

CLAWS Donation Cans

We wish to thank the area businesses that support our organization by agreeing to have a CLAWS donation can onsite. Look for our bright pink cans near the cash register as you check out. And please thank them for their support the next time you shop at one of these establishments.

Cape Cod Hospital

Cape Cod Feed & Supply

Cape Maid Farms

Coffee Roasters

Hot Diggity Dogs

Liberty Liquors

Roche Bros

Seven G's Liquor Shoppe

South Cape Vet

Stop & Shop (Marstons Mills)

Stop & Shop (Mashpee)

Stop & Shop (Sandwich)

Tail Waggers



"Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this."

- Anonymous

Remembering Our Missy

We're always happy when a CLAWS kitty finds a new home, but not all shelter cats



get this opportunity. Missy was one of those cats. When she arrived at our shelter four years ago, Missy seemed to hate people. And who could blame her? She had spent the first six years of her life alone in a dirty, dark basement. Missy would growl and try to swat at anyone who walked by her. Over time, she mellowed somewhat and learned to enjoy an occasional pat on the head. She was skinny when she came to CLAWS but she loved to eat and with regular

meals, her weight grew to about 13 pounds. However, recently she started acting listless, no longer wanted to eat and this big girl began losing weight. We took her to the veterinarian's office where it was discovered that she had cancer of the jaw. Although we knew it was best to let her go peacefully, all of us at the shelter miss our Missy. She was an integral member of the CLAWS family.

Mature Cats Seeking Loving Homes!

Please consider adopting an adult cat. Kittens are always popular, and most have no trouble finding homes. But for abandoned and forgotten adult cats, it's a different story. You just might be their last chance to have the love and warmth of a home where they can comfortably live out their years. When properly cared for, cats can often live well into their late teens, sometimes longer.

Typically, they remain active and even playful throughout most of their lives. Some may need a little extra patience while adjusting to a new home, but once they feel safe and secure, they'll offer years of faithful companionship and unconditional love. CLAWS has many

adult cats – like Madeleine pictured here – waiting to find the right home with the right person...maybe it could be you!



CLAWS of Mashpee

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THE SCRATCHING POST



a newsletter from CLAWS of Mashpee

Winter 2008

The Many Benefits of Volunteering

Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others.

— Danny Thomas

Grocery shopping. Laundry. The kids have soccer practice at 10 and a dance recital at noon. The leaves need to be raked, and when was the last time I dusted? The "to do" list is endless. I don't have time to volunteer...I'm busy! We're all busy.

I certainly didn't think I had time to give when I wandered into CLAWS in 2002. I spent two hours that Saturday morning looking for the right cat to bring home. The next week I went back...as I've done each Saturday since. I've always loved animals and spending a few hours a week doing something I love is beneficial to CLAWS, to the animals and to me.

Volunteering is a great way to spend your time. CLAWS is run entirely by a wonderful group of volunteers. Every Saturday, you'll find these dedicated people spending time helping our cats. Whether they are cleaning cages, providing fresh food and water or just giving a cat some much needed love and attention – they are all pitching in to give the CLAWS cats better lives.

CLAWS, or any other organization, is always in need of volunteers.

You'd be amazed at how much can be accomplished by giving a little of your time. And you'll feel great when you do. You'll laugh at the kittens swatting at toys and chasing each other around the room. Your heart will melt when you see two cats sharing a bed. You'll shed tears of joy when a kitty finds a home. And the cats will love to see you every time you visit. As we all know, few things in life are better than the unconditional love shown by our feline friends.

You can help in other ways, too. By spreading the word about CLAWS, you can help find homes for our cats. And we won't stop working until every last cat has found a home. You can adopt a cat. And you can always make a tax-deductible donation to help our cause. This money goes toward medical care, food, litter, cleaning supplies and a host of other items. You'll find a donation slip inside this newsletter if you choose to support us in this way.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for being a friend of CLAWS. Over the years, these beautiful cats have brought



Feeling just ducky!

unimaginable joy to the CLAWS family. Whether they are curling up with you while you read a magazine, or sitting on your lap while you check your e-mail, it's their way of thanking you for giving them a wonderful life.

~ Pat Duggan, CLAWS President

See page 2 for a volunteer spotlight!

Our Mission

A group of residents concerned with the welfare of abandoned and needy cats in the Town of Mashpee organized in 1996 as a non-profit charitable corporation. Known as CLAWS (Cats Lost and Wanting Shelter), this organization provides foster care to cats within our members' homes, while we work to place these wonderful companions with new owners in indoor-only homes.

The group promotes the spaying and neutering of cats, and a large portion of funds raised is used for this purpose. Our goal is to alter each animal before placement. We must also raise funds to pay for other medical treatments and for food, litter, etc. CLAWS is a 100% volunteer organization. All donations are tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

CLAWS Donors and Adopters ... THANK YOU!

