



Forgotten Cats News

October/November 2023

September Status:

In September, we sterilized 1789 cats and placed 194 cats into loving forever homes.

October Status:

In October, we sterilized 2197 cats and placed 168 cats into loving forever homes.

On behalf of the volunteers and the cats and kittens that we serve, have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!





PART II – The Yellow House Team and Their Stories

By Mary Ann Emely

In last month's newsletter, the first half of this Volunteer Spotlight article highlighting the amazing team of volunteers who staff the Forgotten Cats' Yellow House focused on what it is that the Yellow House is, how it works, and why it's so special. In this month's installment we take a closer look at the volunteers on that awesome team and share some of their stories.

When cats are transferred to the Yellow House, if they are lucky and survive, their length of stay is a minimum of 10 days. Besides getting meds and being force fed, they are treated by the members of the Yellow House volunteer team like human patients in a similar situation. They have a medical chart. Their temperatures are taken, they are weighed and otherwise monitored. There are several rooms in the Yellow House where the cats are placed depending on how sick they are: cats with active infections are in one room; cats with known exposure but no symptoms are in a second room; and cats with possible exposure are in a third room.

The Yellow House serves the panleuk diagnosed cats from both the Trainer and Willow Grove clinics. Although there are contagious illnesses other than panleuk contracted by the cats, only the panleuk kitties go to the Yellow House. Other diseases are managed within the clinics. However, many panleuk cats also have some other condition that needs to be treated. Sometimes that condition is caught and diagnosed in the clinic, but other times it is the dedicated and trained Yellow House volunteers who observe conditions that appear out-of-the-ordinary and call it to the attention of the medical director at the clinic.



Yellow House volunteer Amy Phelps with one of the little patients.

The Yellow House team consists of a diverse group of volunteers: Neal Stephens (former manager, theater productions); Ronnie Evans (customer relations); Amy Phelps (pharmacist); Gina Bachman (former customer relations); Karen Fong (biologist); Karen Worek (former nurse/wildlife rehab); Linda Oster (vet tech); and Kerry Reeves (IT solution architect) who serves as the team manager.

Neal Stephens says "Having sanitized conditions at the Yellow House is a critical part of the protocol. Everything is disinfected after every use, and at the end of each shift. Being a member of the Yellow House team is a very labor-intensive responsibility. The rewards of healing a sick cat are

great, but deaths are inevitable and taken very hard. However, the triumph of seeing a patient leave the Yellow House healthy is immensely rewarding."

Karen Fong tells us that Piccolo was the kitty that most touched her heart. "He was an orange and white kitten that I initially met at the hallway in Trainer and he was so sweet and friendly and loved to get pets and hugs, but one day I saw him hovering over his water bowl with watery eyes and I knew he was having some kind of illness. It was sad when he was confirmed to have panleuk and didn't make it out of Yellow House. I was so sad but grateful that we gave him the best care that we possibly could."



Piccolo

Gina Bachman has been at Forgotten Cats and Yellow House for three years and at first when she was asked to join the Yellow House team, she was hesitant. She said "I knew kitties passed away there, but then, we also save many of them, and I never say no to helping a kitty. So I joined."

Gina recalled one particular day, "I went in and after about a week or two of critical care and fluids for a kitty who was deathly ill, and I heard balls and bells dinging – it was this kitten who now felt good enough to play. That just brought tears to my eyes. It has become the most beautiful sound in the morning now. I have met so many great kitties since I have been there but the most special one was Pinto Bean. We just lost him a couple of weeks ago. He came in after being thrown out of a home; they didn't want him anymore and threw him outside. He was crying at their door for days before he was rescued. He had never been nurtured, never had any shots and was probably around a year old, he was active and peppy, and he used to talk to me in the morning and he would give me head bumps when I cleaned his cage -- I love head bumps!! But he fell ill; whatever underlying issues he had caused him to decline quickly. I started coming over in the afternoon or evening and watching cat TV with him or playing classical music for him. I held him and rocked him; he would reach his paw out and put it on my hand. I told him that he is loved and special and that I needed his head bumps and to hang in there, but he passed away early on the next Tuesday.



