



# Forgotten Cats News

February 2023

## January Status:

In January, we sterilized 1,263 cats and placed 178 cats into loving forever homes.

## Matilda's Heartwarming Rescue & Adoption Story

**In 2022 PetSmart Charities awarded Forgotten Cats a grant to prepare over 600 homeless cats for adoption! One of the biggest struggles in rescue work is the finding the funding to support it. Knowing that we had the grant to rescue homeless cats took one of our biggest struggles right off our plate. Each cat that that this grant helped has their own unique and special story. Each cat's life was forever changed for the better. Thank you, PetSmart Charities. Here's Matilda's story.**



While on the way to our clinic for a volunteer shift, Holly spotted two black kittens dart across a busy road in Wilmington. Holly circled back around and hit every red light possible. By the time she got back to where the kittens were, they were no where to be found. Holly was persistent in her mission to rescue this litter because she knew that they'd never survive on this road. Holly set traps and went looking everyday for two weeks but sadly she never found or trapped them. On one of her trips, a neighbor told her that they found one of the kittens hit by a car. Holly never found the other kitten...and she obviously assumed the worst.

Flash forward to a few months later. Holly was driving on this street again and she noticed a teenager kitten roaming in the same exact spot as she originally saw the two black kittens. Could this be that same black kitten? A few nights later, Holly woke abruptly at 3AM. She checked the temperature and saw it was 28 degrees outside. She immediately thought of the kitten and

decided to hop in her car and look for her.

Sure enough, there she was in the tightest ball laying on the cold ground. Holly opened her car door, and she jumped right in! Holly named this super sweet little lady, Matilda. Perseverance, compassion, and a little bit of intuition finally led to her rescue.

Holly brought Matilda to Forgotten Cats where she was spayed and vaccinated and officially put on the market for adoption. While fostering Matilda, Holly learned that she needed to be an “only” cat. Matilda was invited to be an attendee at the Brandywine PetSmart’s National Adoption Event. Holly didn’t want to bring her - she thought she would get overlooked and never find her family at an event. Holly even tried to cancel bringing Matilda! But something in her gut (that intuition again) told her to bring her. And within 10 minutes, the sweetest family came in specifically asking to see Matilda! Holly couldn’t believe it.

And well, we think the pictures speak for themselves. It’s clear this stray kitty hit the jackpot. She has the bestest little human friends, and they provide her with her favorite... endless table scraps!

A BIG thanks to everyone who made this rescue possible.







Forgotten Cats, Inc.



*With your help, we can make a difference by humanely reducing the homeless cat population and ending the suffering of the thousands of kittens born to abandoned, homeless cats.*

As a Delaware based nonprofit, we are thrilled to announce that we are participating in **Do More 24** Delaware/Delaware Gives, a statewide giving campaign March 2nd-3rd!

AND.... we have a \$15,000 MATCH for the Do More 24 campaign! What a great way for you to double your gift!

**Our mission of humanely reducing the homeless cat population and ending the suffering of the thousands of kittens born to abandoned, homeless cats is made possible through donations from caring individuals like you.**

For 24 hours from 6 p.m. March 2nd through 6 p.m. March 3rd we're asking you to do more with us. Please double your donation during Do More 24 Delaware.

Stay tuned to special emails on March 2nd when we kick off the campaign!

## From Adoptive Cat Parent to Highly Valued Forgotten Cats Volunteer: The Story of Jan!

By Mary Ann Emely

Our February Volunteer Spotlight shines brightly on Jan Rubinstein, adoption co-manager at the Glen Mills PetSmart adoption center. Jan is recognized by all who work with her as one of the most passionate volunteers when it comes to the well-being of FC kitties and in ensuring that all aspects of the adoption process at Glen Mills are well-handled.

