

The Scratching Post



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F A T

Helping Felines
And Their Friends

Z

Spring 2016

505-293-2830

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www.FatKatzAbq.org

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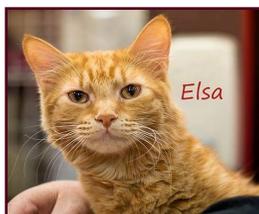
FatKatzAbq

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ABQ, NM 87199-5645

**Cat Café
opening soon!**

**See pg. 5
for all the
details!**



Elsa

I am a sweet and playful girl. I will sit with you and cuddle. I am very affectionate and will tolerate being held. I can sometimes be a strong personality with just one kitty so I would love to go to a home with more than one other kitty.

F.A.T. KATZ is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Your donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

We would like to take a minute to share a story with you.....

The Adventures of Arlo, Jen & Susan

In February of 2015, a couple with a one-year old kitten who needed a playmate came to visit our adoptable kitties. They found Arlo at Petco and were approved through our application process so they added him to their family.



In September 2015, we received a call from Rachel and Lynzee at The Louisiana SPCA saying they had one of our kitties! Since we remain on our microchips (and we are so glad of this) we got the call. We tracked down the number and it was Arlo. Apparently the adopters had family in New Orleans and they left their two kitties with a family member then moved to California. A different family member kept their first kitty and dumped Arlo at The Louisiana SPCA.

Having made the commitment early on that he was our kitty no matter what, we did some quick thinking, trying to figure out how to get him here. The Louisiana SPCA is an open admission animal shelter in a poor area of town with many owner surrenders so Arlo needed out QUICK! It was decided that we would take a road trip to New Orleans.

Two days there and back, one day to visit the city a bit, took a total of five days. We were so happy to have him back together with us and he was so happy to be back! We even had a portrait of him painted by a local artist, James Woods, www.facebook.com/getyourpetdone. Then the morning we were leaving, James got to meet Arlo!



Long story short, micro chips are very important and we cannot stress that enough! We will continue to remain on our micro chips for this reason!

HUGE SHOUT OUT to the people with The Louisiana SPCA who took care of our boy until we got there! They were so friendly and helpful and we couldn't have done it without their cooperation! Always a beautiful thing when two groups miles and miles away from each other work together to make something happen!! THANK YOU RACHEL AND LYNZEE!!

BTW, Arlo has already been adopted again!!

If you would like to make a donation towards our microchip costs and save a kitty's life, please see the membership at the back of the newsletter and you can specify where your donation will go. There are several ways to donate and THANK YOU in advance!



Arlo (Guthrie)



Homes Needed!

Konah

I am a beautiful, sweet girl who loves to play and gets along with other cats and cat-friendly dogs. I would do best with my brother, Reese, as he misses and cries for me when I'm gone.



Reese

I am super handsome, love to play, am curious and love to be with my foster siblings. I get along very well with other cats and cat-friendly dogs and would do well in any home. I need to go with my sister as she is my favorite companion!



Olive

I am a very beautiful but shy girl. I need another kitty in the home and I will be happy. I will take a little longer to get used to you and I need another mellow kitty. An alpha kitty is too much for me.



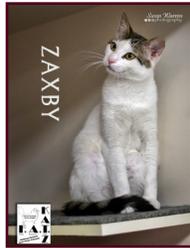
Oscar

I'm Oscar and I'm a SUPER playful boy. I play rough so I will need another kitty like me so they can keep up. I love my down time to sit with you and chill.



Zaxby

I am a playful boy and love to snuggle with my other cats. I also get along with cat-friendly dogs. I would love to find a forever home with my sister Socks.



Socks

I am a little more shy than my brother Zaxby but once I get to know you, I'm all about love and play. I would love to go with Zaxby however I get along with other kitties and cat-friendly dogs and need another kitty in my forever home.



Timmy & Marty

We are two boys who love, love, love each other! We bonded immediately and love to roughhouse together. We also like our people love when we're ready for it.



