

Please join us at the OAR Holiday Open House



DATE
Sunday, December 14, 2008
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION
5619 Orlando Place
Cincinnati, OH 45227

Winter 2008

Please join us at the OAR Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at 5619 Orlando Place in Madisonville. Bring your family and friends to visit the cats and enjoy holiday cheer with friends. As always, we'll have great food for snacking. If you're in the giving mood, check out our wish list on page 6. The kitties both at the rescue and in feral colonies will be very grateful. We have lots of special cats and kittens who are always looking for a few good laps. We'd love to see old friends and meet new ones and introduce both to our wonderful cats.

We'll be raffling 6 beautiful baskets at this open house. Tickets can be purchased at the open house. We've also included some tickets in this newsletter so you can send them in with payment ahead of time (we must receive them by December 13). Please be sure to fill in the basket number you are interested in! If you do not fill in a choice, we will randomly allocate your tickets among the basket drawings. Tickets are \$2 each or 6 for \$10. You do not need to be present to win. Here's a list of the fabulous baskets:

- Basket 1 – Wine Basket – 12 bottles of \$12 wine**
- Basket 2 – Cat Care - everything your cat needs including \$20 Petsmart gift card**
- Basket 3 – Holiday Cat**
- Basket 4 – Holiday Dog**
- Basket 5 – Holiday Tea and Gingerbread**
- Basket 6 - Holiday Snowmen**

If It's Time for Thanksgiving, It's Time for OAR on

The day after Thanksgiving is renowned for its shopping bargains, and the **BIGGEST BARGAINS** are at the OAR eBay Auction! This year's auction will begin in the evening on Friday, November 28 and will end seven days later on Friday, December 5. **Last year's auction raised over \$16,000, and this year's event promises to be even bigger and better!**

Chairperson Beth Muccillo and her committee have acquired more than 800 items awaiting your bids. At last count, we had 82 antique items, 55 art pieces, 97 collectables, 5 gift baskets, 53 gift certificates or services, 185 pieces of jewelry, 43 articles of apparel, and 235 household or miscellaneous items and more is being added each day. The auction will also include more than 100 "Buy It Now" gifts. Car magnets, cat toys, jewelry with cat designs, cat beds, cat tents – everything you need for the cats and cat lovers in your life.

Bid early and often, make some great purchases for yourself, and help some great cats in the process.

To begin the shopping adventure, check out:
<http://members.ebay.com/aboutme/theanimalrescue/>
between November 28 and December 5.

www.theanimalrescue.com • info@theanimalrescue.com

Calling All OAR Adopters!

We're putting together a special photo exhibit for the December Open House and we need your help. If you have adopted a cat from OAR, please send us a copy of your favorite picture of him or her. We'd also love a short update if you care to write one. You can send the photo and writeup to volunteer@theanimalrescue.com or to our mailbox at OAR; PO Box 9206; Cincinnati, OH 45209. **We need to receive them by December 6 so we have time to create the display.** You will truly make our day if you take a few minutes to send a picture and update – everybody loves a happy ending!



PANCAKES is a beautiful buff kitten who would love to go home with you.



MAUDE is a big girl who likes to talk about her day.

Join at Final Friday at the Pendleton Art Center in November

Pendleton Art Center is hosting a benefit for OAR at their Final Friday event on November 28. For this special evening, the Center has once again invited OAR to promote TNR and sell our cat-related merchandise at tables located throughout the building. Some of the Pendleton artists will donate portions of their sales that evening to OAR. The Pendleton Art Center is the home of the largest collection of artists located under one roof. On the last Friday of each month the facility is opened to the public from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM and visitors are free to browse the studios and purchase directly from the artists. There will be food vendors in the lobby area.

At this event Fabienne Christenson of Possets Perfume will be introducing new perfumes for the winter holiday season, some of which will feature OAR residents in the Les Chats scent line. Half of the proceeds from each \$10 bottle of perfume will be donated to OAR. The Possets studio is located on the 8th floor of the Pendleton Art Center. The popular cat-inspired Halloween scents from 2008 will also be available in the studio.

The Pendleton Art Center is located in Over-the-Rhine at 1310 Pendleton Ave. Valet parking is available at the front door of the Center or you may self-park along Reading Road. There is also free shuttle transportation to the Center from the corner of Reading & Pendleton. For additional information and directions, please contact the Pendleton Art Center at 513-559-3958 Ext. 1257 or visit our web site at www.theanimalrescue.com/pendleton.html.

Our thanks to Fabienne, Pendleton Art Center, and to OAR volunteer Beth Muccillo for coordinating this event.

