipes

### Paper/Plastic Goods and Office Supplies

- Copy/printer paper
- 6" paper plates
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Garbage bags (30 Gallon, heavy duty)
- Postage Stamps



## THANKS TO ALL OF OUR NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

We could never reach our goals without your support.

These are the names of the people who have become members or renewed their membership between January 1, 2009 and June 30, 2009. Any new/renewed memberships received after June 30, 2009 will be included in the Spring 2010 newsletter.

### Current Lifetime/ Endowment Members

Anthony and Chatka Ruggiero  
Brian Sibernagel and Teresa Snider  
Carol Major  
Cherie Zamel  
Cheryl Delby  
Christine A Zielinski  
Community Bank of Oak Park River Forest  
Elizabeth Holland  
Elizabeth Logsdon and Nick Fluge  
Elizabeth Zurek  
Gatewood Foundation  
Georgia Dvorak  
Howard Albert and Cathy Goldberg  
Iris K. Sims  
Jim Nightingale  
Jody Hall and Bob Lees  
John Franklin  
Joseph A Graber  
Judy Cohan  
Kathryn Krueger  
Kathy Capone  
Lynn Ryan  
Margaret Cheske  
Marvin Price  
Mary & Greg Cappelli  
Melinda Ruane  
MJ Luetgert  
Pat Gwozdz  
Phyllis Mueller  
Rachel Pildis and Donald Anderson  
Richard and Camille Deptuch  
Richard Neustadt  
Rose Marie Reed and Tom Mohr  
Stephanie Yeager  
Thomas and Grace Ewert  
Tim & Eilene Heckman  
Tracy A Rowland  
Thomas and Christina Prothero  
Michael Roberts

### New/Renewed Gold Level Members

Cindy Banai  
Bob Eckhart  
Christopher Walsh  
Robin and Christopher Dunn  
Diane Mustain and Dana Langhans  
Nancy, Jon, & Lena Fjortoft  
Jeanne Triner / Kaye Clements  
Angie Abrego  
Jennifer and Heath Mielke  
Tom Mohr and Rose Marie Reed  
Jennifer and Heath Mielke  
Steve and Judy Van Winkle  
Ralph and Mary Eads  
Sondra Summers and Danny Sugimoto

Mary Maticchak  
Cory Scott  
Augustine Sohn  
Inner Wisdom Yoga

### New/Renewed Silver Level Members

Lynn Sivertsen  
Anne Lombardi  
Christine Herrmann  
Susan Gilchrist  
Mary Ann and Jim Schott  
Donna J. Stephens  
Joseph and Mary Monahan  
Rada Ivanov  
Anne Bermier  
Raymond and Joyce Jurewicz  
Nancy Alexandroff  
Harriet Hausman  
John Jaescke  
Michael Gilmartin  
Patricia and Derek Withers  
Michael and Lori Coughlin  
Kathleen Bucholtz  
Georgia Dvorak  
Charlotte and Barbara Fanta  
Bernice Goodis  
Robin Wold  
Mary Discoll  
Joseph and Vivienne Botsch  
Lynne and Jesse Gonzalez  
Jennifer Tennant  
Arthur & Jackie Skwerski  
John and Judy Alfonsi  
Roger and Sylvia Rogers  
Robin Akers  
David Collins and Patricia Julian  
Laura Wozny  
Donald and Carolyn Becker  
Linda Knutson  
Elizabeth Bond  
Julie Kennedy  
Laurie Lerner  
Berit Svanoe-Hafstad  
Maureen Dooley  
Diana Piedlow

Florence D Sims  
Harriet Hausman  
Charrise Ouska-Willkommen  
Lynn and Rosalie Malmstrom  
Sue Bohienstengel  
Mary Ann Porucznik  
Jean and Bill Peterman  
Kathy Rajter  
Joan Carmignani  
Edward D Royal  
Paul Fatula  
Maggie and Paul McKenna  
Sharon Jakubka  
Diane Scaletta  
Polly Walwark  
Helen Wild  
Evelyn McCarren  
Rachele A Houle  
Sue Stopka  
Donna Dean  
Anna Daly  
Carrie Crawford  
Karen Baum