Thelma & Louise

We are two cute tortie sisters who love each other and to sleep with you. We will sleep on your pillow and want a loving, playful home. We love our foster siblings so we get along with other cats but haven't been around dogs yet.



Cheech

I can't even begin to tell you what a great boy I am! Pretty mellow and loving but when the feather wand comes out, things are different. I get along with other cats and think I could adjust to a cat-friendly dog. I would do OK as an only kitty as well.



Chomper

I am an incredible player and lover. I have a super purrsonality and all I want is my forever home either as an only kitty or with other cats. I think I would be OK with a cat-friendly dog too.



Holly & Jelly

These two athletic girls love boxing their toys and watching soccer on TV. They are both loves and each has their own opinions. They both get along with other cats and cat-friendly dogs as well.



Wordsworth

I am a handsome and slightly shy guy and will need time to adjust, but it will be worth it for you! I get along with other cats and need to have another kitty in the home to pal around with. If looking for two kitties, my sister Marguerita would be the perfect choice!



Marguerita

I am a sweet girl that will ask you for attention. First, I will be shy and cautious but once I realize you're OK, I will be your best friend. I get along with other cats too. I would love to find a forever home with my brother Wordsworth.



Echo

Can you say ADORABLE?? I am a shy little girl who just needs her own space and home to call her own. I am playful with my foster siblings, get along with other cats and would love to go to a home with my foster brother Cayenne.



Cayenne

I am a gorgeous boy with the most amazing fluffy tail. I am friendly and would love to have other kitties to play and snuggle with. I am good with cat-friendly dogs too. My favorite would be to go to a home with my sister Echo.



Talia

I am the Beatles momma. I am so sweet and want lots of attention and love my feather wand toys. I need the exercise to make sure I don't get too chunky. I get along with other kitties and just blend right in. I would be good as an only kitty or with other kitties.



John

I am a lover boy who likes being held, playing with feather wands and lying around with you chilling. I get along with other cats and if you're looking for two Beatles, my favorite brother is Ringo.



Paul

I am very laid back and easy going. I like my nap times and sleeping with you while napping. I get along with other kitties and if you're looking to adopt two, my favorite brother is George.



George

I am a little shy but will love you anyway. Once I get used to you, I am a lover not a fighter. I get along easily with other cats and if you want two of us, my favorite brother is Paul.



Ringo

I am the most outgoing of the bunch and love to play and love. I am the one most in your face. Sleeping with you and hanging and chilling are some of my favorite things. I get along with other kitties and my favorite brother is John.



Gambit

Like my namesake from the X-Men, I can be the playful trickster hiding my toys and making you look for them. I'm also looking for my human to curl up with. I get along with other cats and my brother Nightcrawler would be a good choice for a pair of kitties.



Nightcrawler

I'm very friendly and outgoing boy who likes to play and love. I am good with other cats but would be OK as an only kitty too. My brother Gambit would be my first choice if you're looking for two.



ANNUAL MEETING

Join us Sun. April 17th, 1-4pm, 10301 Las Casitas NE for our annual meeting/volunteer appreciation party.



It will be a potluck so please RSVP via email, FatKatzAbq@gmail.com, what you'll be bringing before Thurs. 4/14. Our guest speakers will be Jeff & Lisa from Boofy's Best For Pets speaking on proper cat nutrition. See you there!

Fundraising always welcome!

Want to raise funds with a lemonade stand, yard sale or car wash? Just collecting spare change? Maybe with your girl scout troop, church, friends, neighbors, etc.? If you are interested in doing an independent fundraiser, please contact us at 505-293-2830 or FatKatzAbq@gmail.com and we can provide you with all the info you need!

A Feline Fiesta!!

The Enchanted Cat Club is hosting their next TICA cat show, A Feline Fiesta. It will take place at **Expo New Mexico, School Arts Building, May 14-15, show hours to the public for May 14 is 9am-5pm and May 15 is 9am-4pm.**

Visitors to the show will be treated to a variety of beautiful breeds, exhibitors and judging rings and vendors with all things "cat" will delight cat lovers.

F.A.T. Katz will be on hand with cats and kittens for adoption and lots of cat related gift items for sale for the humans and furry babies alike.

