



The Scoop



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The 12 Cats of Christmas!

By Marnie Miszewski

By now you all know Peter Draggin' our Office Manager, monthly columnist and self titled "Resident Philosopher." I thought I would take some time to introduce you to some of our other residents who don't always get the attention they deserve.

Not to say that all our kitties aren't important, but this article is meant to feature 12 of our kitties who inspire me and contribute daily to make this shelter what it is - a fun and wonderful home for kitties!

Starting off with number 12 is Snicklefritz. "Fritzie" as we call her, has been here the longest. She arrived days after we opened in 2010 and has been known to have some "catitude" from time to time. She can also be extremely affectionate. Thanks to the donations of many supporters she underwent a successful surgery for endometriosis and pyometra in 2012. She definitely contributes a lot of "Spunk" to our day!

At number 11 we have Karma. This adorable British Shorthair is 14 years-old and came to us back in 2012. Her owners have dubbed this her "Retirement Home" and visit regularly. They told us before she came here, her tummy was bald from over-grooming. Since coming to the shelter, Karma has relaxed, grown her hair back and thrived. She has even been known to throw the old mouse around! She reminds us that you can still act like a kitten no matter how old you are!

Number 10 is a chubby-cheeked FIV kitty named Bogey. You can usually find Bogey sitting quietly on his favorite chair in the hallway observing everything. He is handsome, sweet, well mannered and you just can't pass him by without smiling and petting him.

Minou is our number 9 cat. She came to us with her kittens back in 2011. She was an excellent mom and before we could have her spayed she figured out a way out of the shelter. We searched and searched but have no idea how she escaped. She was gone most of the summer and we finally found her down the block at the Community Church about ready to give birth. When we got her back, we put her in a birthing cage and when we came back the next day she was gone again! We found her right back at the church with her friends. They nicknamed her Mary Magdalene while we were calling her Houdini. This time we triple locked the cage and after after her kittens were weaned we made sure she was spayed ASAP. We never figure out how she escaped or where from. She remains the only kitty to know the secret escape route, though she has never tried it again. She is happy with us now, and she reminds us all to be tenacious with the things we want!

Coming in at number 8 we have Tinker. She lives in our incontinent room because she has litter box issues. She has a compression fracture above her tail most likely from someone pulling it to hard or some other form of abuse. She needs her bladder expressed daily and sometimes has an accident. She does not let her handicap define her. She loves to play and often comes out of her room to get her fair share of love and attention.

Number 7 is Elroy. Elroy is one of 16 cats found in abandoned house. He is a Manx cat with a club foot, who strives at all cost to be noticed. He is constantly up to something and makes us laugh whether he means to or not.

Choctaw is number 6. He was found at the plumber's shop down the street from us. It didn't take him long to figure out our daily routine and he

absolutely loves living at the shelter. He is a kitten at heart and is always willing to lend a helping paw!

I have a special relationship with number 5. That's not why I picked him though. Spooky made it known early on that he enjoys spending time outside. It didn't take him long to teach me that he is quite capable of going for a walk without a leash. He likes to take me for a walk everyday to the mailbox and around the building. He reminds me to take a few minutes everyday and enjoy nature!

Number 4 is one of our FELV cats, Snuggles. Snuggles and the rest of his litter came to us right after they were weaned and have grown up at the shelter. He is extremely intelligent and loves to play. Snuggles taught himself how to fetch at an early age and he enjoys taking the comforter off his bed and hiding it on me. He shows me everyday how smart kitties really are.

Number 3 is Sweet Tea and she is very misunderstood. She has some communication issues and growls all the time whether she is happy or mad. People think she is mean, but she loves people. It's the other cats she hates. She prefers to spend most of her time outside on her leash. She is the perfect example of don't judge a cat by their fur!

Our number 2 cat Kennedy is an absolute joy to have around. Besides being cute, sweet, loving, and intelligent, she is funny charming and all around amazing. She has an uncanny ability to know when you need a laugh or just a hug. She has the Calici virus which has kept her from being adopted. If you don't mind being sneezed on, she loves to crawl onto your lap put her paws around your neck and snuggle. She also enjoys playing with a myriad of toys including her favorite little Wiffle ball and sometimes even her food! She reminds me to think and care about others.

Number one is a very special cat. His name is Beans and he is another one of our FELV kitties. We sometimes call him Dr. Beans because he is sensitive to the other cats and takes good care of them. One night we had a very sick kitty who couldn't make it back to his bed after using the litter box. Beans picked him up by the scruff and carried him back to bed. He stayed with that kitty most of the night keeping him warm and grooming him until we took the cat to the vet the next day. Beans is always ready to snuggle up or groom one of the other cats if they need him. He welcomes new cats with a rub or a lick on the head. He shows me what true compassion is all about.



Peters Purr-spective...

Have you seen that TV show called The Shark Tank? I like to catch up on my shows after hours on the internet. How do you think I stay so current and cutting edge?

Anyway, what they do is invent things and the "Sharks" give them money and everyone gets rich. Simple enough. I have a ton of ideas. Once I find a volunteer to build them, all I have to do is convince Marnie to take them my ideas and I'll be rich! *cough* I mean we will be the richest shelter ever! Of course then our name will have to be changed to Peter's Helping Paws and Resident Philosophers Sanctuary.

Here's a few of my ideas (maybe I should patent them first before I share)?

- A Plug in Cat Nip scented air freshener.
- A cat bowl with an alarm function that goes off if the bowl is half empty.
- A battery operated walk thru brushing tunnel.
- A robot that fulfills a cats every desire (wait we have Marnie and the volunteers for that).
- A cat tree that grows (with or without real birds).
- An edible fake fly that you can eat when you catch it
- Litter boxes that light up when occupied.
- Treats that rain from the ceiling on an automatic timer.
- People shock collars so we can page you as needed.

Sorry but I think it's time for my nap so I will think of more some other time. Hope you have a great Holiday Season. Remember it is better to give than receive. Unless your a cat and then it's better to receive than give.

(Please remember your local shelter)

Peter Draggin',
Resident Philosopher and inventor



Thank You

By Marnie Miszewski

I want to give a HUGE Thank You to everyone at the German American Social Club as well as all of our amazing October Fest volunteers. The GASC generously donated a \$1000.00 check to us as well as many other charities who helped out at the event.

We are thrilled to be a part of the festival and look forward to helping again next year!