### New/Renewed Bronze Level Members

Linda Haluska  
Liz Petrowsky  
Kelly Barar  
Gretchen Alonzo  
Janet Jones  
Dolores U. Miller  
Karla Oberholtzer  
Natalie and Mary Japlon  
Angelo and William Selk  
Joseph and Carol Shell  
Barbara Braun Skarha  
Diane Poole  
Dr. David and Shirley Lieb  
Anne Gressle  
Helen Lyons  
Harriet Reed  
Irene Polashek  
Joan Fiscella  
Carlie Leoni  
Margo Thompson

Selma Belajec  
Tim Pearson  
Melissa Mickelberry  
Florette and Harry Sexton  
Ruth and David McLaren  
Phyllis Magee  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Samocki  
Annamarie & Robert Bomba  
Janet Ruehr  
Sharon and Jerome Zarembka  
Diane Pendergrass  
Sue and Jeff Blaine  
Donna LaSage  
Betty DiPasquale  
Betty and George Moore  
Jane Holmberg  
Arthur and Henrietta Lubin  
Elinor Chapman  
Lisa and Jason Sensat  
Bess Aren  
Maryann Galanti  
Mercedes Kozacki  
Barbara Wickham  
Ann Gongol  
Barbara Walker  
Susan Engel  
Jim and Mildred Cogan  
Kathleen Sweeney  
Roz Singleton  
Linda Robin Hornberg  
LYnda Jeppesen  
Jane A Raczey  
Michelle Woehrle  
Kris Lewis  
Jill Perkins  
Amy Stretmater  
William and Linda Kucera  
Walter Bodnar  
Sean Elliott  
Carol and Joseph Shell  
Zoe Kilavos  
Richard Poltorak  
Ginny Taglia  
Alice Kotowski  
Nancy Babiarz

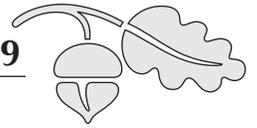
### A Special Thanks to the Following Youngsters for their Support

Alexis Kosik  
Joselyn Goday  
Elizabeth Orozco  
Elizabeth Aguire  
Megan Shinker and Girl Scout Troop 1070  
Michelle Chapman-Rienstra  
Anna Testore

Julia Bergenske  
Kathleen Leiner  
Georgia Jensen  
Elm Middle School  
Cherilyn Gearhart  
Girl Scout Troop 1492  
Madeline Brisben  
Unity Temple Youth Group

Meredith Miraglia/Kristin Rubino & Brownie Troop 1263  
First United Methodist Church  
Youth Group  
Michael Milad





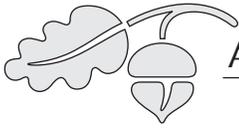
**THANK YOU! WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**  
**NEW/RENEWED VOLUNTEERS**  
January through June 2009

Robert Kells  
Jeff and Mary Kay Javors  
Paige Brewer  
Laura Constans  
Gary and Michelle Brandt  
Cathy Cipparrone  
Miranda Binns-Calvey  
Ralph Romero and Elaine Luther  
Howard Larkin  
Roslyn and Rebecca Leehey  
Megan Thomas  
Kate Baca  
Beth Lodal  
Judy Humowiecki  
Jade Rodriguez  
Irene Karabel  
Cara Guzman  
Victoria Juran  
Christian and Michele Golden  
Amy Cardin  
David Johnson  
Victoria Izaguirre  
Anne Jimenez  
Greg Clark  
Ruth Masters  
Amanda Lamacki  
Janice Bahde  
Rebecca Winston  
Elliot Zinger  
Hideko Ngo  
John Monaghan  
Angela Smith-Houston  
Alyson Sowers  
Mike Baker and Dan Duke  
Nicole Mahler  
Anna Lee  
Yesenia Gallegos  
Kim Katz  
Olivia Barroza-Murphy  
Stasia Thompson  
Kimberly Cleveland  
John J. Tipton  
Cecilia Saavedra  
Barbara Verdich  
Arielle Keuning  
Anastacio Chacon  
Martha Martinez-Souter  
Paula Larsen  
Colleen Olson  
Camille Broadnax  
Carol Ottolino  
Elizabeth Ottolino  
Theresa Cantafio  
Kevin Kearns  
Michelle Mirrielees Newman

