



# Central Coast Humane Society

Serving the Animals of Lincoln County Since 1974

www.centralcoasthumanesociety.com



Spring 2013

## Rescued: Kittens Taken from Hoarder House Happy At last!

In the spring of 2011, Central Coast Humane Society received a call from a Lincoln County resident requesting help getting her 18 indoor and 17 outdoor cats spayed and neutered. She was overwhelmed because she started feeding "stray" cats in her yard and they quickly multiplied. She told our representative that she could barely feed herself and was about to lose her house after being unemployed and unable to find work. As she was older, we talked with Senior Services to see if they could help her. They attempted but she would not answer the door.

One of our board members went to her house to assess the situation and found the front porch completely blocked off. The occupant refused to answer the back door, which was the case for the first several months we tried working with her. Since we could not make contact, the situation came to a halt.

In the spring of 2012, a year later, CCHS received another call from this person complaining she had "been waiting a year for the Humane Society to do something." We explained to her that she needed to work with us in order for us to help her. With much persistence, the lady would answer her back door but still refused to let us in to see the condition of the inside cats.

We learned that she had 18 male and female cats living in her bedroom together. She did not believe they would "fool around" because they were related – brother/sister, mom/son, etc. We explained the reality to her. We also learned that she had a mom cat and 6 "kittens" in her bathroom (they were 5 months old – reproduction age themselves). After continuous discussions, the lady finally agreed to give us the "kittens" so we could socialize them, get them fixed, and find new homes. The kittens had never been outside the bathroom, but after spending considerable time in foster care, the kittens got socialized and found loving homes.

Move forward several months and CCHS managed to spay/neuter 16 of the bedroom cats and the mom cat. The two remaining bedroom cats were a male and a female. We worked desperately to get those two cats before we had more kittens but, excuse after excuse later, we had another batch of kittens, which died. Several outside cats disappeared but we were able to trap and get about 4 of the outside cats spayed/neutered. All the adult cats appeared relatively healthy and, while we did work with Animal Control, the situation wasn't



*Diva, the former Ellie May (a kitten from a previous hoarder litter), was rescued and fostered by CCHS, and adopted by Trysta Woolslayer.*

one of neglect or abuse.

Throughout this time, we would get calls from the lady saying "someone left a young female cat or two kittens" on her doorstep. She considered every cat her "baby" and was very reticent to get them fixed. A request for help with the young female finally got one of our board members inside her house. They were able to confirm the smell and waste in the house. While we knew we were working with a hoarder, it took us months to get inside the house to confirm anything.

In addition to all the cats, the lady had two Chihuahua's – one male, one female. She finally consented to getting the male dog neutered, but still to this day refuses to get the female spayed – stating she wants to breed her. The board member who was able to get inside the house saw that the male dog was kept locked in a small cat carrier, and a grey cat was kept locked in a large cat carrier. She learned these animals had been locked up for months and allowed outside their carriers 4-5 times a day to go "potty." The lady was advised to get the animals out of the carriers and not permanently keep them locked up.

As you can understand, one of the neighbors was upset with the number of cats. Through disagreements, police contact, and refusing to let CCHS find homes for the majority of cats, the lady was served with an order from the city to reduce her animal population to 3. Many tears later CCHS was allowed to take the bedroom cats, which were placed in

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Kathe Stander

Vice President:  
David Mitchell

Treasurer: Barbara Perry

Secretary: Mary Lou Starker

Members-at-Large:

Lee Smith

Linda Wright

Don Elmore



*CCHS President Kathe Stander  
and Savannah*

## PROGRAMS OFFERED

Spay/Neuter Assistance  
Emergency Medical Assistance

Population Assistance  
Animal Welfare  
NEST

Shots Assistance  
Community Cat Assistance/  
Food Assistance  
Humane Education

**Call (541) 265- 3719 for  
more information**

**Spay Neuter assistance is  
now available by phoning  
our number: 541-265-3719  
Call us and someone will  
call you back. Be sure to  
speak clearly when you  
leave your message.**

## President's letter

This newsletter has an amazing story about a hoarder situation and the many cats/kittens that were produced. CCHS worked long and hard to try to assist with this and finally was able to retrieve, socialize and find homes for many of the cats/kittens. JayJay and her kittens were the last of the bunch our foster mother extraordinaire, Lee Smith, was able to help.

