



# The Scoop



10060 Mallory E Pkwy Unit D • St. James City 33956 • (239) 283-9100 • [www.helpingpawsanimalsanctuary.com](http://www.helpingpawsanimalsanctuary.com)

## A Few of Our Favorite Things...

By Marnie Miszewski

There really are a lot of great pet supplies out there right now. As you know, the Helping Paws kitties are quite spoiled, so we consider ourselves kind of a test market for new stuff. I'm not usually one for promoting products, they have commercials for that; but when I find something extraordinary or time saving it's only right to spread the word. Here are a couple of our favorites.

First and foremost, the cats want me to talk toys. Almost every cat out there loves the laser toy. They never get tired of chasing that red light often causing carpal tunnel for the owners. When I saw the first automatic laser toys advertised, I couldn't justify the expense. The toys now come in several price ranges with all kinds of features. Our favorite model is the "Dart" made by Frolicat, which usually retails between \$25-\$30. It has a TIMER which is really helpful at the shelter. We can set it and go!

Another automatic toy that earns a paws up is the Undercover Mouse. If your cat attacks your hands or feet under the covers at night, this toy is for you! The mouse makes random movements under a durable light cover. They come in several models. We tried the affordable Walmart version-SmartyKat Hot Pursuit Cat Toy for \$19.97. There is also an "As Seen On TV" model called the Cat's Meow at a BOGO price of \$19.99.

While we are on the subject of "As Seen on TV" products, have you heard of Stream Clean? It's an enzyme cleaner that removes pet stains and odors without scrubbing. "Too good to be true," I thought, but I was sucked in. I found it cheap in a Carol Wright magazine and thought I'd give it

a go. It works great! I've reordered several times and hope they start selling it in stores. Finally something that doesn't disappoint.

Something a little harder to find are the Cat Magnet grooming toys. The company must have been bought out because now they are called the "Fantasy Pet CMYW Cat Magnet." When I first saw them, I thought they were stupid. Shows what I know. I can't remember exactly how I first came to own one, but when it was presented to the resident kitty it was an instant hit. Years later I own several. Including one on my bathroom counter that is an important part of my cat's morning grooming ritual. I brush my teeth, he brushes his fur. I usually comb his back while he does his face. My other cats have learned from him and I'm often in the bathroom for an hour or more grooming cats. I was able to procure a couple for the Helping Paws kitties and they are a favorite. It's on their Christmas list every year.



## Peters Purr-spective...

All this rain is making me crabby so I thought I'd share two of my Pet peeves.

The first is gossip! A few of the cats around here are tattle "tails". Like I could care about who groomed whom at midnight by the garage door. Sometimes there is talk about Litter Box habits ALTHOUGH I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHO MISSES THE BOX in the office bathroom. Not fun to step in a puddle when you least expect it. I have also heard talk about who embarrassed them selves by falling off a cat tree while doing tricks for perspective adopters. You would think this

place was featured on Entertainment Tonight, with who is friends with whom this week and then gets into a catfight next week. Marnie says if we ever get lots of money she is going to set up "Cat Cams" so all our dirty little secrets are there for everyone to see 24 /7.

This brings me to my second pet peeve. Censorship! My editor will read probably read this and take it out because I am not supposed to be political; but a cat has to say what a cat has to say, so I'll take my chances... Anyway, I heard a visitor from Germany say it is against the law there to de-claw cats. Excuse me if I lobby for a law like that here! I know people have their reasons to do what they do, but at least check with your cat first on his or her feelings on that pivotal issue. Ouch!

That's it for this month and I promise to be in a much better mood next month.

Peter Draggin',  
Resident Philosopher

## THANK YOU!

Once again Kathy Jones has generously decided to donate up to \$2,500 if we can raise that much in matching donations! The August/September are notoriously difficult months for us at the shelter and this extra help is really appreciated. We are preparing a press release for the Pine Island Eagle and our Facebook page. If you would like to help but can't contribute, please spread the word. This is one challenge we really need to meet!

## We Need Your Help!

This October we are looking for volunteers to help us staff the Sausage Kitchen at German Fest. It is a lot of fun, easy work and best of all... FREE FOOD!

The German American Social Club has been very good to us. Last year we raised \$1000 for our help staffing the event. We plan to help to a larger degree this year.

There are morning, afternoon and evening shifts available both weekends. So if you would be interested in lending a paw, we'd really appreciate it!

Sign up at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CACAD23A3FC1-german>

Shifts are as follows:

Friday afternoons	3:30-7:30	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>
Friday evenings	7:30-11:30	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>
Saturday mornings	11:30-3:30	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>
Saturday afternoons	3:30-7:30	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>
Saturday evenings	7:30-11:30	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>
Sunday afternoons	12:00-4:00	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>
Sunday evenings	4:00-8:30	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>

## October Events!

October is filling up fast with Events that we will be participating in. Mark your calendar and come join us!

- **Blessing of the Pets**, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am, at St. John's Episcopal church at 7771 Stringfellow Road in St. James City
- **Pet Supermarket Customer Appreciation Day**, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> all day, at the Cape Coral store 1338 Del Prado Blvd S.
- **Pine Island Vet Pet costume Party**, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> from 2-4, 5100 Doug Taylor Cir, St James City
- **Bailey's Fest**, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm, Bailey's General Store 2477 Periwinkle Way Sanibel
- **Mike Greenwell's Halloween Safe Trick and Treat**, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm, 35 NE Pine Island Rd Cape Coral