Dennis McFarland  
Abby Stegner-Freitag  
Hend Al Harbi  
Elizabeth Berg  
Madeline Rossetti  
Victoria Alexander  
Irma Reyes  
Ray Jordan  
Suzanne McBride  
Lisa Pearson  
Pam Hooker  
Adam Bauer-Goulden  
Marcia Frank  
James Johnson  
Ariela Coles  
Kristin Matthews  
Gloria and Christine Mitchell  
Emily Hartung  
Chris Strange  
Ed and Shannon Forst  
Kim Crawford  
Noelani Rosillo  
Karen Brush  
Karen Gilbert  
Louis and Alison Corsino  
Maria Evans  
Annekea Taglia  
John and Deborah Ann Mercer  
Claudia Harris  
Kristin Schultz  
Michael Quinn  
Sharon Henk and Steven Saraceno  
Chris March and Melanie Kula  
Nora Vazquez  
Cynthia Fellencer  
Nancy Burton  
Mary Jo O'Brien  
Cece Samp  
Emily Moran  
Beth Higgins  
Jennifer LaFleur  
Maggie O'Brien  
Julie Moravec  
Marta Koterba  
Lynette Lovely  
Roberta Lane  
Kristin Logerquist  
Meghan Hill  
Brian Reilly  
Roslyn and Rebecca Leehey  
Michael and Michelle Doman  
Michael Roccaforte  
Roselle Badrifa  
Tracy Pancyrz  
Megan Nolan

Carole Goodwin  
Diana Cameron  
Alexandra Kapustka  
Matthew Mitchell  
Kaila Gilbert  
Katie Beamsley  
Wendy Cole  
Suzanne Ritzler  
Augusta and Paul Lenehan  
William and Linda Kucera  
Dan Plotnick  
Karina Villarreal  
Tina Lewis  
Mercedes and Felicia Koch  
Ivette Franco  
Christina Slabaugh  
Mary Enderle  
Brad Vestal and Margie Czerwionlea  
Suzanne Lavin  
Christine Allegretti  
Adrienne Szarmack  
Sharon Murphy  
Lisa Youman  
Claire Tyler  
Shannon Berry  
Lisa Pijon  
Nicolas Collins and Susan Tallman  
Karla Baldwin  
Pat Harualis  
Vicki Jacobsen  
Alberto Martinez  
Doreen Pruzin  
Penny Siwula  
Emilija Novitovic  
Christine Nichols  
Shannon McNulty-Clayton  
Mary Hardison  
John V. and Julie Mazzola  
Joshua and Vivian Swibel  
Jodi Bauer  
Porsche Winfield  
Serena Elvery  
Patti Calabrese  
Jon and Sheila Berleman-Paul  
Jane Barker  
Sandra and Madeline Brisben  
Brian Hacker  
Danielle Sanders  
Randall Thompson  
Heidi Wilton  
Deborah Wing  
Mark Winters  
Kathy Capone  
Glynis Kinnan  
Dr. Katherine Walsh





## MEMORIALS

January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009

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Dianne Meltreger for Alice Moehrle  
Phil and Jan Jecmen for Sandy the cat  
Jean Forbes for Lena and Sebastian  
Darleen Crocker for Susan Walsh  
Lisa Woods for Nancy Stannardt  
Kate Janush for "Mac" Larsen  
Wendy Lester for Lorelei Scafaro  
Andrea Alghalith for Lorie Scafaro  
Cathy Santopietro, Kevan Plumlee, and Ty Petersen for Lorie Scafaro  
Bureau of Labor Relations for Lorelei Christine Scafaro  
Margery Longo and Lucy Wellwood for Ruth B Templeton  
Chris Liddy and Larry Molaison for Lina Royal  
Carl Speer for Lana (therapy dog)  
Wendy Liska for Loreli Scafaro  
Bob and Jane Sarver for Lori Scafaro  
Doris E Johnson and Katie Gilson for Daniel Gilson  
Ellen Jaffe for Daniel Gilson  
Virginia Diaz for Daniel Gilson  
Marilyn Goodman, Valerie Goodman, and Virginia Benepe for Daniel Gilson  
Katie Gilson and Family for Daniel Gilson  
Sharon Koos for Daniel Gilson  
Mark and Janet Galbraith for Lorelei Scafaro  
Susan Candee for Ann Farnham  
Deborah Becker for Penelope  
Nicole Balch for Daniel Gilson  
Joelle and James Michalowicz for Ann Farnham  
J.D. and M.M. Kapp for Ann Farnham  
Donald Farnham for Ann Farnham  
Betty Quinlisk for Ann Farnham