**Low-Cost Spay/Neuter**

There are two reasons to spay or neuter your pet. First, there are significant health benefits. Spaying females prior to their first heat cycle nearly eliminates the risk of breast cancer and helps prevent uterine infections and uterine cancer. It also eliminates the constant crying and nervous pacing of a female cat in heat.

Neutering males prevents testicular cancer and enlargement of the prostate gland and greatly reduces their risk for perianal tumors. Neutering of male cats (and dogs) can prevent certain undesirable sexual behaviors, such as urine marking, humping, male aggression and the urge to roam. If you have more than one pet in your household, all the pets will generally get along better if they are neutered.

Second, there are so many cats (and dogs) that shelters and private rescues are desperately searching for homes for. Having your pet spayed or neutered ensures that you will not be adding to this tremendous burden.

Through our low-cost spay/neuter program, we will help you obtain the surgery at a fraction of the regular cost. We have no income requirements, so this program is available to everyone and their cats!

Please call
505-293-2830
or email
FatKatzAbq@gmail.com
if interested.

**Volunteer Spotlight**

This edition is focused on Richie Rudkin. When asked why he volunteers, he told us this:

"Growing up I always loved saving animals. From birds, cats, dogs and horses to cows, pigs, chickens and bunnies, though most of them were not allowed in the house. I had cats throughout my childhood years, but as an adult I did not.

The reason I started volunteering and fostering was my roommate's fault. She had seen a FAT Katz Facebook post asking if anyone was willing to foster any cats or kittens. After qualifying to be a foster parent, myself and my roommate drove to Valencia County Animal Shelter in Los Lunas to go pick up our first foster cat, a gorgeous orange tabby we named Artie. Little did we know that was the start of our first adventure. On our way home, he escaped from the cardboard carrier to sit and hang out with us for the drive.

Beginning with our first foster, we realized the benefits of having a cat in the house. Even if that kitty isn't yours, they bring down the stress levels and make people happy and it is really good for your health.

In the four years that I have been fostering and volunteering, I have saved a total of 24 cats and kittens. Of those 24, two have stolen our hearts and we are in the process of adopting them.

Take it from somebody that always thought volunteering was always supposed to be court ordered..... this will make your life ten times better! The more and more cats you save, the more and more your life will feel complete and your heart will be full."



Spring Cleaning Tips For Pet Owners

Winter always seems to be a time of hibernation, laziness, and relaxation; which ultimately creates a borderline unlivable mess of your living quarters. It's okay though, because now it's officially spring, and that means it's time to find motivation for spring-cleaning! A good way to begin is to simply stop the slacking and begin freshening things up for the longer and brighter days ahead. This is also the perfect opportunity to refresh all your pet's stuff, which is probably shredded, dirty, all over the house, or just plain old and outdated!

You can start by washing all pet bedding and throws. If beds have lost their support or are looking a bit shredded, now is a perfect time to shop for something new and take advantage of new styles and designs that are ultimately aimed at pet comfort. Either donate your pet's bed to an animal shelter/humane society, or toss it if it's really gross. If you are feeling crafty, check online for ideas to make your own pet beds!