This is a reminder that kitten and puppy season will be upon us soon. Please make sure your pets have been fixed. If you need some assistance, please call CCHS. We still have money available for dogs in our DJ&T grant and will always have assistance for cats.

On February 28, we were the honored recipients of a special workshop made available by the New York City Feral Cat Initiative. Mike Phillips and Valerie Sicignano from NYC came to the Coast to present this very informative seminar about socializing feral kittens. We owe many thanks to them!

On Sunday, March 3, we will have our THIRD Annual Spay-ghetti and No Balls Dinner at The Eventuary in Lincoln City. Various raffles will be offered during the dinner, which begins at 4 pm and goes until 8 pm. Tickets are available through CCHS and also available through The Historic Anchor Inn in Lincoln City. Proceeds are used to fund the Beach Bark programs for the North County.

Also in this newsletter is a reminder to please send us your email address so that this newsletter can be emailed to you, our Humane Ambassadors. It will save a bit on our postage costs. Interested in becoming a Sustaining Donor? Please look for that information, too.

Near the holidays, we received an incredibly generous donation from a pair of long-time animal lovers in Lincoln City who choose to remain anonymous. At this time we were worried about the funds decreasing from our Animal Welfare fund, so the money they donated was evenly divided between Population Assistance (for spay/neuter expenses) and Animal Welfare (for other pet expenses). Thank you so much, dear friends, for thinking of the animal companions in our county!

CCHS is so grateful for every cent you share with us — in donations, memberships, purchases of our t-shirts! Thank you from all of us!

*Kathe Stander  
President*

## Rescued! cont'd



*Mollie and Nora*



*Rocky*

new homes. As the cats were being gathered into carriers, the bed had to be lifted in order to get some cats out from underneath. It was then discovered there was a litter of very young kittens UNDER THE BED – 4 alive and 1 dead. The lady wasn't even aware there was a litter of kittens under the bed. CCHS took the kittens, the male Chihuahua, and two outside cats. It was quite a moving day.

Many people have asked how we had the patience for this lengthy process. Because of the animals – CCHS had to help the animals. Hoarders are difficult to work with because they believe they are helping animals, not realizing the enormity of what they are producing. Ordering, pushing, demanding doesn't work. You just have to be patient and remember you are doing this so animals can have a better life.

*by Barb Perry*

## Rescued: Part Two

You have already heard in an earlier newsletter about the six five-month old kittens we talked about and how they were all altered and found new, great forever homes. Barb called me on Saturday to tell me that she had the four kittens from the latest litter. On Sunday she brought them to me. Since I had two adult cats in temporary foster care in my garage room, I put them in the small bathroom and began the routine of feeding and caring for them. They were about 4 weeks old and seemed mostly healthy. But they had some upper respiratory troubles and their eyes were glued shut with discharge. They were also covered in fleas. It was a huge relief on Monday when Board member Don brought the mama cat to me. She took over the care and feeding of the babies, but had no idea about the litter pan. That first afternoon she stepped out of the crate and urinated on the floor in front of it.

I cleaned the floor, removed another crate to make room, and put the litter pan right in front of the crate. In the morning I found her in the crate and the kittens lying in a pile on top of the litter! So we started over. I dumped her out of the crate and got my first look at her. She is a beautiful seal point Siamese but SO tiny!! I removed the crate, made a bed in a huge litter pan, set it and the litter pan in the small shower and adjusted the doors so that she could not get out to get to the food without walking through the litter pan. She got it!! What a relief. We tried putting a dose of flea medicine on Mom's neck. I decided to wait a day or so to bathe the kittens as they were too young for flea medicine. On the second day I was amazed to discover that they had no fleas at all!! Apparently, the medicine was transferred to them via their mother's milk. Whew! On Tuesday I took two kittens to the vet. He got their eyes unstuck and sent me home with an artificial tear ointment, an antibiotic ointment and a bottle of amoxicillin. For the next several days, I'd take two at a time out and get their eyes unstuck and dose them with ointment and antibiotic. Finally, their eyes remained open, and after 10 days I discontinued the amoxicillin. I named the mama Jay Jay and she continued to take good care of the kids and not to mind my handling them. I could pet her when she was in with the babies but could not touch her when she was out in the room.