Laurie Beasley for Daniel Gilson  
Scott and Tracy Blaszak for Ann Farnham  
Marion and Milt Candee for Ann Farnham  
Kenneth and Doris Hayes for Ann Farnham  
Cindy Spriesch for Molly Scherer  
Jeanine Camaren and Sharon Fregeau for Porkchop and Mikey  
Oak Park Arts District for Daniel Gilson  
Carol and Gene Harris for Scruffy the cat  
Gary and Michelle Brandt for Anna Testore  
Edwin Chart for Donald Kavdelka, Grammy, and Meow Meow  
Peter and Marietta Norvid for Oliver Atkin  
Rena Williamson for Ann Farnham  
Frances Sullivan for Oliver Atkins  
Anita Karlson for Rascal, Polo, Merlyn, Autumn, and Rufus  
Mary C Cahill for Daniel Gilson  
Margo Dummelle for Daniel Gilson  
Donna Daguanno for Annabelle  
Michelle Sabbia for Ann Farnham  
Julia P Bergenske Alexis, Delia, Datie, Lily, and Greta for Angel Zimmerman  
Joanna Vanni for Marty  
Gretchen Alonzo for Casey Bay  
Sylvia Flory for Yogi (Robin Aker's dog)  
Marilyn Feinberg for Jinx and Gypsy  
Lillian Fisher for Gladly Carlson  
Simone Rich for Lightning Bug  
Donna LaSage for Son Schieler  
Colleen Hintz for Ginger  
Betty DiPasquale for Gregory DiPasquale

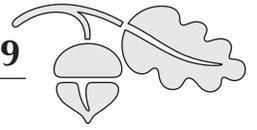
## HONORS

January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009

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Georga and Allen Parchem for Lori Decker and Jeff & Ellie MacLean  
June Seiden for Stephanie Yeager  
Scott Johnson for Mary Driscoll  
Joe Eagleeye for Perkinz, Emily, Ben, Dusty, Melissa, Waldo, Midnight, Rocky, and Charcoal  
Cathie Jannetto for TAZ 1992-2008  
Doug Kraft for Stephanie Yeager  
Cindy McCabe for Charlie Moss  
Gail Holmberg for Renee Cariere  
Susan Decker for the Decker and Lawley families  
Josh Arnoldus for Lucky and Penny  
Mark Schlosser for Isabel and Brenna  
Diane Menza for Margaret Parker  
Alan Amberg for Ruth Amberg, Jim Lantelme, and Anna Lantelme  
Colleen Hintz for Susan  
Scott Dallam for ave Dallam, Rocio Munoz, and Gabriel Dunbar  
Maura Quinn for Mr. Freckles and Princess Deco  
Neil Goulden for Adam and Lia Bauer-Goulden  
Joseph and Anna Blaha for Pat Gwozdz  
Robert and Wendy Planek for Emily Schrek's B-Day  
Craig and Carmel Failor for Emily Schrek's B-Day  
Matthew and Katherine Kelleher for Emily Schrek's B-Day  
Charles and Susan Redden for Emily Schrek's B-Day

Madelyn Martino Nabicht for Emily Schek's B-Day  
Neil Taylor and Susan Kim Cottee for Emily Schrek's B-Day  
Peter and Tracy Barber for Emily Schrek's B-Day  
Michael Iversen and Laura Young for Ingrid Iverson's B-Day  
Thomas Wegener for Ingrid Iverson's B-Day  
Christine and David Linde for Ingrid Iverson's B-Day  
Betsy Krause for Stephanie Yeager  
Julia Pesek for Elliot Pesek (ACL Alum Pedro)  
Carolyn Vincent for Ted P and Miss Queenie  
Margaret Poepp for Tiger Lily  
Harriet Hausman for Noel Elfant's B-Day  
Sara Marzullo for Briejo  
Linda Nordin for Nancy  
Caryn Smigiel for Sharon and Bridget Fregeau  
Susan Kieta for Ronnie (cat)  
Ed Garvey for Kathy Capone  
Gina Kolk and Thomas Walsh for Matt Walsh's 1st Communion  
Nancy Grant for Betty Moore  
Dana Ginsberg for Deborah Ginsberg and Seth Buntain  
Robert Schmidt for Dana Connell  
Jessica Wollmuth for Ava Keith  
Marilyn Feinberg for Cookie  
Emily Beamer for Michele Carlon