It all started quietly back in 2005 when Jan adopted her first kitty from Forgotten Cats' Brandywine PetSmart adoption center. Although



Above, Jan Rubinstein, on the left in

she had grown up with cats, this would be her first cat as an adult, and she truly grew to enjoy being a cat momma. Jan eventually transitioned from pet parent to volunteer in 2016, initially with Andy's Friends in Glen Mills, becoming an adoption counselor . . . until the pandemic hit, and all of the adoption centers closed.

*the red shirt, vacationing in Japan last October with her sister, Julie Conover. As a devoted Phillies fan, Jan says it was particularly challenging to be half a world away during the 2022 World Series!*

Then her first FC cat became ill and died. Although by now there already were 3 other cats in the Rubinstein household, Jan had an urge to adopt another. She questioned the reasonableness of doing this for an aging baby boomer when she saw a Forgotten Cats ad looking for fosters and she thought that perhaps being a foster would satisfy her need for having another cat.

In July 2020, Jan had her first foster kitty, and about the same time, Forgotten Cats called her to tell her they were now opening an adoption center in the Glen Mills PetSmart, asking if she would be interested in volunteering there. "Yes!" was her immediate response! She soon became an adoption counselor for Glen Mills, forwarding the adoption applications to the FC processors.

In December 2021, the volunteer adoption center manager position became suddenly and urgently available. "I've never managed anything in my life," Jan says, "but urgent help was needed, especially with scheduling and organizing adoptions and cat intakes. Soon, I had access to the calendar and along with Lynne Brooks, I now co-manage the Glen Mills adoption center. It can be challenging and like a full-time job sometimes, but it has become my passion now that I am retired. I have learned so much in the past year!"

"I still really enjoy my Friday morning shift" says Jan. "It's usually quiet and I can concentrate on getting to know our cats. As much as I want all our kitties to be adopted quickly, a special bond occurs when we have a really sweet cat that has been overlooked. My favorite moments are when I find out that one of them is going home, even if they are no longer at our center! Those moments can bring tears to my eyes!"

When her work at the Glen Mills adoption center is done for the day, Jan returns home to her own precious kitties: Sugar, Lucas, Spock and Ollie!



*Left to right, Sugar – Jan says she is a bit of a drama queen, but can be very affectionate on her terms; Lucas is mild-mannered and sweet, and sometimes a bit of a pushover; Spock is the smallest but the biggest lap cat who gets under the covers with Jan at night; and Ollie, who has the biggest appetite (it's not all fluff!) – he is a love bug and tolerates all brushing! Ollie is her foster fail.*

Besides sharing their home with Jan, the furry members of the Rubinstein family also enjoy spending time with Jan's husband of 38 years, Scott, and their adult



children, Rachel and Adam.



*Above, the Rubinsteins – Adam, Rachel, Scott and Jan.*

Jan's first foster was with her family for 9 months. She did not do well in a center and was not a people-cat. But she was chosen to go on a transport to New England and was adopted within 2 weeks! Jan had a few more fosters that were adopted within a month or so. Then she saw Ollie at the Trainer shelter and had a feeling he was the cat for the Rubinstein family! Jan fostered him for a while before making the adoption official in November 2021.

Besides FC, Jan has enjoyed her career as a dental hygienist at Westtown Dental Associates; and in recent years she had reduced her hours to a fill-in status enabling her to devote more time to Forgotten Cats. She will be officially fully retiring from dental hygienist work at the end of March.



Jan also enjoys traveling and looks forward to doing more in her retirement. Jan and Scott go to as many National Parks as they can and collect stamps, postcards, magnets, or coasters from them all. In November they drove across the US and visited 4 more. *Left, Jan and Scott at Carlsbad Caverns on their November vacation trip across the country visiting National Parks.*

Prior to that trip, Jan and her sister, Julie, went on a dream trip to Japan, a trip that had been postponed a few times due to the pandemic. (See the photo of Jan and Julie in Japan at the top of this article!) Jan tells us that "it took a lot of planning to be away from home for almost a month, but so many of our awesome volunteers really stepped up to keep the adoption center running smoothly!"

