



The Scoop



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THANK YOU!!!!

By Marnie Miszewski

I just want to express my sincere gratitude to all of our October Fest helpers. You really came through for us and I appreciate it. We usually get a donation check in December for our hard work, so I will let you know the grand total when I receive it!

It was a difficult month for us financially. Along with the usual expenses, we had to repair 2 of our air conditioners as well as a few medical emergencies. The air conditioners are fine for now, but we need some serious duct repair in the near future. My furry friends in the attic have made themselves a bit too comfortable and the ducts have paid the price. So we need to wall off the section where the AC is and then fix the ducts. It's always something!

Bear, one of the 16 cats from the abandoned house we took in had a urinary tract blockage. Thanks to my observant volunteers who noticed he wasn't acting like his normal self, we caught it early. Two surgeries later, Bear now has himself a permanent loving home with one of our volunteers. Some cats will do anything for a home!

If that wasn't enough, Petra who was dumped outside the shelter in a container with no air holes and a litter of kittens, needed knee surgery. She had a luxating patella (her knee cap wouldn't stay in place). You may recall me talking about Cosmo who had the same surgery last year, only on both knees. Thanks to Gloria her Shelter Angel, Petra was able to get the surgery and is on the road to recovery!

I also want to thank Dana and all the folks at Mike Greenwells Family Fun Park. They invite us every year to their Safe Trick or Treat and collect donations of supplies and money for us. It's a lot of fun seeing the kids in costume and a huge help for us.

We also had an invitation to set up a table at Bailey's Fest out on Sanibel. We were with our friends from PAWS, the Sanibel rescue, and it was a lot of fun. Thank you Pam for sharing your donations with us!

Our friends at Pet Supermarket are so good to us. In addition to letting us set up our Angel Tree for the holidays, they invite us to be a part of their Customer Appreciation Days. We had the difficult task of judging the pet costume contest. They were all winners in my book.

Last but not least thanks to all the people at the Pine Island Animal Clinic, for inviting us to attend your pet costume contest. We enjoyed it and got some treats for the kitties.

It was a crazy, busy month with all kinds of challenges, but I got through it with a lot of help from my friends!



Peters Purr-spective...

I have to tell you about my big adventure!

Many the nights I have had the same dream. I'm a cowboy, er cowcat, out on the open range with lots of grass to eat. Sure there are cattle and birds but they don't pay attention to me. They're too busy grazing and the birds are eating bugs. It's a lot like the cat videos we watch at the shelter.

Marnie and I have a mind connection and if I concentrate really hard I can get my feelings across to her (sometimes). Well sure enough one day she said "Hey Peter how about a walk outside?" I can't run (with my draggin' condition) so she wasn't concerned that I would run away. As if! I know where I've got it good.

It started off okay until my paws hit the tar coated drive. Ouch! Tar burns your paws when you're use to tile and carpeting. But things definitely started looking up when I hit the salad bar. The grass was tasty and tickled my paws. I rolled around a bit till ouch the no see ums started to bite me. All of a sudden I heard a screech and a bird 10 times as big as the ones on the cat video flew by ogling me strangely. Weird things were jumping out of the grass, which might have been fun if I wasn't getting so warm. I think the A/C is broke out there. Then a car drove into the parking lot and thoughts of cat-nappers went through my mind. Overhead the mosquito control copter flew and I thought "don't spray" - people are always saying don't spray to us cats and now I know how they feel. I don't remember if they were forecasting rain for today but I lead Marnie to the door just in case. I just had my fur brushed and didn't relish getting all wet. Not that I was afraid or anything like that.

I think Marnie knew how disappointed I was, because the next day she took me out the back door to visit the landlord's garden. I knew what to expect, so it was a lot more fun. Lizards are super cool toys and the warm sun on your fur and the slight breeze could be habit forming, but I think I'm an indoor cat at heart. At least until those cat nip seeds the landlord planted start to grow...

Peter Draggin',
Resident Philosopher

It Pays to Speak Up!

By Marnie Miszewski

If you have ever visited Helping Paws, you know that one of the kitties favorite things are their fountains.

Most of them were donated from the Drinkwell company a few years ago as a Christmas gift. I had wrote them asking about replacement parts and along with the replacement parts came some brand new fountains!

We have them everywhere throughout the shelter and from time to time there is an occasional mishap. The cats put toys in them and sometimes other things...

That said I found myself in need of replacement parts again. My contact was no longer there, and I felt silly asking for a \$3 impeller. So I emailed them about how much we love their fountains and how important their role is at the shelter. Yes, I shamelessly hinted that I needed some replacement parts "such as a \$3 impeller" and yes, I asked if they would consider donating such parts on occasion.

When I didn't hear back from them, I figured I had pressed my luck. I never expected to find 12 brand new fountains sitting outside the shelter!

Did I mention I love the PetSafe/Drinkwell Company?



Scamp enjoying the new fountain!

Almost There!

We are determined to meet the challenge Kathy Jones has set for us. She has pledged to match all donations up to \$2500. We are currently at \$1750 so please spread the word!