Pinto Bean

"Outside of FC I have been a caregiver my whole life, working in hospitals and private duty, but my favorite jobs involved working at nursing homes. I love the feisty old ladies – I love their wisdom and stories; I also took care of my sickly mother for 15 years, but I have never been comfortable with death. I sat with

some of my elderly friends and held their hands; if they had no family, I was right there, and I missed each of them. I still cry over them, but they had lived long lives, whereas many of these cats are just young kitties who haven't had a chance to live a long life. I have been crying a lot about Pinto Bean and the four little losses we had in that same time frame. But the Yellow House team members are so supportive, and their words and actions bring immeasurable comfort. They are all smart and dedicated and I am determined that I will keep coming back to Yellow House, kicking panleuk's butt as much as I can in the memory and honor of my friend Pinto Bean."

Kerry Reeves shared a story about a former resident of Yellow House that graduated and has gone on to a healthy and happy life in their forever home. He was a small gray kitten affectionately named Wolverine by the Yellow House team, now named Ilya. Ilya/Wolverine entered quarantine August 29, 2021. His body temperature had dropped to 96.3 and his weight dropped from 2 lbs to 1 lb 4 ounces – a significant loss for such a small



Little Ilya

kitten. He was vomiting and had diarrhea. The team didn't get their hopes up as the chance that this small kitten would survive was slim, but they jumped into action to do everything they could to save his life. Over the next two days Ilya's weight started to slowly creep up but then he developed a secondary upper respiratory infection. Additional breathing treatments and antibiotics were added to his protocol. Ilya was touch and go for several days with his temperature fluctuating and the team fighting to force feed and provide just enough fluids to keep this tiny kitten hydrated. On September 2nd he turned the corner on his recovery, and he began to eat on his own for the first time. Ilya continued to improve and after 10 days of quarantine and treatment left Yellow House and went home with Kerry to continue to receive intensive care.



Ilya and Misha

After Ilya gained back all of the weight he lost fighting this terrible disease he was adopted along with another kitten, Misha that had also graduated from Yellow House. His adopter, Will, periodically sends the team updates, and we are happy to report that Ilya is now a 7 lb playful, healthy, and loving cat who enjoys long naps in the sun and chasing his older cat siblings around the house. These victories were all made possible by the relentless efforts of the passionate

volunteers of Yellow House.

We are fortunate that there is a highly effective vaccine to protect against panleuk. Although some-times referred to as "distemper vaccine," it is actually a combination vaccine. The FVRCP vaccine protects against three highly contagious and life-threatening feline diseases: Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (the FVR part of the vaccine's name); Feline Calicivirus (the C); and Feline Panleukopenia (the P at the end of the vaccine's name).

The amazing Yellow House operations are funded by the overall FC budget, plus any donations that specially designate Yellow House.

If you are interested in being a part of this very special volunteer team of miracle workers at Yellow House, please contact Neal Stephens at Yellow House, nasteph@udel.edu.

Yellow House team – you are amazing! There aren't words that would do justice in describing the miracles you bring about day after day. Thank you for your time, your big loving hearts, and your willingness to give so much of yourselves to care for, and often save some of our sickest little kitties. You are the epitome of what Forgotten Cats does!



Ronnie Evans with Yellow House patient Nemo.

November is Senior Pets Month!

If you've ever had the experience of adopting a senior cat, you would know what an absolute joy it is. Yes, younger cats are super awesome - fun & playful - all the good things that come with youth! But there is just something special about senior cats. They are calmer and more settled and just so very happy to have a nice sunny spot to lay in, a soft bed, a warm lap and a family to call their own. And some still have some kitten spunk! Please consider giving one of our special seniors a home for the holidays. To arrange a meet and greet with any of these special senior kitties, please fill out or no-obligation adoption application at: <https://forgottencats.org/adoption-application/>

NOVEMBER IS SENIOR PETS MONTH . . .