That trip to Japan occurred the same time as the 2022 World Series! "Being a big sports fan, and especially a Phillies fan, it was truly unfortunate timing. But I was able to keep close tabs with the Phillies app and my son and friend texted

constant updates to me and my sister."

What's ahead? Jan and Scott haven't yet planned a trip for this year, but they have a few ideas. She says she will continue doing short-term fostering as her travel schedule permits. Besides baseball, she is a big football fan and enjoys a good basketball game, too. She tries to get to a couple of Phillies games each year. Jan enjoys going out to eat with friends or family, relaxing with a good movie, or book. She also goes to classes at her gym a few times a week and enjoys going for walks and hikes. In the summer, she likes spending time at her swim club, and planting and taking care of flower baskets and pots.

This sounds like a great life! And Forgotten Cats is extremely grateful that Jan has carved out a piece of her busy and fulfilling life for the precious little furry lives at FC. Thank you, Jan, for all you do!

Some of our cats don't prefer the indoor, house pet kind of life and that's okay!

Instead of toy mice they'd really like to get their paws on the real thing. *Our "rodent control technicians" will work hard in exchange for food, water and shelter.* Forgotten Cats will deliver your barn cat(s) to you sterilized, vaccinated, and at no charge!

Interested in learning more about our barn cat program? Please email [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org) for more details (make sure to include your name and phone number!).

Our barn cats will be waiting to hear from you!

Forgotten Cats, Inc.

# Barn Cats Looking for Jobs!

- Fully vetted, no fee, hard-working cats
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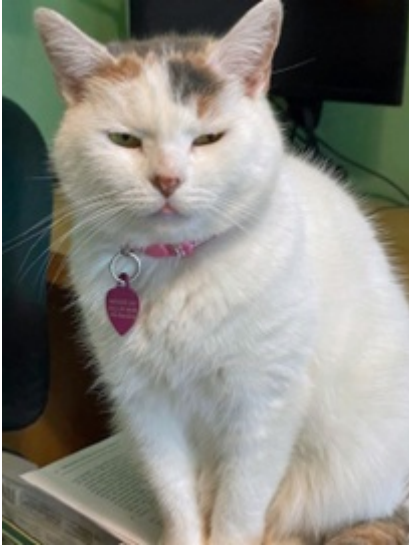
**Contact us!**  
**(215)-219-8148**  
**[info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org)**



## THANKFUL FOR THE ANGELS IN OUR MIDST

Over the years, there have been more than just a few angels in our midst. Of course there are the angel babies that we care for, and the reason for which we





exist, but there are also many more angels in various configurations who help make the Forgotten Cats story possible . . . from the volunteers who should get combat pay for some of the conditions they encounter when rescuing these fur babies, to the volunteers who care for them once they are rescued, sometimes for weeks or months or even years in the case of the hard-to-adopt little creatures. Always many more than one angel of a volunteer touches each of our little fur babies.

And then there are the adopters – especially those who choose to adopt the babies who have lingered at Forgotten Cats for much too long because of one or more perceived shortcomings.

**The story of Ellie epitomizes our mission! Her rescue has only been possible because of the support of the angel donors in our midst – such as PetSmart Charities. Not only do they provide the funds needed to pay for the medical and rehabilitative care these cats receive, PetSmart stores have become the majority of our community adoption centers. Without their generous help, stories like Ellie's would not be possible.**

Ellie was found last September by one of the FC trappers on the streets of Chester, where many abandoned, mistreated cats are found. When brought into the FC clinic for clean-up and treatment we discovered that Ellie wasn't feral. She had had a life. She was microchipped. But repeated attempts to contact her former family proved futile – no response – they had apparently just thrown her out on the streets to fend for herself.