Don't Forget OAR When You're Shopping For Gifts

We have several on-going programs that you can participate in to help the cats. Participating in these programs costs you nothing extra on your purchase, but yields much needed donation checks for the cats. Please remember the cats as you do your holiday shopping!

- **Amazon.com** – Enter the Amazon site through the link at <http://www.theanimalrescue.com/store.html> and we receive a percentage of your purchase as a donation from Amazon.
- **iGive** – This site gives you access to over 700 on-line merchants who donate a percentage of your purchase to OAR. You need to register and designate O'Bryonville Animal Rescue as your cause (a simple process) and then just start shopping. Get started through <http://www.igive.com/OAR>.
- **Kroger Cards** – See http://www.theanimalrescue.com/kroger_gift_card.htm for information about our Kroger card program. This one gives OAR up to 4% of your purchases. We'll be selling cards at our open house too.

If you need more information on any of these programs, contact info@theAnimalRescue.com or call 871-7297.

BLACK CAT PARTY

The OAR Black Cat Party was a huge success! The cats were sociable and enjoyed all the attention they received from the large crowd in attendance. Jennie Geiger worked her magic to convert the rescue into a Halloween haven and she and Beth Muccillo coordinated so many treats that no one left hungry!



OAR Board of Trustees member George Jonson presented plaques to Dr. Terri McCarty and Dr. Zeke Zekoff expressing our gratitude to them for serving on our Veterinary Advisory Board. The vets provided valuable information and support as we designed and equipped the clinic. Dr. Paul Levitas also served on the Veterinary Advisory Board but was unable to attend the event. All three veterinarians and their colleagues and staff at the College Hill Pet Clinic, the Towne Square Animal Clinic, and the Animal Hospital on Mount Lookout Square have also been very supportive of OAR and our mission over the years. Special thanks to OAR volunteer and artist Nancy Jones who created the drawing of an ear-tipped cat for the plaques.

TYRONE has been described as an ugly cat or a very handsome one -- it depends on your point of view. Most find him quite charming. He is currently living in foster care in a nursing home, but we'd love to send him home.



OAR SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC

Thanks to your support, donations, and patience, the OAR Spay/Neuter Clinic is finally a reality! We opened our doors on Saturday Nov. 1 to 10 cats and kittens, including Darcy and Melanie from the rescue. All the surgeries went well and the kitties went home the next day. Dr. Shick will operate two weekend days per month until the beginning of the new year, when we will evaluate the past two months. **Surgeries are scheduled for Nov. 15, Dec. 6 and Dec. 20. The cost of a spay or neuter is \$45. We also offer vaccines, microchipping, parasite treatment, ear tipping and nail trims at the time of surgery.**

We need volunteers to keep the clinic in operation (pardon the pun!). If you are interested in registering cats as they are brought in, cleaning instruments, making surgical packs, helping to wake the cats from anesthesia, cleaning cages, or caring for ferals in traps, please contact Barb (tuchfabj@yahoo.com). You'll be helping to reduce the population of homeless cats and working toward a time when every kitten is wanted and loved!

If you would like to schedule a surgery, please contact Barb at tuchfabj@yahoo.com or 513.232.7178.



MR. DARCY is one of our newest additions, but he is already well-loved by volunteers.



DANNY is a sweet boy who likes nothing better than to cuddle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov 22 – TNR Workshop – 12 pm-1 pm
- Nov 23 – Volunteer orientation – 12 pm-1 pm
- Nov 28 – Pendleton Art Center Benefit, 1310 Pendleton St., 45202 – 6pm – 10pm
- Nov 28 – Holiday Ebay Event – runs through Dec. 5 - online
- Nov 29 – TNR Workshop – 12pm – 1pm
- Dec 2 – Volunteer orientation – 6pm – 7 pm
- Dec 6 – Spay/Neuter clinic– reservations required
- Dec 13 – TNR Workshop – 12 pm-1 pm
- Dec 14 – Holiday Open House –1pm – 4pm
- Dec 20 – Spay/Neuter clinic– reservations required
- Dec 27 – TNR Workshop – 12 pm-1 pm

Unless otherwise indicated, event location is 5619 Orlando Place, 45227

Feral Colony Management - WINTERIZING

Winter is fast approaching. Here are some tips for food, water and bedding during the cold weather:

Food: In the winter, expect the colony to consume more food because they will need extra calories to maintain energy levels. In times when wet food may freeze, it is advisable to just feed dry food. If you know the colony will eat right away, and you plan to feed canned food, consider warming the food prior to arriving at the site and using insulated bags to keep the food warm during travel.