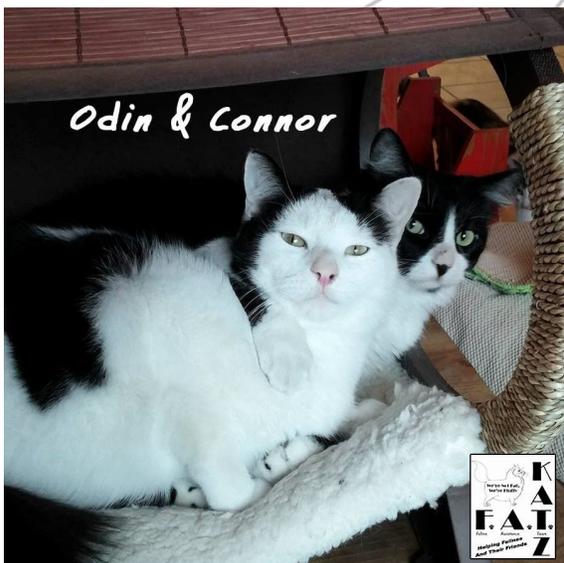
Next, move onto the toy box: It's probably been a while since you've washed them, right? Well don't worry, many toys are washable and can be placed in the washing machine on a delicate cycle. You can put them inside of a pillow case to prevent them from coming apart, especially if they're your pet's favorite toy that they destroyed but still love dearly! Toys made from rubber and harder materials could probably do with a good soaking in a disinfectant to get the layers of dirt, hair, and other stuff off of them (this is something you can do year-round too). However, toys that are broken, especially if they have stuffing and squeakers inside them, should be thrown away and replaced. If your pet is fond of a particular toy, it's a good idea to stock up so that you can replace regularly and keep the fun and games going in full swing! Again, if you're feeling like getting your DIY on, check online for ideas to make your own, using easily accessible materials from around the house.

This is also the time to check through your pet's medications, supplements, flea and tick products and various toiletry items to ensure that they are still fresh, and haven't passed their expiration date. It's important to remember that supplements and products such as sunscreen lose their effectiveness after a while and need to be thrown away and replaced. If it's time to buy some new supplements and get your cat or dog's flea/tick treatment re-started this is the perfect opportunity.

Spring also marks the start of the official shedding season to get rid of thick winter fur! Shedding is a normal and natural occurrence for cats and dogs, so don't be alarmed when you see fur all over the place. It's how they remove dead hair from their bodies and maintain their coats in top condition (along with good nutrition). In the wild, members of the cat family shed twice a year – in the spring to get rid of thicker winter fur, and again in the fall to prepare for the next winter's thicker coat. Shedding is largely influenced by daylight and, more specifically, by the number of hours a pet is exposed to sunlight in a day; this is known as a photoperiod. Of course the amount a pet sheds will vary significantly from breed to breed.

You can speed things along with a de-shedding tool or brush and help remove excess fur with special de-shedding shampoos or with alcohol-free wipes formulated specially for cats. Controlling shedding will also go a long way in keeping your home looking spring-cleaned too! Not to mention, if you keep your cat's shedding under control, there will be less hairballs to clean up.

Spring is the perfect time to have everything all fresh and clean for the summer, so start tidying and cleaning ASAP! It can be quite a daunting task, but don't be overwhelmed – take the process slowly and patiently, it isn't a race. Your pets, family members, and even yourSELF will thank you for all of your hard work! After the cleaning is done, it's time to get ready for all the fun things that spring and summer bring your way. It's okay, as long as you follow our advice you'll be as golden as the spring sun!



Kitty Delights

Homemade treats for your furry babies!

Ingredients:

- ~5oz can of tuna
- ~1/2 cup white cornmeal
- ~1/2 cup flour
- ~1/2 cup water

Directions:

- ~Mix all ingredients together until it forms a ball.
- ~Break off tiny pieces and roll into a small bite size ball and place on baking sheet.
- ~Flatten ball with a finger – just like you're making thumbprint cookies.
- ~Bake at 350 degrees for 5 minutes.
- ~Flip and bake an additional 5 minutes
- ~Let cool and have your kitties enjoy!



F.A.T. Katz & Gatos y Galletas

We are happy to announce that Albuquerque is opening its first cat café, Gatos y Galletas (Cats & Cookies) at **412 & 414 Central SE in the next few weeks!** There are already eight adoptable F.A.T. Katz kitties on site settling in, getting ready for your visit and primping for their new jobs and admirers.

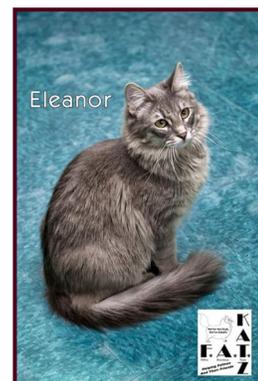
The café will feature vegan/vegetarian meals, adoptable kitties and friendship. You order your food and pay the entrance fee to the cat side through the door on the left then go next door to visit with the babies and just relax for a nice lunch.