Ellie was incredibly friendly and immediately responded well to the volunteers at our clinic. She was probably relieved to be there surrounded by many caring humans who thought that once she was cleaned up, she really would look like a furry angel. This one would surely be adopted in a flash!

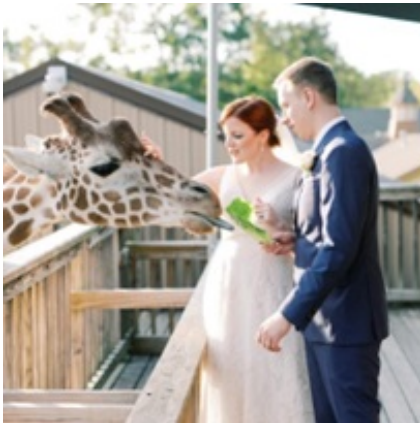
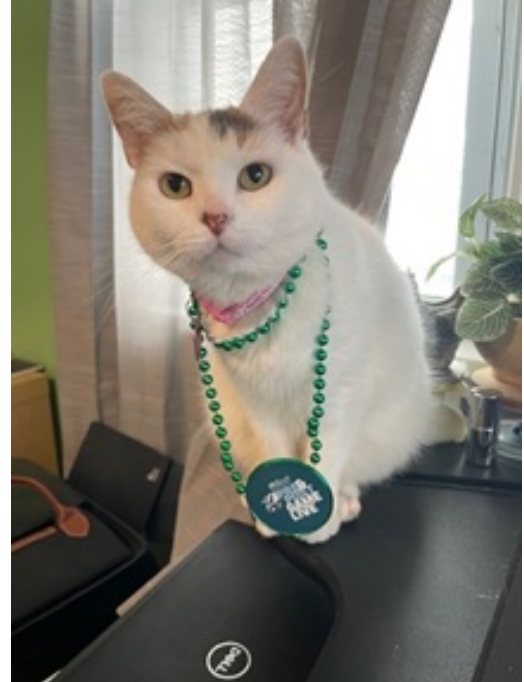
But we quickly learned that this would not be the case. Ellie's lab results did not yield such encouraging results – she tested positive for both the feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) and feline leukemia (FeLV) – a sure sign that she would languish at Forgotten Cats awaiting adoption for months, maybe years. While FIV+ cats can coexist with other pets, including cats without concern, FeLV is highly contagious and FeLV+ cats can only live with other FeLV+ cats. Some FeLV+ cats live only months, others have lived years. *It's easy to understand why there are very few adopters who are prepared and able to accept an FeLV+ cat into their homes. When one comes along, we know this person is truly an angel of an adopter.*

FC posted Ellie's photo in the online gallery and on social media and it was a volunteer's Instagram post that led to her forever adoption! The angels in our midst must have been watching over us again, because in October – just a month after we rescued her – a young professional couple from Conshohocken came forward with an application to adopt and a request to meet

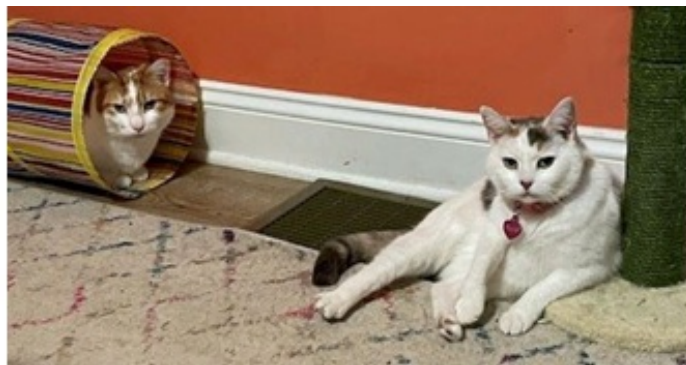


Ellie! Taylor Leslie tells us it was her husband Ed who spotted Ellie first. She said he tagged her and started sending Taylor photos until the meeting occurred and the adoption was made! "She is an absolute angel, and we love her so much!" says Taylor.