## ACL 2ND CHANCE SHOP NEWS

The past year has been good to The Animal Care League's 2nd Chance Shop and it continues to improve every day. More and more people learn about the shop and when they come to visit they like what they find and spread the word. Because people feel good that the money from their donations go to support the shelter, they feel good about donating high quality items. Shoppers know that they will find quality merchandise at very discounted prices and since the merchandise changes daily, every visit is an adventure. At any time the shop may have antiques, vintage and contemporary items, knick knacks, women's clothing, jewelry, books, small furniture, kitchen items, collectables, and more. Jewelry is one of our biggest sellers and the selection ranges from current, fun, costume, antique and vintage, to designer jewelry and art pieces that fill three good sized cases. To see some of our current merchandise check us out on Craigs List.

The shop also carries new pet supplies including several types of cat litters; Dr Elsey's Cat Attract is an excellent litter for cats who may be having some trouble using the litter box consistently, and it has proven itself over and over. Dr Elsey's Precious Cat litter is a great hard clumping, low dust litter that makes it easy to keep the box clean. And the newest litter is Feline Pine Clumping litter. Its advantage is that it clumps well, naturally deodorizes, is very light weight, compostable, flushable and very affordable.

In the past year we have begun selling custom made cat trees, towers & scratching posts made by a local craftsman at very affordable prices. They are solid and well made of sturdy lumber, no cardboard, eco friendly carpeting, no glues, adhesives, come with attached toys, are sprayed with catnip, and offer a variety of scratching surfaces. There are thirteen models to choose from and you can request custom features of your own design. The shop cats love them; all the buyers have been thrilled and report they are a huge success with their cats at home too. Stop in to see the all your choices.

In the past year we continued to host claw trimming demonstrations, and feral cat information/workshops and are planning more. Feral cats are present in all our neighborhoods and it has been well proven that trap/neuter/release is a humane and successful way to manage them, and over time has reduced their population. Watch our website for dates for the t/n/r workshops.

The shop cats have proven to be very popular with new and regular customers and many have been adopted. Since January 2008 the shop has adopted out 48 cats and kittens. Often they are cats that have been overlooked at the shelter because they were adult, chubby, not the prettiest, a bit shy or want to be only pets, but they are still terrific pets and we have the letters from their adopters to prove it. Come meet some of our cats and who knows, you may fall in love. And make sure you come to see the murals decorating our walls. Several local artists donated their time, talents and supplies to create colorful murals celebrating cats. We especially want to thank them; Camille Roman, Lauren Stohler, and Derek Quint.

The shop is mostly staffed by ACL volunteers and we can always use more help. If you are interested contact Stephanie at the shop, 708-383-9660 or Mandolesi@comcast.net.

Be sure to visit the 2nd Chance Shop page on our website for more information on upcoming events, adoptable cats and more at [www.AnimalCareLeague.org](http://www.AnimalCareLeague.org)

Thanks to our current volunteers, Gayle Smith, Isla Bolen, Carolle Gaines, Jeffery Wadsworth, Stephanie Yeager, Amy Versetto, Andrew Michaels, Claire Fitzgerald, Laura Willis, Jamie Pool, Chris Will, Angela Thusat, Kristin Schultz, Libby Talaber, Jana McIlroy.

And donations from our wish list are much appreciated.  
 Jewelry Boxes  
 Scotch Tape  
 Safety Pins  
 Toilet Paper  
 Paper towels,  
 Shopping bags  
 Zip lock baggies  
 Large Black and Kitchen Trash Bags  
 Price Tags and Labels  
 Simple Green, Citrus, 7th Generation, or other non-toxic cleaner,  
 Clumping Cat Litter,

**And as always, Thanks for your support!**

## THE STORY OF COSMO

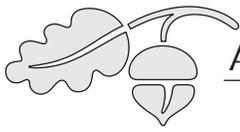


*continued from the Spring Newsletter*

As you might remember, in our last newsletter we told the story of Cosmo who was adopted twice from ACL but when he went home, he became so frightened he hid and wouldn't come out, so he was returned to the shelter both times. He then went home with a member of our staff to see if we could work through his fear and find out if he was able to acclimate to a new environment.

