



THE SCOOP

A newsletter published every now and then by
Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary

Welcome to the First Issue of The Scoop!

If you're receiving the inaugural issue of "The Scoop," you probably already know all about Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary. You may have donated money, supplies, or fundraiser items; or you may have adopted a new member of your family from us.

However, if you've never heard of us and some kind soul just sent you a link to this newsletter, let us introduce ourselves.

Safe Harbor is a nonprofit, no-kill, free-roam animal shelter whose goal is to

provide a safe refuge and find loving lifelong owners for homeless cats and dogs in Cape Girardeau County and the neighboring area.

With the help of local veterinarians, all animals of the appropriate age who come into Safe Harbor's care are spayed or neutered, and are given basic inoculations.

Our primary shelter is a cattery that provides a safe harbor for as many homeless cats and kittens as our facility (and funds) can manage. Eventually a kennel for dogs will also be

constructed, but that is in the future.

Right now, we have our hands full as you can see from the Ins & Outs statistics. As of July 31, we had assumed responsibility for 130 felines (and 4 dogs).

Care, maintenance, and veterinary care are costly. You can help by supporting SHAS events, becoming a volunteer or foster family, purchasing Safe Harbor merchandise, or making a tax-deductible donation.

You can make a difference. Please help.

Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary

Volume One, Issue One
August 25, 2006

Ins & Outs 7.31.06

July Adoptions	14
July Intakes	15
Cats at the Shelter	82
Kitten at the Shelter	36
In Foster Care	12
YTD Adoptions	81

Event Calendar

- ☺ 8/26: SHAS Booth at Heartland Veterinary Clinic Open House
- ☺ 10/13-14: Fall Yard Sale, location TBD

Cat Tales: Leisel (aka Lucy)

Arrived: July 2005 with sister Gretel. Neither were weaned and had to be bottle fed.

Adopted: February 2006.

Her new family writes:

Here are a few pictures to show you how Lucy (formerly Leisel) is doing. She says a big HELLO. Can you tell she's fitting right in with the dogs? She's not going to give up her side of the bed. Can you tell? Thanks for doing what you do. (JG)



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A Day in the Life of a Shelter Director

On April 25, 2006 at 9:05 p.m., Safe Harbor Shelter Director Alice Wybert shared the following information via email with the Board of Directors. We thought you might like a little insight into what our volunteer Shelter Director's life is like.

Today was an interesting, wonderful day. Of course my wonderful is different from everyone else's. Got a lot accomplished at the sanctuary. The baseboards are installed, all the walls in Side One washed. Did 5 loads of laundry. Side One got mopped. Several items of furniture got washed. Had a donation of 5 bags of cat and dog food from Deer Ridge. Got Chesney and Mona spayed; only 3 left. Boots got his shots with NO problems. He's got the start of the crud again but we are doing a different med. I'll give him a shot a day. That's easy.

Chesney will be on med for 10 days for her ears and Mona got her hernia repaired. See, good day. And it gets better.

Debbie from SunDog came for a short visit. She got a call from Target and they had food for her. She gave us a big bag of dog food and some canned cat food. Got some cat and dog toys at Dents Make Cents.

Took Raven and Heidi for a walk together and they did so good, played and jumped together. I put them in the same pen when we got back and stayed with them for a while and they played. They stayed together all day and did well. Back to their own pens for supper and bedtime.

Debbie brought a little visitor, a three week old grey kitten that her sister found in the wall of her house. Well, we took the kitten to see Penny (one of Safe Harbor's nursing mothers) and she sniffed her and licked her and fed her, so she's staying. Looks so cute with five orange babies and the gray one. Dr. Mohan said go for it. Two of the orange kittens have

their eyes open and one has one eye open.

Sumo, the big cat that was surrendered yesterday because of inappropriate elimination went back home today. The guy went to his vet to get their records for us and found that the cat had a urinary tract infection that the vet did not treat and was supposed to have gotten shots in January. He was most displeased with his (now) former vet and has made an appt at Skyview. He hopes to clear up the infection and keep his cat. Hurray!

Socks jumped on my lap twice today and let me carry her around. She wanted petting every time you walked past. Tammy sat down in the common room and Mean Midnight came up to be petted. Glad Tammy was sitting or she might have fainted it was such a surprise. Double Hurray!!

Robin got adopted today by some people from Perryville. I have had 3 e-mails from a lady in Edwardsville, IL who is interested in Adrienne and PeeWee. She asked our hours and may come this weekend. Won't hold my breath, but that would be good.

Elizabeth came out and brushed a bunch of the cats. Two people came out and want to start volunteering on Thurs PM.