Taylor and Ed are a couple whose life revolves around animals! They love them so much that their wedding was held at a zoo! They currently have cats, rabbits, and chickens in their household!



Taylor is a volunteer with PAWS in Philadelphia and supports numerous animal rescue organizations in the area. She and Ed have adopted several FeLV+ cats since 2019, with Ellie being the most recent, but in short order she has become the queen of their feline family, which, besides Ellie currently includes Luigi, Toby and Pepperjack.



Ellie is their much-loved "boss cat"! Being FeLV+ is definitely not a disability in this furrever home!!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!



We have an immediate need for CLINIC Volunteers in our Delaware County, PA facility, near Claymont, DE Clinic.

This is an opportunity to help cats whose **only** medical treatment during their lifetime may be when they go to our clinic. Volunteering at the clinics is an important and serious undertaking and we are looking for the few ready to make the commitment. CLINIC volunteers need to commit to one specific day a week at the clinic. The reason for this is that we are dealing with the lives of the cats, and we need to make sure that our volunteers know the clinic procedures, and this can only be done by volunteering on at least a once-a-week basis. **We will train. No medical background required.**

We are looking for help on Wednesdays & Thursdays. Volunteers must commit to either one full day a week or half a day.

### SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY

Please email [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org) if you would like to volunteer at the clinic. In your reply, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER so that we may reach out to you.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES!

### Full and Part-Time Veterinarians Needed





Forgotten Cats, Inc. operates one of the largest trap, neuter, vaccinate & release (TNVR) programs in the country. Due to expanding needs, we are seeking a Full and Part-Time veterinarian to join our compassionate team, working to reduce the homeless cat population through TNVR.

This employment opportunity offers a flexible work schedule as well as location. Forgotten Cats operates two clinics - one in Trainer, PA (Delaware County) and one in Willow Grove, PA. The candidate will perform routine and emergency surgery, as well as provide wellness services and medical treatment within our facilities.

Since our inception in 2003, Forgotten Cats has sterilized and provided medical treatment for over 176,000 cats and kittens within our facilities. In addition, over 20,000 homeless cats and kittens were removed from the streets and given a second chance at life in loving forever homes through our adoption program.

Due to the high volume of sterilizations performed at our clinics, the candidate must have surgery experience, a willingness to learn, be able to function in a high-energy environment and enjoy working with cats. Salary is commensurate with experience.

This is a challenging position, but the rewards of making a positive difference in the lives of sick, injured, and/or frightened cats are immense.

Please consider joining our dynamic team where we make the extraordinary occurrence an ordinary occurrence each day.

To apply, please email your phone number, resume and a cover letter explaining why you are interested in the position to:

John Fedele,  
Vice President of Forgotten Cats  
[info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org)

*PS. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this job opening, please have them respond to [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org).*

## NATIONAL ADOPTION WEEKEND!

PetSmart National Adoption Weekend is right around the corner! Please spread the news about all of our wonderful cats and kittens looking for their forever home. Stay tuned on FaceBook as more locations may be added!

For pre-approval, please submit a no-obligation adoption application at:  
<https://forgottencats.org/adoption-application/>






**PETSMART**  
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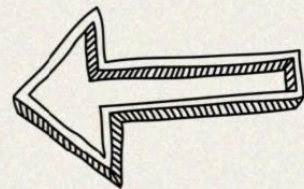
**3/11 & 3/12**

# **NATIONAL ADOPTION WEEKEND!**



PetSmart Locations:

Brandywine  
Brookhaven  
Christiana  
Jenkintown  
Levittown



\* Hours vary by location

***Get pre-approved at [forgottencats.org](http://forgottencats.org)***



## Featured Cats - Winnie & Patience!



Will you please help Winnie to feel safe?

Please meet Winnie! Gently extend your hand to her - she loves to be petted.