Wouldn't one of our more "Mature" Kitties be purr-fect for you?

JACK, below, at 8-10 years is grateful and sweet. He takes a breathing treatment daily.

MAJOR McBISCUITS, below, makes the best biscuits in his bed! He's 12 lbs., about 5 years old, and FIV+ — which is no big deal!

Below, **LINUS** (orange) and **MAXI** (black) were adopted 8 years ago but just brought back because of allergies in the household!

THOR, below, was adopted from FC in 2014 but brought back this year because he didn't get along with the new dog! He's adapting but would love a new couch partner!

PEPPER, below, 6-8 years old, is the friendliest cat ever!



NACHO, right, thinks that purring is his job! He's 13 and has a heart condition.

SYDNEY, at right, is FeLV+ and needs to be an only cat or with another FeLV+ cat. She's a young-looking 6-8 years old!

THE PROFESSOR, right, is 10 years old, FIV+ and super snuggly!

BAKER, above, is about 9 years old and just wants to be wanted!

Above is **DEXTER**, a big, handsome boy. At 15 lbs., 6-8 years, he's also very chatty and FIV+, so extra lovey!

check out their bios on www.forgottencats.org ♦ catgalleryinfo@gmail.com

Allow us to introduce special needs kitty, Nacho!

Looking for a big sweet, lovable guy? Meet Nacho!

Nacho has the most unique face markings, that bring a smile to your face! Purring is his job, he loves head butts, and he is great with other cats! His fur is incredibly soft. He sure is ready for his new forever home.

Nacho is around 13 years old and has a heart condition, for which he receives a teeny tiny pill daily. He does not require any special diet, just his daily medication.

Our volunteer photographer says, "Very nice and holdable - my observation taking pics - super sweet, loves to be petted and has the most interesting green eyes I've seen on a cat they almost look human. I love this guy!"



Please submit our no-obligation adoption application for a meet and greet or to adopt this sweet, handsome guy (FCID# 05/30/2023 -

While Forgotten Cats main mission is TNVR to humanely reduce the homeless cat population, our mission also includes the rescue and rehoming of friendly cats and kittens that we trap during TNVR projects. Because every life is precious, we have several special needs cats that we would love to see find a loving forever home. Please consider adopting one of these lovely special needs cats - or better yet, consider adopting one of several bonded pairs that are available for adoption. To arrange a meet and greet with any of these special kitties, please fill out or no-obligation adoption application at: <https://forgottencats.org/adoption-application/>

We're SPECIAL! Can you "carve" some time for us this Thanksgiving?



MARY
Mary (under a year old) and Sydney (6-8) are both FeLV+. They must be "only cats" or with another FeLV+ cat.



SYDNEY
Nacho is about 13, with beautiful green eyes!



SERENA VENUS
Above, these sisters have been at the Willow Grove clinic since February! They're a bonded pair!



ARENDELLE
Pretty blue eyes loves to be held, but she's deaf!



LINUS & MAXI
Linus (orange) and Maxi (black), adopted 8 years ago but brought back because of allergies in the home!



TIKI
Tiki has a congenital heart condition, but it doesn't slow her down!



NACHO



BRIA

At left, Bria needs daily allergy pills which she takes well. She adores her pal, Jack.



JACK

At right, 8-10 years, Jack is grateful and sweet. He takes a breathing treatment daily.



Mika is FeLV+ and must be either an "only cat" or with another FeLV+ cat. She's funny, sweet, easy and rabbit-friendly!



MIKA

catgalleryinfo@gmail.com

www.forgottencats.org

Our Spotlited Volunteer for November is a "Niche" Foster with "Rich" Volunteer Values

by Mary Ann Emely

Our highlighted volunteer this month is an extremely dedicated foster mom who specializes in scared, or skittish kitties says Forgotten Cats' Holly Goldfeder. "She's incredibly patient. She's also great about getting them adopted when it is time to do so, she markets them well. She knows

there's another cat waiting for her, so she sets them free as soon as they're ready to go."

