



The Scoop



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We're Having an Auction!

We are hosting our first auction on April 8th, at Anthony's On the Boulevard in Cape Coral. We are still in the planning stages and are looking for volunteers to help as well as donated items.

If you would be interested in helping out in any capacity, donating or helping to get donated items, contact me at:

admin@helpingpawsanimalsanctuary.com.

I will update you on our progress as it gets closer. Until then, save the date!



By Betty Miszewski

We get asked all the time how much we use and spend on supplies like litter and food. So here are a few facts you might find interesting.

Obviously we go through a ton of food. We've recently discovered the Costco brand, Kirkland dry cat food. It has no corn and is surprisingly high quality. At \$17.99 for 25lbs, it's cheaper than Meow Mix! We try to stay away from food with a lot of colors because it tends to make the kitties throw up or have loose stool. We get a lot of other brands donated, so we mix it in with the Kirkland to make it last. It also keeps the kitties who don't like to eat healthy, interested in the food. We usually go through about 12-14 bags of Kirkland a month (some of which might be donated), which translates to roughly \$230.00 each month on dry food.

Canned food is an entirely different issue. As much as we would like to, we just can't afford to feed all the kitties canned food everyday. With the exception of kittens and special needs cats, they receive large meals twice a week, with nightly snacks on the other days (chicken, treats, milk, tuna, etc.)

The kittens and special needs cats eat primarily canned food. Because most of them have caloric needs or dental issues, they receive one large meal upon our arrival with a second smaller meal



Peters Purr-spective...

There has been a lot on the news lately about legalizing some controlled substances. Catnip is also a controlled substance... controlled by the cat parent.

Now I'm not asking you to just leave a bowl of it out, but there are many reasons why catnip should be more liberally used.

- To break in a new toy
- To calm a cat in a new environment
- Just to have fun
- Seriously do we need a reason?

Catnip users don't have to use those patches to help them quit. Good thing because there might be fur loss removing them. They never have to be sent to rehab clinics or be hypnotized to break the habit. Can you imagine trying to hypnotize a cat? "Watch the swaying toy on a string. No don't bat the toy, watch the toy. No seriously, just watch the toy." Ha! Good luck with that. I digress.

Sure we might get a little out of control but these effects are very short lived and we don't drive under the Nip influence... we don't drive period. Maybe you should loosen up a little for 2014 and sprinkle a little "cheer" on your cat's favorite toy. Sure, we can have fun without it, but what's the harm?

I myself never touch the stuff. Cough. Cough. Okay I might have, but I didn't inhale!
Peter Draggin',
Resident Philosopher

From the Treasurer...



Luella guarding the food

before we leave. That translates to approximately 25 cans per day. Fortunately we get a fair amount of wet food donated, but we still need to add a case or two a week. So let's roughly estimate \$150 a month spent on canned food.

What goes in, must come out, so you can imagine how much litter we go through. We don't get many litter donations, probably because it isn't fun to carry!

Marnie usually tries to stock up when she makes the Costco run. They sell 42lb bags of Scoop Away clumping litter for \$11.99 (occasionally \$9.50 if there is a sale). Because

her car has limited space, it's usually only 10 bags. If we're lucky it will last about 2 weeks. That's about 210 lbs a week. Good litter sales are rare, so let's estimate about \$200 a month.

There are also health related expenses- flea medicine, vaccines, check ups, surgeries, emergencies, etc. It's hard for me to quantify those, because you just never know what will happen from one month to the next.

I will say that if we have one wish for 2014, it's to find more Pals Program members. Even a small monthly donation can help a lot!

See for yourself:

- (Calculations are based on a 12 month period)
- \$5/month = a box of flea medicine that treats 48 cats or a spay/neuter
 - \$10/month = bloodwork
 - \$20/month = a bottle of convenia antibiotic
 - \$25/month = covers the cost of a dental surgery
 - \$50/month = 3 months of litter
 - \$75/month = almost 4 months of food
 - \$100/month = vaccine updates for 48 cats

If you are interested in learning more about our Pals Program, just visit our website at: www.helpingpawsanimalsanctuary.com and most importantly, please spread the word!