Winnie is a sweet but shy girl and is around 2 years old.

The shelter really isn't the best place for Winnie, and she would do so much better in a quiet and safe home.

She's very gentle and would never hurt a fly, but all the noises and strange people and smells are making her very nervous.

We'd love to get Winnie either into a forever home or a foster home until she finds her forever home. FCID# 01/26/2023 - 505

If you would like to schedule a meet and greet with Winnie or to adopt her, please complete our no-obligation adoption application. If you are interested in fostering Winnie until she finds her forever home, please



### Special Needs

Through no fault of her own, Patience experienced a traumatic tail injury that has left her incontinent. Her preferred home would be with an individual, or at a sanctuary, where her bladder would be expressed at least a couple of times per day. She isn't willing to wear a diaper so without her bladder being expressed, she "leaks".

Patience doesn't know she has a problem! She's a very friendly, affectionate and curious cat. She appeared at a cat colony in Philadelphia crying for food and attention. Fortunately, she "spoke" to the right person. She was scooped up and taken to Forgotten Cats to be spayed. As it turns out, she was already spayed but at the Clinic it became apparent that she had no use of her tail or ability to control her urine and bowels. Her tail was partially amputated to assist with her hygiene. FCID 12/13/2022-110



complete our foster application.

[Adoption Application](#)  
[Foster Application](#)

This special girl needs a special home. Please contact Linda at [FCWillowGrove@gmail.com](mailto:FCWillowGrove@gmail.com) for more information.

[Adoption Application](#)  
[Foster Application](#)

## Please allow us to introduce long-timer Mina!



Gorgeous girl Mina has sadly been waiting over a year to find a home of her very own.

She was originally rescued from a colony of over 30 cats off a high-speed road in Salisbury, Maryland. The cats were struggling to survive in the bitter cold with few resources. Mina is currently around 2-3 years old.

Mina's foster mom tells us she's affectionate, sweet and gets along with everyone. She can be found running through the house with the other cats. She enjoys chasing wand toys and in her down time, loves a crunchy treat (or two!)

This outgoing and friendly girl loves to be pet and can't get enough head scratches. While you're at work Mina will soak in the sun in front of the window. She loves watching birds and wildlife in the yard.

Mina happens to be FIV+ but she can absolutely live safely with all cats (and other species). Her life expectancy is that of any other cat and she requires no additional medical care. We like to say at Forgotten Cats that FIV+ is no big deal. FCID# 3/9/22-16

To adopt or to arrange a meet and greet with Mina, please submit a no-obligation adoption application: [Adoption Application](#)

## Save the Date - Cinco de Meow!

2SP Brewery has once again kindly invited us to partner with them for a Cinco de Meow charity event on May 5. Stay tuned for more details . . .

*We are in need of one or 2 more raffle baskets/prizes for the event.* If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please email [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org) and put "Raffle Prize" in the subject.

*We are looking forward to this event - it's always fun to get together with our awesome volunteers and supporters!*



### Chewy Wish List

It's never been easier to give back! Help our animals in need by shopping our Wish List on Chewy to donate much-needed pet food and supplies directly to our organization. Just click on "Chewy Wish List" above.



**Please donate to our Wish List!**

### Amazon Wish List

*Unfortunately, Amazon has decided to discontinue their Amazon Smile donation program.* But please keep in mind that we also have a Wish List on Amazon for much needed items - just click on "Amazon Wish List" above. This makes it super easy to help Forgotten Cats by donating much needed food and supplies to our organization.

## **We Want to Hear from You!**

If you have an idea for an article or a story you would like to share about a rescue, special volunteer, your adoption center or recent adoptions from Forgotten Cats, please send story and photos if possible to: [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org)

## **Our Corporate Sponsors**





**Forgotten Cats offers a variety of sponsorship levels - if you are interested in learning more about our Sponsorship Program, please visit: <https://forgottencats.org/corporate-sponsorship/>**

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