Laurie Brewer is this special foster mom! She and her husband, Terry have been Forgotten Cats fosters since October 2017 after their senior cats died. "We were in the odd position of having no pets, so we decided to try fostering." She tells us that she and Terry are devoted to helping rescued cats and kittens find happy, loving homes.



Terry and Laurie Brewer, Hiking in the Alps

"Our first foster was a black and white kitten named Roman, perhaps six months old, who was just terrified of us! He hid from me, but slowly I managed to win his trust. Some milestone moments were when Roman tentatively stepped out of hiding to take a treat from my hand, chased a wand toy across my legs as he forgot to be frightened, fell asleep while leaning against my leg, and finally purred contentedly in my arms. After that rewarding process of socializing a fearful cat, I was hooked! So, now I often foster cats and kittens who must learn to trust humans in order to be adopted."



First Foster Fail: Roman



Forgotten Cats Adoptee: Cato



Second Foster Fail: Ted

Thus began Laurie's niche journey of fostering the particularly fearful kitties, but we must note that this first foster wasn't completely successful – in fact, it was a foster fail! She fell in love with Roman and adopted him!

Laurie says, "On that note I should say that in the following years we have fallen in love with many foster cats, but we manage to say good-bye and let them go to happy homes. In order to continue helping more cats, we accept the roller coaster ride of highs and lows that can come with fostering. Fostering has been among the most rewarding experiences of our lives. We've taken in spicy kittens who were all hisses, growls, and swats. Timid and fearful cats. And some who initially showed no warmth or enthusiasm. It is so fulfilling to usher a cat along his way to becoming loved by a family in his forever home."

Maybe it just comes naturally to Laurie, because cats have always been a part of her life – even as a toddler she was devoted to her family's kitties rather than to stuffed animals or dolls. She currently has three kitties in her feline family. In addition to Roman, the Brewer family has Cato, a tabby who was adopted from Forgotten Cats a few months after they adopted Roman.

Then in 2019, along came Ted. Laurie said "We fostered Ted, and he was friendly and affectionate, so we moved him to an adoption center. Unfortunately, he did not adjust well to life there. He shut down and was not responsive. When I visited Ted, he seemed to remember me because he reached up to rub his face along my cheek and snuggled in for pets. At that moment I knew he had found his way back to our family forever. Ted adores us and spends each night curled up next to our faces, purring softly." Laurie has a knack for developing a connection with the particularly vulnerable kittens – the fearful, the shy, the ones who may have come from a situation where they were traumatized. They need her special touch and maybe more time to become socialized and adequately ready for adoption.



A tiny tot in 1959, Laurie was already smitten with cats!

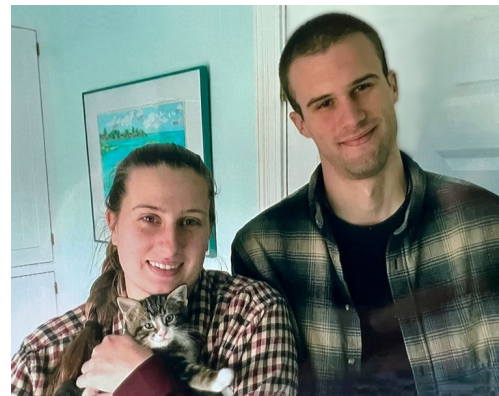


The Barn Cats: Luke and Leia

But that's not the end of Laurie's special fostering story! Besides cats, Laurie and Terry share their lives with two horses, so one day Terry decided to adopt two barn cats, Luke and Leia, who now live with the two horses in their little barn. "That completes our family of two humans, two horses and five spoiled cats, all from Forgotten Cats" says Laurie.

But that isn't entirely true either! The Brewer children, Aaron (age 32) and Katherine (age 30) love to come home and dote on their foster kitties.