We are excited to partner with the café and for our cats to have a chance for people to see how wonderful they are and how a foster home makes all the difference.

The kitties will need canned food so if you'd like to donate some, please contact us at FatKatzAbq@gmail.com or 505-293-2830 to arrange a drop off!



MEET THE KITTIES OF THE CAFÉ:



All of our cats are spayed/ neutered, current on vaccines and are tested negative for Feline Leukemia (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) prior to adoption!

Visit our other adoptable kitties at our adoption center at Petco, 6300 San Mateo NE, weekly, Saturdays & Sundays 11am-5pm.

Ask us about our adoption fee specials!

How To Properly Greet A Cat

Chances are, you already know just how to greet your own feline companion, but saying hello to someone else's cat is a whole different story. Cats can be picky when it comes to who they show affection toward, so it's important to approach an unfamiliar feline carefully. Below are four tips for properly greeting a cat and use them when visiting the cat café:

- 1. Let the cat make the first move:** Immediately approaching or reaching out to a strange cat can result in the claws coming out. Let the cat approach you and pay attention to body language. If the cat gives you a friendly gesture like rubbing against your legs, that's usually a good sign that it's okay to interact.
- 2. Pay attention to your own body language:** Avoid prolonged eye contact, as this can be intimidating. Instead of crouching over the cat, just reach a hand out and let the cat investigate.
- 3. Pet the cat's head, neck or side:** Once the cat feels comfortable enough with you, gently stroke the cat's head, neck, or sides. If the cat tenses up, stop petting.
- 4. Use treats:** If all else fails and the cat's owner is okay with it, dropping a couple treats nearby is sometimes a good way to encourage an uneasy cat to socialize.

**Adoption events are held every weekend at Petco
6300 San Mateo NE
Saturdays 11am-5pm &
Sundays 11am-4pm**

WISH LIST

Cat litter - clumping and non-clumping
Toys, catnip
Cat beds
Foaming, non-alcohol hand sanitizer
Copy paper, printable address labels
Stamps - postcard and first-class
Volunteers for adoption or special events
Sponsor a newsletter
Commercial printing services

Canned & dry foods
Scratching posts, trees & cardboard scratchers
Towels
Small garbage bags
Printable postcards (4 to a pg), printer ink
Foster homes
Gift cards - Revival Animal, Petco, PetSmart, WalMart or Idexx
Sponsor a newspaper advertisement



Lucca and his mom
Magan checking in
from home!

Thanks Magan for
giving this amazing
boy his forever!!

We are an all volunteer organization so your donations go directly to the cats in our care!
Please consider becoming a member or a sponsor today!
See the membership

A huge thanks to all of our volunteers, fosters, donors, members and sponsors! If you are interested in donating, volunteering or becoming a member, please complete the form below, call 505-293-2830 or email FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com

If you are interested in an email version of the newsletter, please email us at FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com

**F.A.T. KATZ – P.O. Box 95645 – Albuquerque, NM 87199-5645
505-293-2830 or FatKatzAbq@gmail.com www.Facebook.com/FatKatzAbq www.FatKatzAbq.org**

Yes, I would like to become a member of F.A.T. KATZ in the following category (checks or money orders made payable to FAT KATZ):

- Guardian Angel (\$1000 or more) Friend (\$100) Active Volunteers (\$10)
- Star (\$500) Sponsor or Family (\$50) Student, Seniors, Low Income (\$10)
- Hero (\$250) Individual (\$30)

Sponsor-A-Cat, Name of cat and amount _____
See Facebook or web page for pictures and the list of adoptable cats

Microchip program sponsor amount _____

F.A.T. KATZ also has a PayPal account! You can donate through PayPal with your credit card using our email address listed above!
You can also donate straight from your paycheck using United Way. Please visit their website <http://www.uwcnm.org/> to find out how!
 Please check here for information on volunteering or fostering - you must provide email address or phone # for this!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ DATE: _____

F.A.T. KATZ is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit. Your donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.