

SOS Cat Haven provides a cheerful haven for adult cats

Nearly every week we receive a call that a SOS cat has been turned in to a shelter or is no longer wanted by its adoptive family. A volunteer recently retrieved an SOS cat from Inverness (50 miles north of Pinellas CO.) that had been adopted in 2007.

Our Cat Haven provides a transitional home for these unwanted cats until they can be matched with loving families and have forever homes once more.

Dedicated volunteers man the facility seven days a week each morning and each evening. Volunteer coordinator, Carole Soule, manages the scheduling task; wellness coordinator, Barb Law, maintains daily oversight on cats' wellbeing and behavior and socialization. We applaud these coordinators as well as all the volunteers that give their time to feed, clean and play with our cats to give them the best possible temporary home. To volunteer, call Carole at 727 347-1719.

Get the latest SOS news on line

Sign up to receive SOS' newsletter and other pertinent animal-related information on-line. Go to saveourstraysinc.com; click on Newsletter. Complete 'Join Email List.

This helps SOS save money by decreasing its postal mail expenses and, at the same time, offers our interested readers monthly updates on events and pet happenings. Readers can also sign up for on-line news via SOS Facebook page.

Dear Save Our Strays Supporters and Volunteers:

We want to tell everyone Thank You so much for helping SOS have another great year. The over 300 kittens and older cats that came into the SOS network and were adopted out want to thank you, too.

The year 2014 was an extra busy one with many new happenings. We completed our first year of operation at our Cat Haven in Pinellas Park. We participated in numerous public relations/fundraising events – from Get Rescued in Gulfport to holiday gift wrapping. We reached out to new venues: adopt a thons at apartments and condos, bingo night in Clearwater, blessing of animals in Clearwater and Pinellas Park and Shopapalooza in St. Petersburg. All of these activities in addition to our adoptions held every weekend at PetSmart stores in Clearwater and St. Petersburg.

Incorporated in 1994, Save Our Strays has just completed its 20th year of operation. It has relied on grants and the generous support of its donors to operate and save the lives of thousands of felines over the years.

This past year with the large output of maintaining our Cat Haven and with medical expenses, our largest expenditure, Save Our Strays is facing greater outflow than intake of contribution.

Veterinarian care (spay/neuter surgeries plus internal and external feline ailments) accounts for over 60 percent of our costs. Cat food and litter expenses represent nearly 20 percent of our budget. Microchips for every adopted feline is a line item expense as well as numerous administrative charges.

(See Letter on back page)

Blind kittens need cataract surgery

Huddled in a boat parked in a Safety Harbor driveway, the tiny kitties just weighed ounces. Their mother, a feral Siamese, was spotted by SOS volunteer, Ilka Fletcher, who scooped up the three-week old kittens and bottle-fed them until she was able to trap their mother.

Examined by a Clearwater veterinarian, the kittens' condition is more than likely genetic. Poor nutrition could have been a contributing factor, too.

Most veterinary ophthalmologists use ultrasonic waves to liquefy the lens to remove the cataracts. Estimates for surgery for each eye are very costly.

A special fund has been established to defray the cost of the kittens' cataract surgery. To help these precious kittens see again, you may mail your donation to our P.O. Box, use PayPal (reference Blind Cat Fund), or donate through our CrowdRise fundraiser at <https://www.crowdrise.com/saveourstraysincfl/fundraiser/saveourstraysinc1>



Isis is not blind yet, but will lose some vision.



Meena is blind in one eye at this point.



Neebie is completely blind with cataracts in front & back of lenses.



Tips has cataracts in back of lenses. He see spots.

Save Our Strays, Inc. is a NO KILL
cat-rescue organization

Contact us

Phone: 727 481-5262
727 481-5091

E-mail:
sos@saveourstraysinc.com

On line:

www.SaveOurStraysInc.com

www.Petfinder.com

Like us on Facebook: Save Our Strays

Our Kitties' Wish List

Canned & dry cat food, Canned kitten
food, Kitten replacement milk
Scoopable clay litter
Stamps and envelopes
PetSmart gift cards, Paper towels

Letter continued from front page

Save Our Strays could not exist without our supporters. Your contribution offers a win-win endeavor; it provides SOS with funds to continue our mission to aid homeless kittens and cats and it allows donors to make tax-deductible gifts to worthy non-profit charities.

Your continued support is appreciated. If contributing by mail, please note SOS' new post office box number and postal address listed above.

Best wishes in 2015 from everyone at Save Our Strays, Inc.



Suffocating News

The Sunday paper comes and the bag ends up on the floor. The kitten thinks it's fun to play in. Luckily, this kitty is rescued immediately. If not, it could have suffocated. KEEP PLASTIC BAGS AWAY FROM PETS.

SOS ADOPTION LOCATIONS:

These PetSmart stores

- ♥ **CountrySide**
Every Saturday; noon – 4:30 pm
26277 US 19 North at Enterprise Rd, Clearwater
727 799-3311
- ♥ **Gateway**
Saturday, 12:30 - 4:30 pm
7777 9th St No., St. Petersburg,
727 577-9935
- ♥ **SOS Cat Haven**
- ♥ **Pinellas Park** (near 49th Street No. & 62d Avenue)
Cats shown by appointment.
Call 727 545-1116 or 727 481-5262

Board of Directors

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A Special Thank You

Save Our Strays, Inc. provides a vital outlet for hundreds of homeless kittens and cats in Pinellas County each year. As an all-volunteer organization, our accomplishments would not be possible without the combined synergy of everyone involved in SOS' non-profit operation.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to...

 Our participating veterinarians and their staff at All Pet Care Hospital and Clearwater Animal Clinic in Clearwater; Midway Animal Hospital, Seminole; and Animal Hospital of Pinellas Point and Northwest Veterinary Clinic in St. Petersburg; that provide for the care of our many cats and kittens. Plus SPOT Spay & Neuter Clinic that alters many of our felines.

 Our foster families that tirelessly nurture our stray felines until loving homes are found for them and also provide a caring home life for our unadoptable cats.

 Our volunteers who take on special assignments such as transporting a cat to a veterinarian.

 Our adoption counselors that volunteer at PetSmart and other adoption locations and work to match our felines with new loving families.

 Our fundraising volunteers that participate in special events to generate revenue and spread the word about our mission to help homeless felines.

 Our board of directors that diligently guides our daily operations.

Controlling Pet Overpopulation

The following agencies offer low-cost services:

Humane Society of Pinellas - 3040 State Road 590, Clearwater, FL, (727) 797-7722; Mobile Medical Center, Free Feral Cat Day - see Info@HumaneSocietyofPinellas.org

SPOT Spay/Neuter Clinic - 4403 62nd Ave. Pinellas Park, Call (727) 329-8657. SPOTUSA.org.

Trap, neuter & release (TNR) of feral cats – Call Sue (727) 504 2343.

Free food and litter offered to those in need

Humane Society of Pinellas (see address above) program: Come to office, complete form and provide ID. Delivery provided to pet owners without transportation.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.