Anthony & Jennifer Alva; Adele Barden; Aurora Bird; Anne Christopoulos; Arlene Ellis; Aline Johnson; Ann Mohan, In memory of Charlene Evans; Anne Rantuccio, In memory of Charlie Starr; Anne T. Shaw; Barbara Healey; Barbara Huntington, In memory of Anthony Huntington; Beverly Kane; Barbara McKeon, In memory of Marie Hutchenson; Bruce Parker; Brenda Pilz; Barbara Walsh;

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Volunteer Spotlight: Alan Dewar

Sandwich resident Alan Dewar has been a CLAWS regular since 2006, when his family's cat, Clyde, died at age 18. "We also had a 14-year-old cat and wanted to get a younger one," explains Alan. "We adopted 'Frisky' from CLAWS but he turned out to be too frisky, too playful for our older cat. But I started coming to the shelter on Saturdays after that."

Alan says he doesn't mind that he's the only guy at the shelter. "I love animals. I don't care." Mammy* became "his" cat at the shelter and on Saturday mornings, you'd find Alan with this big cat settled on his lap. Alan would brush her, pet her and talk to her. "I felt bad for her," he admits. "She wasn't getting any attention." Mammy got plenty of attention every Saturday, courtesy of this a kind and caring volunteer. And by the way, Alan recently adopted a CLAWS cat – a beautiful 13-year-old calico named Sierra. Congrats to them both!

** Mammy gets adopted! Read all about it on the opposite page!*

Happy Tails...



In May, we took two littermates, **Moose** (left) and **Bear**, from an overcrowded shelter. These sweet

4-year-old brothers were quite hefty (hence their names!). Moose weighed 16 pounds and Bear wasn't far behind. Renamed Ranger and Radar, these lucky guys will spend their lives together in their new Monument Beach home.

A woman called our shelter after seeing a CLAWS article and picture in the *Mashpee Enterprise* about a cat named **Tangee**. This handsome 7-year-old orange tiger with black spots on his nose needed 3 premolars extracted due to cavities. He was much happier without those eroded teeth, which were likely a source of chronic pain. Our lucky and healthier Tangee will be the only cat in his new Harwich home.



Jet and **Ebony** are 3-month-old look-alike siblings with different personalities. While both are sweet, Ebony is shy and Jet is more social. We hoped the



We can't tell them apart either.

pair would be adopted together but timid Ebony was the lucky girl who will be the only pet in her new Mashpee home.

Ernie, a 12-week-old gray tiger kitty, will be the only cat in his new home....or so we thought. The day after he was adopted Ernie's new family called to say he was



lonely and crying for his playmates. The family returned and adopted his brother, **Bert**.

Bert and Ernie will live together in their new Sandwich home.

A year-old cat we named **Mammy**

arrived at CLAWS in 2001. A Mashpee senior citizen adopted her in 2002; 4 years later, her owner

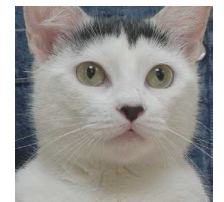


was admitted into a nursing home. Neighbors cared for Mammy but when the house she called home was sold in 2006, we agreed to readmit her. Always a pudgy girl, she weighed around 16 pounds. A content kitty who loved to be brushed, we figured Mammy would live out her life here. But to everyone's delight, Mammy got a new home and a new name! "Sadie" joins another CLAWS cat in Sandwich. We all shed tears of joy for this special adoption.

CLAWS Mail ✉

This cute stray was dubbed "Crazy Jane" because of her "Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde" tendency to scratch and nip at the hand that petted her. Fearing that "Crazy Jane" would live up to her name, CLAWS volunteers began calling her "Curious Jane," due to her lively nature, or more optimistically, "Lady Jane." The letter from her new owner attests to how a cat's personality often changes for the better after being adopted.

Hi, June, "Crazy Jane" is now "Liberty" and she is a sweetheart. She is the most affectionate and well-mannered little cat I have ever had. She is so happy to frolic around the cottage, but never destructively. She enjoys my picking her up and hugging her and only nips playfully now, no aggression at all. She greets me in the morning on my bed by touching noses and making a trilling sound, sleeps at my side all night and is like a cat I have had for a lifetime. So glad I took her...so is she!



"Crazy Jane," aka "Curious Jane," aka "Lady Jane," finally, "Liberty"



CLAWS of Mashpee

YES, I want to help CLAWS of Mashpee

Please accept my contribution of: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 or \$_____

In Memory of _____ In Honor of _____

Name/s: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/Town/State: _____ Zip: _____ Tel: _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to CLAWS of Mashpee, Inc., and mail to the address shown on the last page.

Contact me, I would like to: Raise funds Attend meetings Provide foster care Adopt a cat