The next big adventure came when the adult fosters went back to their family and we moved them to the outside large, spacious foster room. As we still could not pick up Jay, we spooked her out and she hid behind the toilet. A friend scruffed her and dragged her to the opening of a crate which had two babies sleeping inside. She darted in and we slammed it shut. Sometime in here I named the kittens Mollie, Rocky and Nick and Nora. Rocky was a handsome tabby with several colors and the other three were classic lilac point Siamese.

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## The Board: Who We Are



*CCHS Vice President David Mitchell with Sparky, left and Lillie, right.*

Born in Chicago in 1941. Didn't like the wind so moved to Maryland a week later. At least that is what I tell people when they ask how long I lived there. Now look where I am.

My dad was a minister and my mother a minister's wife and school teacher. Most of my formative years were growing up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. I graduated from college during the time our country employed conscripted military service so my decision was to serve the alternative in the Air Force. What began as a four year commitment culminated in a twenty-two year career. A second career was a necessity due to two daughters rapidly approaching their college aspirations. I was ready to try something completely different so I chose to become a peace officer with Santa Barbara County. After serving almost sixteen years in my second career, I retired in 2005. My wife also retired the same year from her career as the confidential administrative secretary to the superintendant of our local school board. We were ready to leave California so later that year we moved to Newport to be closer to our youngest daughter and relatives.

All my life I have been very fond of animals so volunteering at the Lincoln County Animal Shelter felt like a perfect placement. About a year later, I was asked if I would be interested in becoming a board member with the Central Coast Humane Society. This would expand my desire to help animals even further and was another perfect decision. These past six years have been an extremely rewarding experience along with a great group of people to work with. I have benefitted immensely from the knowledge and experiences of our board members. My pet interests have been primarily with dogs having had them as companions most of my life and currently care for two rescued dogs. However, I socialized a feral cat about a year ago and he has decided to reside very comfortably in my garage. I guess you can consider me a cat lover, too.

*by David Mitchell*

## Rescued! cont's

By now the kittens were quite used to me handling them, and the two boys were starting to eat some wet food. The girls ate the baby mush when I forced them, but otherwise were not interested. When I brought in the wet food Jay ate steadily until the plate was clean, only moving away if I tried to pet her. The kittens quickly learned about the litter pan and they and Jay continued to have good manners in that area. At 7-8 weeks, I took them in for their first shots, de-wormer, flea medicine and some ear mite medicine for the two girls. The kittens continued to romp with toys and the bird on a string. Jay would sometimes chase the bird, but still would not let me pet her unless she was in the hidey hole at the top of a pedestal.

By now, two of the kittens had been spoken for by acquaintances of board members. I made a flyer for the other two and sent it out the day before I took them to be altered. The next day, two board members came to collect Mollie and Nick and deliver them to their forever homes. While one was here I got a call from some folks who had heard about them from the shelter. They came over later that afternoon. One lady took Nora, and her sister and brother-in-law were thrilled to get Rocky. I called a week later, and all four were thriving.

I have been working with Jay for three weeks since the kittens left. I am sad to say she still will not let me touch her unless she is in her hidey hole. Several board members have visited and have had no better luck. She simply has no real trust of humans and no desire for human company. So we had her spayed this week (it was a real challenge getting her in a crate) and later this week she will go out to the farm to join some of the other rescued cats from the bedroom.

The great news is that 10 young cats were tamed, altered and placed in good homes, as were several adults. The even better news is that a nightmare of a bedroom is empty.

*by Lee Smith*



*Jay, the beautiful mother of the four kittens*

## Foundation Extends A helping Paw With Spay Neuter

Pets anywhere in Lincoln County will enjoy a better quality of life, and pet owners will know that they have helped put an end to unwanted litters of puppies and kittens thanks to a recent generous gift. A grant to the Central Coast Humane Society from the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation will fund an expanded spay/neuter program, making assistance available, while grant funds last, to anyone in need who requests help from the CCHS.

Located in Missouri, The Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation is committed to making life more bearable for children, families and pets in need of a helping paw. With the sale of each full-sized Bearemy's Kennel Pals® friend — a collection of Build-A-Bear Workshop® plush dogs — one dollar is donated to domestic pet programs including local animal shelters, stray pet rescue and rehabilitation organizations, and pet education programs around the country. These funds are available to qualified non-profit organizations in the United States and Canada through a quarterly grant process. Visit [www.buildabear.com](http://www.buildabear.com) for more information.