They have helped socialize many cats and kittens through the years and have worked at adoption events. Both look forward to fostering on their own one day. Aaron is a geologist who worked most recently in Vienna, Austria for 2 ½ years; and Katherine is a horticulturalist, who is the Curator of Living Collections at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay Harbor. Laurie says, "If we have questions about rocks or plants – the kids have it covered!"



Katherine and Aaron with an adorable foster.

Laurie and Terry are both retired. Laurie's background is in Deaf Education. She tells us that when Aaron was born, she stopped teaching. Then years later she found a new career niche working as an assistant preschool teacher at Fairville Friends School. "After 18 wonderful years I retired last June. Terry worked as a banker for his entire career," said Laurie.

When not playing with their fosters, Laurie and Terry love to spend time outdoors. They grow various berries, flowers, and vegetables. They love to travel, especially to hike in the mountains. Laurie goes on to add "Needless to say, all four of us Brewers adore cats and feel fortunate indeed to volunteer with Forgotten Cats. We plan to spend many more years caring for, and socializing, the homeless cats whose lives are forever changed by the care they receive from Forgotten Cats."

Recently, Laurie added another volunteer role to what she does at Forgotten

Cats. One afternoon a week she is a "cat cuddler" in the six free-roaming rooms at Trainer. Each room holds several cats who are ready and waiting to be adopted. "After taking a seat on the floor I am instantly visited by cats who are so happy to see me. I love giving them lots of pets, chit chat and cuddles." She adds that as she relates this story to us, she has three young kittens curled up on her lap. "What could be nicer!" she exclaims.

Laurie, we can't think of anything that could be nicer. Forgotten Cats is extremely grateful to have you as our "cat whisperer" to nurture our most insecure little babies. Thank you!

Fall Fun Raffle - Thank You!

On behalf of the volunteers and the cats and kittens that we care for, we wanted to thank everyone that participated in the Fall Fun Raffle - thanks to you, we raised over \$11,000!

Congratulations to the following winners!
Christine EAGLES TICKETS, PARKING PASS & EAGLES MERCH!

Noelle BLACK CAT HALLOWEEN BASKET WITH MOSELLAND CAT RIESLING

Mary Jo - A TASTE OF ITALY FROM OLIVE N GRAPE

Lisa - CAT GAME NIGHT!

Pamela - DINNER OUT & A TOUR OF LONGWOOD FOR 2

Marianne - LOTTERY TICKET BOUQUET & CANDY

Brenda - PIZZA BY ELIZABETHS NIGHT OUT IN DELAWARE

Patricia - CONCORD PET BASKET OF GOODIES

Lynae - KITTY TUBE INSULATED OUTDOOR CAT HOUSE

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals for their donations to the raffle: Kathy, Olive N Grape, Carolyn, Longwood Gardens, White Dog Cafe, Mary, Sandy, Pizza By Elizabeths, Concord Pet, Kitty Tube, & The Eagles!

Thank you again for making the raffle a success and helping us continue with our mission of TNVR and rescue of the many cats and kittens in need of our services.



Thank you!

Congratulations to the winners
of the Fall Fun Raffle!





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LONGWOOD
GARDENS

Upcoming Events - Save the Dates!

Forgotten Cats



Apply to adopt:



Adoption Event

EVERYDAY UNTIL
DECEMBER 31ST

M-S 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sun 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

BRANDYWINE PETSMART*

3010 Brandywine
Pkwy, Wilmington,
DE 19803

*Closed
Thanksgiving and
Christmas



Forgotten Cats



Apply to adopt:



ADOPTION EVENT

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 25th

10:00 AM-4:00 PM

WILLOW GROVE PETSMART

3995 Welsh Road
Willow Grove, PA
19090





Be a “super hero” to homeless cats . . .



Giving Tuesday
November 28, 2023



2023 Giving Tuesday - November 28!

Please support Forgotten Cats with a donation this Giving Tuesday. Together we CAN make a difference in the lives of homeless cats.