Christopher was mowing as I left. There is just a little painting left to be done outside. Rick is painting another sign to hang on our present one with our hours and phone number.

I think that's all that happened today. After all it was just 10 hours. Hope your day was as good as mine.

ALICE

Our "We Need it!" List

EMERGENCY NEEDS

Name Brand CAT FOOD!

Lots of it!

FACILITY NEEDS

Paving Stones
Benches, chairs, stools
Storage Shelving
Scrap lumber for shelves, bed, cat-walks
Scratching Posts
Small rugs (washable)
Bird bath & Bird Seed
A Shepherd's crook for feeders

OFFICE NEEDS

Postage Stamps
Copier Paper (White/Colors)
Digital Camera

ANIMAL NEEDS

Under-bed storage for Litter Boxes
Litter scoops
Pans for food and water
Grooming brushes
Cat Collars
Cat Beds
Cat, Kitten & Dog Food (no store brands or Special Kitty, please)
Cat Toys (like mice)

EVERYDAY NEEDS

Bleach
Laundry detergent
Liquid Antibacterial Hand Soap
Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Disinfectant for mopping
Trash bags

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Direct Care "Scooper" Volunteers
"Cuddlers," Any shift
TechSquad Volunteers
Foster Families
Carpentry (for building shelves, cat-walks, cat condos, etc)
Sewing throws & pads

SPECIAL NEEDS

Gift Cards from PETCO, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, etc.

FUNDRAISERS

Items for the Fall Yard Sale

Chairman's Report on Board Activity

This summer, the Safe Harbor Board of Directors has focused on the preparation of three Grant Projects under the direction of grant writer Laurel Bush.

In anticipation of applying for Spay/Neuter Grants that require detailed statistics on our pet population, board member Tammy Nelson has taken on the arduous task of inputting all of our intake, adoption, and medical records into online spreadsheets.

Architect and SHAS Volunteer Jens Brammer is spearheading the development of an ambitious 5-year Capital Improvements Plan that will provide the basis for a series of grants to fund improved climate/environmental

control in the existing facility and the construction of a separate Isolation and Infirmary Building.

The third grant project is for a Portable Education/Fundraising Display Booth and a series of multi-media education and information presentations. Board Members Marilyn Neville and Kelly Murray are preparing outlines and storyboards for the presentations that will

chronicle the history of the sanctuary, the activities of volunteers, a day in the life of a sanctuary resident, as well as educational presentations on the importance of spay/neuter and caring for a new pet.

The next meeting of the

Board of Directors will be September 6 .



How to Make Your Donation

If you would like to help us and our animal friends with a financial gift, please send your check made payable to Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary to:

Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary
359 Cree Lane
Jackson, MO 63755

You can also make donations by credit card through PayPal on our [web-site](#). Your tax-deductible donation will be acknowledged with a Receipt by mail.

To make a donation from the **We Need It! List**, you may drop by on Saturdays between 9 and 11 a.m. or weekdays 8 -10 a.m. or 4-6 p.m.

For all other deliveries, please call

243-9823 and leave a message. No blind drop-offs, please.

Your tax deductible gifts to Safe Harbor will:

- ♥ Facilitate the adoption of pets to responsible owners
- ♥ Make it possible for us to spay and neuter all rescued pets
- ♥ Provide basic vaccinations
- ♥ Meet basic and extraordinary medical needs of surrendered and/or rescued cats and dogs
- ♥ Provide food, litter, and shelter for the sanctuary population

You can make a difference. Won't you help?

Some Special Needs

Paving Stones for the Dog Pens

Safe Harbor currently has three 10'x10' pens that house our resident canines. In order to provide a better living area for the dogs, we want to line half of each area (5'x10') with paving stones as a base for the dog house and feeding bowls.

We need paving stones for these areas. And if you know how to lay paving stones, we'd be happy for your help!

Cat, Kitten & Dog Food

We are currently feeding over 120 animals, which requires about 25 pounds of food a day! Needless to say, we always need donations of food!

Because a consistent, quality diet is very important in maintaining the digestive stability of our population, we accept only name brand foods like Purina, Science Diet, etc.

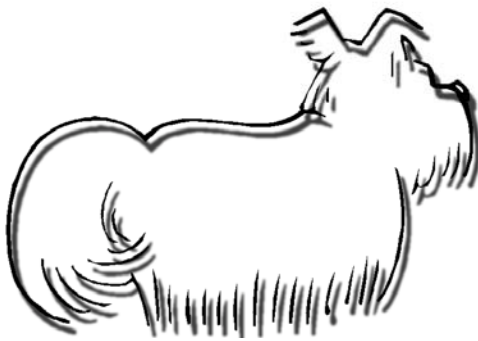
There's truth in the old saying "Beggars can't be choosers," but if you've ever tried to clean up after 100 cats with diarrhea brought on by an inconsistent diet, you'd understand the importance of this policy. That's why we don't feed generic label foods or store brands like "Special Kitty" or "Old Roy."