The Central Coast Humane Society is extremely grateful to the Build-A-Bear Bear Hugs Foundation for this assistance. We are almost 40 years old, and spay/neuter help for pet owners is one of our core programs.

## Help Us Save Money For The Animals

We are an all volunteer Board and organization. We do not have a separate office space and thus save money on what would be spent on rent and utilities. We make our money through donations, grants, and fundraisers and spend it on serving the animals of Lincoln County. We can be even more efficient by utilizing e-mail where possible instead of "snail mail".

For those of you who have email addresses, would you please send them to us at: [centralcoasths@yahoo.com](mailto:centralcoasths@yahoo.com)

We would like to send you newsletters and announcements in a timely and cost saving manner. We know too that you as an animal lover may forward our e-mail to your friends and family who are also animal lovers – and the good news goes on and on.

Too often we see animals that need loving homes either temporarily or permanently. And we receive calls from people looking for that special companion. You may not be looking for another animal but may know someone who is. You may not be able to help an animal temporarily but may know someone who can.

This is where e-mail works wonders. Animal lovers are great networkers. The more e-mail addresses we can add to our network, the more chances that a special animal and special person can be united for a life time of companionship.

Pass the good news on and have your friends and family join our network too. When we hear about those special

## Help Us cont'd

animals (aren't they all!), we'll let you know so you can help us in finding that perfect home.

Note: Your e-mail address will **NOT** be sold, given away or made public. We would like it to send you newsletters on what CCHS is doing, announcements of upcoming events, and to find those "once in a life time" matches for you or an animal.

*by Barb Perry*

## Sustained Giving

It's that time of year again when we ask for your membership. Some of you have been with us for the past several years; others we have welcomed as new members, and yet others are on our email list as Humane Ambassadors. Whatever your designation, THANK YOU! You are the lifeblood of our organization and give us the ability to work tirelessly for the animals of Lincoln County that are outside the shelter system.

There are about 24,500 companion animals in Lincoln County (U.S. Census formula) that are not in the shelter at any one time. While the shelter is a wonderful place for those needing a temporary home, there is much we can do to keep animals out of the shelter system and in loving, safe homes.

Some of you are able and do provide for your companion pets. And, some of you need an extra "hand up" to keep your pets warm, safe and healthy. This is where the Central Coast Humane Society can and does help. Year round we find the most need in 3 areas:

1. Animal Welfare (help with vet costs for such things as surgery, treating "hot spots", draining abscesses, etc).
2. Nest (Nose, ears, skin, teeth) – help with basic meds, cleaning ears, etc.
3. Population Assistance – spay and neuter to control pet overpopulation and to give your pets a better chance against contracting such diseases as cancer.

A few years ago, we did a calculation to find out how many families it would take, giving just \$10.00 per month, to earn enough to handle the requests CCHS gets over a year. While any amount of money helps, if 1,000 families set up automatic payments of just \$10.00 per month, WOW! - the good work we could do!

Anyone who has worked in the animal welfare community knows there is never enough money to handle everything. We ask those we help to put in a share of the cost – no matter how small.

Please consider during our membership drive this year, to be a **SUSTAINED GIVER** month after month. \$10, \$15, \$25 per month, or more, would honor your pets. and aid pets in need. Please go to our website and sign up through Pay Pal – or set up a monthly check through your bank to be sent to CCHS. It's generally free and your pets will thank you for honoring them in such a giving way. **THANK YOU!**

*by Barb Perry*



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## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

(And if you have an e-mail address, would you please let us know it? We will never share this, or any other information about you, with anyone. We are simply thinking of sending the newsletter, and important communications, to our members via e-mail to save on postage and printing.)

**I would like to renew** my membership for 2013, thereby helping to provide services to needy animals.

Enclosed is my check for:

- \$15 Junior/Senior Member   
  \$25 Basic Member   
  \$50 Contributing Member   
  \$100 Sustaining Member  
 \$500 Patron Member   
 \$1000 Life Member   
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Are you interested in volunteering for CCHS? Yes/No