Cosmo was kept separate from the family's other pets for about three weeks and during that time he had lots of visits from the human members of the family. At first he was shy and hid under the bed, but the humans just sat down on the floor and read a book and it did not take long before Cosmo slipped out from under the bed and laid down next to them and after a few pets and scratches under the chin, he rolled over and offered his lovely cinnamon colored tummy for a rub. This became a ritual and it wasn't long before he was waiting at the door of the room to greet anyone who came in to visit him. The next step involved introducing other members of the family – this was done slowly, one at a time, until Cosmo had met and interacted with everyone (two-legged and four-legged). Once Cosmo was relaxed and happy with his visitors, he was taken on a "walk-about" of the second floor of the house where he was living so he could see other rooms and then he was gradually allowed to explore them on his own. It did not take long before he was brave enough to venture down to the first floor where he encountered the dogs that lived there. Strangely, the dogs did not frighten him at all and he quickly got very comfortable around them.

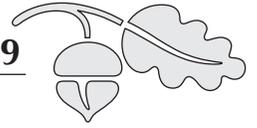
Cosmo is very sociable with other animals and because he seemed so happy in his new environment, a vote was taken, and Cosmo's foster family adopted him. Everyone in the house (two-legged and four-legged) adores him and his easy-going demeanor. He enjoys laying in the windows watching squirrels and birds and cuddling up with other kitty friends for some naps and occasionally he gets kisses and a bath from them. Every night he snuggles up against his new owners in bed and sleeps soundly until morning when he stretches, yawns, and demands breakfast. Cosmo is now enjoying life!



## Animal Care League Membership

The ACL is happy to announce that we have improved our membership benefits with the cooperation of local businesses. The grid below outlines the membership levels and the benefits of each. For a list of participating businesses in our membership program, please visit our website at [www.animalcareleague.org](http://www.animalcareleague.org)

Membership Level	Puppy Power	Here Kitty Kitty	Biscuits and Catnip	Pet Companion Champion	Animal Angels Endowment
Cost	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Biannual Newsletter					
Monthly "Members Only" Newsletter (via email)					
Discounts/Perks and Local Businesses	 ACL Shelter & Second Chance Shop	 Puppy Power + 5 Local Businesses	 Puppy Power + 10 Local Businesses	 Puppy Power + 10 Local Businesses	 Puppy Power + 10 Local Businesses
Acknowledgement in the Biannual Newsletter					
ACL Coffee Mug or Travel Cup					
Picture of You and/or Your Pet Hung at ACL					
Pet Portrait Taken by a Professional Photographer					
Members Only Behind the Scenes Tour of ACL					
A Kennel with a Plaque Bearing Your Name for One Year					



## A TALE OF TWO KITTIES

Would our older tabbies accept the new kitty we were adopting? There was no time to prepare the usual way, by introducing a blanket or toy with the scent of the other, but where there is a will there is a way

Six-week-old Marcus planted all four feet in the palm of my hand as he faced the two giants who reigned over the house, and hissed! This won their hearts. From that day forward, our tabbies not only tolerated Marcus's playful cuffs and pounces, they recaptured some of the playfulness of their own youths. Marcus grew to be a huge Maine coon cat, beloved by all throughout his healthy fourteen years.

We rescued Blackie the Kitchen Cat from the plastic bag in which his owner tossed him toward the river. We saw it hit the concrete barrier, but the vet to which we rushed him found no serious injuries, just a great need for loving care to overcome his lingering fear. He did not hiss, but crept toward a quiet corner of the kitchen where the tabbies let him know it was safe to rest, play, and eat. And one night I got up to find the big tabby quietly dropping a toy beside Blackie's bed as he slept.

Betty Moore

## FRIENDS OF ACL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one box below for the level of membership you wish to pledge

- Puppy Power - \$25     Here Kitty Kitty - \$50     Biscuits & Catnip - \$150  
 Pet Companion Champion - \$500     Animal Angels Endowment - \$1,000

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Options (check one)     Cash     Check (payable to Animal Care League)     Credit Card

Credit Card Type     Visa     Master Card     Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

ACL is a not for profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.



1013 Garfield Street  
Oak Park, IL 60304



**The Animal Care League • 1013 Garfield • Oak Park, IL 60304**  
**708/848-8155**

The ACL is a non-profit organization dedicated to homeless animals. Not funded by the Village of Oak Park, we rely on donations and fund raising events to support our work.

**Donation**

- I wish to make a donation
- I wish to make a donation in honor of \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to make a donation in memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to make a donation to the Endowment Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (eve) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations are tax deductible. Address change? Please notify us!**



**Animal Care League**  
**1013 Garfield**  
**Oak Park, IL 60304**

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