Water: Outdoor cats need clean water daily and during all conditions. Throughout the winter months, here are tips to keep the water from freezing:

- 1) Bring room temperature water to the feeding site (hot water evaporates and freezes faster than warm/cool water);
- 2) Use heated water bowls (if near an electrical outlet);
- 3) Keep the water in the sun and use dark colored bowls that will absorb the sun's heat;
- 4) Purchase a Solar Sipper, a solar powered bowl that experience has shown works only at temperatures of 30°F or higher and must be kept in the sun;
- 5) Use wider and deeper bowls;
- 6) Insulate the bowls;
- 7) Use double-layered bowls—they have an insulated air layer between the surface the water touches and the surface against the ground;
- 8) Place the water dish inside a small styrofoam cooler to slow the freezing;
- 9) Use microwavable disks called Snuggle Safe Disc under the water bowl;
- 10) Surround the top and sides of the feeding area with plexiglass to create a greenhouse environment for the water;
- 11) If there is a water source like a spigot, run the water slightly, since it won't freeze as quickly as still water; and
- 12) Shield the bowl from wind.

Bedding: If you would like to provide bedding, use straw or hay. Do NOT use blankets, carpeting, fake sheepskin, or any material that holds moisture. You can also use hardwood shavings (not cedar or pine), but keep in mind that softwood shavings are not suitable due to possible toxicity. Some caregivers located in cold locations with long, cold winters use Mylar blankets as bedding. Mylar is a product that retains body heat. The generic term for Mylar is Polyester Film or Plastic Sheet. These sheets can be purchased from survival and outdoor stores as thermal safety blankets, or online at websites such as **Amazon.com**.

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Feral Villa Cat Shelters Available

OAR has Feral Villa insulated feral cat houses available for purchase. Check out www.feralvilla.com for information about the houses. OAR is selling the houses at cost for \$60 unassembled and \$65 assembled. Assembly requires a Phillips screwdriver. We also have straw. Contact tnr@theanimalrescue.com or call **513-871-7297** if you are interested in purchasing a house.





MARNIE has made great strides in getting along with other cats, but she'd still prefer her own personal lap if she can get it.



ABIGAIL is a distinctive little cat whose profile shows she must have some Persian in her ancestry.



WILMA is a dainty light gray tabby who will do anything for a can of food.

Wish List for the Kitties and the Clinic.....

Help OAR by donating any of the following:

- Cat Food – Dry & Canned for Adults & Kittens
- Snuggle Safe Microdiscs
- Kitten Milk Replacement (KMR)
- Heavy Duty Trash Bags
- Tall kitchen trash bags
- Disposable microwave meal dishes (for feeding ferals in traps)
- Cardboard trays from Fancy Feast cans (for clinic cat litterboxes)
- Tidy Cat Non-Scoopable Litter
- Unscented Bleach
- Laundry soap
- Yellow & Latex Gloves
- Humane Traps (Hav-a-Hart, Tomahawk)

We'd be overjoyed to receive your donations at the Holiday Open House or to arrange another time for you to drop them off at the rescue.



Slowly but Surely

When our beloved 17-year-old cat, Max, died, we debated whether to adopt another cat. The children and mom felt ready to welcome another cat into the family, yet dad had concerns. What were the chances that we could find another loving and family-friendly cat? Did a cat shelter exist that could help us select the right cat for our family? Fortunately, the O'Bryonville Animal Rescue listened to our ridiculously long list of "desired traits" (lap-sitting, child-friendly, mellow.....) and recommended Paula. We visited the shelter several times to meet this beautiful, shimmery grey cat. We brought her home, assuming she would quickly crawl into our laps, mewing peacefully.

Not so fast.

Paula vanished into the basement and weaseled her way into a tiny hole under the stairs. The longer she remained in the hole (and it was days!), the more concerned we became. Surely we had made a horrible mistake. This cat would never become a part of the family. Yet O'Bryonville Animal Rescue encouraged us to be patient. We followed their advice and sat in the basement talking softly to Paula. She tentatively emerged from the hole, for minutes and then hours. We slowly moved her food and water bowls up the stairs. Over a period of a few months, Paula inched her way into the home. At her own pace, she transformed from a terrified cat into a happy, comfortable, and well-adjusted pet. Paula (now named Chloe), lounges on my lap as I type this. She is a beautiful addition to the family. She needed time to feel safe, and we gave her that time. It was a worthy investment in patience.

The Carroll Family



EMERSON has a menacing look due to an underbite, but he is a big sweetie at heart.



MARGOT is the queen of her pen, but she would love to be queen of your home instead!



ANDREA has lots of personality and is always looking to make new friends!

Thank You to Our Members!

Thank you to those who have joined or renewed since our last newsletter! Please note that we only include the names of those who have given us permission to do so.