Help us give the gift of hope this Giving Tuesday.

SAVE THE DATE

AVON GROVE PTA PRESENTS

31ST ANNUAL

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Craft Fair

SATURDAY

2

DEC

9AM - 3PM

Avon Grove Intermediate School
395 S Jennersville Rd
West Grove, PA

Avon Grove PTA is the reorganized entity consisting of both the Penn London Elementary & Avon Grove Intermediate Schools

Autumn Leaf Fundraisers (ALF) will be set-up at the Country Christmas Craft Fair selling their lovely handmade items. ALF has been generously supporting Forgotten Cats since their founder, Sierra, was 10-years old. Please stop by and visit their booth at the Country Christmas Craft Fair Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. There will be over 120 Vendors & local community partners.

Some of the items they will have available for sale are:

- Kitty kick sticks
- Sewn cat mats
- Handcrafted soap
- Photo cards
- Jewelry (bracelets, earrings, pendants, pins, & necklaces)
- Woven potholders
- Beveled glass hangings
- Knitted and crocheted items
- FC t-shirts

Everything is handmade (except the t-shirts) and 100% of the sales go to Forgotten Cats.

Volunteer Opportunities!



MED TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Med team volunteers needed at our Trainer, PA Clinic (near the border of Claymont, DE)

- Shifts are approximately 3 hours in length one day a week.
- Morning and evening shifts available.
- Responsibilities include:
 - Caring for sick cats and kittens during shift
 - Administering medication to sick cats/kittens
 - Observing and logging cat's medical progress
 - Communicating and working effectively with other med team members and volunteers

Training provided. Medical background is a plus but not a requirement. Must be comfortable handling cats. Attention to detail is essential.

Reliability - this is not a position where last minute call outs will be permitted except in the case of an emergency. The cats will be dependent on your reliability.

Serious inquiries only- email: info@forgottencats.org

Holiday Safety Tips & Barn Homes Needed



Have a Healthy, Happy Holiday with Your Pets

If your furry companions are joining your holiday festivities, here's how you can celebrate safely.

Holly, Jolly, and Safe!

While most pet owners are aware of the dangers of chocolate and candles, many other holiday items and products brought by guests can also be perilous for pets, including tinsel, medications, salt dough ornaments, xylitol, and alcoholic beverages.

Party Time Precautions

Just like people, some pets are introverts and some are extroverts! A shy pet may benefit from a quiet place away from the party, and an excitable pet will be better behaved with some exercise before the celebrations begin. With guests entering and exiting, it can also be easier for pets to escape out the door. Always ensure your pet has a personalized ID tag with your name and phone number, and an up-to-date microchip.

Travel Tips for Happy Tails

If you're hitting the road for the holidays, get your pet used to traveling in the car ahead of time. Tire out high-energy dogs before the ride, and give animals a toy or treat to help keep them occupied during the trip. A block of ice in a bowl can be a great alternative to a water bowl to keep your pet hydrated and reduce spills.

For safety info on-the-go, download the APCC Mobile App at [ASPCA.org/apcc-app](https://www.aspcapetcare.org/apcc-app) to help keep your pets safe at the holidays and all year long.

ASPCA

For a list of holiday safety tips from the ASPCA, click on the above graphic.



Barn Cats Looking for Jobs!

Forgotten Cats, Inc.

- Fully vetted, no fee, hard-working cats
- We deliver! – PA, DE, MD, NJ

Contact us!
(215)-219-8148
info@forgottencats.org

BARN HOMES NEEDED! DE, MD, PA & NJ

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 for more details (make sure to include your name and phone number!).

Our barn cats will be waiting to hear from you!



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

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

Our Corporate Sponsors



We value the commitment of community businesses and when they partner with us, they partner in our lifesaving efforts. Click the following link if you are

interested in learning more about our sponsorship opportunities:
<https://forgottencats.org/services/capital-campaign/>

Forgotten Cats, Inc. | www.forgottencats.org



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