Digital Camera with Flash

Getting our adoptables onto the incredible website [Petfinder.com](#) was one of the best moves we ever made. We get inquiries every day from people who want to know more about this kitten or that cat.

The problem, of course, is getting a timely snapshot of our pets so that we can get their pictures onto the web. That's why the shelter needs a digital camera with a built-in flash that can become a permanent part of our Intake Package so we can snap pix of our kitties as they arrive.

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A newsletter published every now and then
by Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary

359 Cree Lane, Jackson, Missouri 63755

Phone 573-243-9823 adoptions@safeharboranimalsanctuary.org

Hours: Saturday 9—11 a.m. Monday—Friday 8—10 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.



Fearless

by Connie Bennett

Saying that the Summer of 2005 was hectic for everyone involved in the labor of love called Safe Harbor is a gross understatement. We

were trying to finish remodeling the main facility, develop workable policies and procedures, and complete the exhaustive paperwork for our tax exempt status. We weren't even open yet, but word about Safe Harbor was spreading and calls were coming in every day about cats and kittens that needed our help. My sun porch was one of several locations that Safe Harbor's founder, Alice Wybert, "commandeered" as a temporary cattery while we tried to find permanent homes for one litter of kittens after another.

That's when Fearless came charging into our lives. A mitted gray tabby manx (tailless) who had been born with what one vet diagnosed as spina bifida, this five month old kitten had no control over his bowels and bladder. To say that he "leaked" was putting it gently. He was a mess. But from the moment we let him loose on my sun porch, he was irresistible. Alice brought him in, opened the door of the carrier, and he charged out full speed, exploring everything without the slightest bit of trepidation. Other kittens who'd been temporary residents there had immediately darted for the nearest hiding

place, but not this little guy. "He's fearless," I told Alice. The name stuck.

He stayed on my porch for over a month, with Alice coming every day to feed him and clean up after him (part of our bargain for the use of the space I'd intended to use as a garden center.) It was a common sight to come home and find Alice in the swing under the grape arbor cuddling Fearless, newly-cleaned and wrapped in a towel to catch the leaks. Alice struck upon the idea of diapering the little guy, and it was a process that eventually helped control the messes, particularly after the Sanctuary opened and Fearless moved into his permanent home.

The most common reaction among people who learned about Fearless was to politely suggest that we were nuts for not euthanizing him. But Fearless was healthy. He wasn't suffering, and except for occasional bouts of diaper rash, he was a sweetheart show-off, demanding your attention by trying to be everywhere at once--a seemingly unstoppable juggernaut of charm and energy. Fearless personified the very reason that Alice and those of us whose help she had enlisted were investing so much time, effort, and resources in creating Safe Harbor. We wanted to facilitate adoptions, yes. We wanted to educate the public about the importance of spay/neuter as the cornerstone of responsible pet ownership. We also wanted to be a place where the lost and

the helpless and the rejected could find a sanctuary, literally. The name Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary wasn't chosen by accident. It was chosen because it stated exactly what our founder wanted us to be: A Safe Harbor. A Sanctuary.

When Fearless died this spring, it was sudden and shocking. Alice came in one morning to begin her normal routine and found Fearless lying on the floor, lethargic and feverish. She rushed him to the vet, who ran tests, but there was nothing to be done. He was looking up at her with his big, trusting green eyes when he quietly took his last breath. He died in her arms. She buried him in the small cemetery at the Sanctuary that serves as the final resting place for precious ones who have graced our lives but briefly.

Despite some well-intentioned but misinformed word of mouth that has left some people with misconceptions about us, Safe Harbor is not a hospice or a dumping ground for sick animals. We don't know-



Fearless in his "premie" diaper.

ingly take in sick animals, and we have testing policies to help us safeguard against bringing any pet into the facility that might endanger the rest of the population. But if a pet in our care becomes ill, we don't discard it. We try to find a foster situation where it can have a comfortable home for as long as it can have a good

quality of life. We end suffering for the sake of the pet, but we don't end lives because it makes things more convenient for us.

Our little mascot, Fearless, is gone, but his legacy is not.

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Think you can't afford to spay or neuter your pet? Look at these figures and compare the cost of altering one pet with the cost of raising a litter or two or three!

http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer?pagename=adopt_petcarecosts