Patron Level

Shannon and Brian Aquino

Catherine Feig – in honor of Theo Feig and Nancy Roach

Paul and Diane Flaughner – in honor of Squeaky, Hobo, Midnight, and Dutchess

Jennie Geiger and Jack Barrett – in honor of Kevin Nester

Carole Javosky

Jim and Diane Keighley – in honor of my special friends at OAR

Nancy Roach and Theo Feig

Madelyn Roach

Tom and Laura Tobak

Zeke Zekoff, DVM

Supporting Level

Linda Averbek

Cheryl Harris

Ann Hellebush – in honor of Iris

Nancy Jones Hamson – in memory of Homer

Cathy Madewell and Jeff Johnston

Jill Stevens – in memory of Harley

Rita Zinco – in memory of Blossom

Family Level

Kathy Bornino – in memory of Mandy and Amy

Polly Gibin – in memory of Cassie and Mandy

Ron and Dottie Hilvers

Kevin and Abbey Parker – in honor of Tori and Norman

Individual Level

Pamela J Healy

Susan Hochbein

Jessica Joerger – in honor of Polly

Barb Melzer – in honor of Socks

Francia E. Rosenzweig

Anne Stepaniak

Tracy Tabar – in memory of Niki China Cat – lost
after a long battle with renal disease

Charlotte White-Hull

Student/Senior Citizen Level

Barbara Lindenberger – in memory of Tortie Girl

Susan Caldwell

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Behold the Power of the Drop Trap!

For the last year, trappers at OAR have been using a secret weapon in the practice of Trap-Neuter-Release – the drop trap. A drop trap resembles a large flat cage with no bottom. As absurd as it sounds, you prop one end of the trap up with a stick (which has a string tied to it), put the food under the trap, and then back up a reasonable distance with the string and wait for the targeted cat to start to feed under the trap. When that happens, you pull the string and the trap drops onto the cat, trapping it inside. You then run up and throw a sheet over the trap to calm the cat. The process is completed by persuading the cat to enter a double-door box trap that you place against a door in the side of the drop trap. This all sounds fairly complicated, but is actually quite simple, especially if you have two people to share the work. You can see a demo of the drop trap at: <http://www.droptrapdesign.blogspot.com/>.

A drop trap has several advantages over conventional trapping with box traps. First, you can be selective as to which cat you trap. Suppose you have trapped all but one elusive female in a colony. You can wait until that cat is under the drop trap before you pull the string – everybody else is allowed to eat in peace under the trap. Second, cats seem less wary of the drop trap than the box trap. This may be because the space in the trap is less confining or because they see other cats feeding without incident (see the first advantage). Third, you can trap several cats at the same time. This works especially well when you are trying to catch a mom and kittens.

Thanks to the husbands of two volunteers and to a prospective Eagle Scout, OAR has several drop traps to lend now. We do require a deposit of \$100, but we can take a check and hold it until you return the trap. We can also give you a quick lesson in drop trap use as well as lend you a box trap for transport to the vet. **Traps can be borrowed at 5619 Orlando on Saturday from 10 to 2 or Sunday from 9 to 11 without appointment.** You may want to email tnr@theanimalrescue.com just to verify we have a drop trap in stock. We guarantee that once you use a drop trap, you too will become a fan.



MELANIE AND MORGAN are siblings who were scared and sickly kittens when they arrived. Through the love of volunteers, they've been transformed into affection sponges.



“Another cat? Perhaps. For love there is also a season; its seeds must be resown. But a family cat is not replaceable like a wornout coat or a set of tires. Each new kitten becomes its own cat, and none is repeated. I am four cats old, measuring out my life in friends that have succeeded but not replaced one another.”

- Irving Townsend



Rule of Feline Frustration: When your cat has fallen asleep on your lap and looks utterly content and adorable, you will suddenly have to go to the bathroom.

A cat’s worst enemy is a closed door.

Isn’t there always a cat napping on whatever you’re reading?

There are many intelligent species in the universe. They all own cats.

To a cat, “NO!” means “Not while I’m looking”.

O’BRYONVILLE ANIMAL RESCUE RAFFLE

O’BRYONVILLE ANIMAL RESCUE RAFFLE

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E-mail _____
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You choose
your prize!
Donation:
\$2 each or 6
tickets for \$10

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Yes, I want to join OAR!

Name: _____

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City/ State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

email address: _____

\$ 15 Senior Citizen (65+)/Student \$50 Supporting Membership

\$ 25 Individual Membership \$100 Patron

\$ 35 Family Membership

My gift is in memory/honor (circle one) of: _____

May we list your name in the newsletter as a donor? (circle one) YES NO

Mail to: O'Bryonville Animal Rescue • PO Box 9206 • Cincinnati, OH 45209

www.theanimalrescue.com • info@theanimalrescue.com