# We're Fluffy







505-293-2830 FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com www.FatKatzAbq.org www.Facebook.com/ **FatKatzAbq** 

P.O. Box 95645 ABQ, NM 87199-5645

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 form on page six!



F.A.T. KATZ is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit. Your donations are tax-deductible

# The Scratching Post

# **Holiday Greetings**

Just an update on our past year.....

2015 has been a very busy year for us. Saving hundreds of cats and kittens from high-kill facilities (see photos) throughout New Mexico, has led to A LOT of medical bills and emergency care. We have had many moms and babies, bottle babies, upper respiratory infections, ringworm, gut trauma (requiring a lot of poop tests), eye surgeries and medications, and breathing problems in our rescued kitties.

While our fosters do an amazing job of caring for the babies and making sure they are well, when coming from the "shelter" their chances of getting sick within a couple of weeks, is very high.

During this year's Holiday season, we are asking for your help. We are in need of monetary donations to help build up our bank account to cover some of our outstanding bills. We are a registered 501(c)(3) so your end of year tax donations are completely taxdeductible.

There are a few ways you can donate. Mail a check to our P.O. Box using the enclosed envelope, donate directly through PayPal using our email address listed to the left of the newsletter, visit our website www.FatKatzAbq.org and click the donate button or our Facebook page www.Facebook.com/FatKatzAbq and use the donate button.



Please







share







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## **DIY Cat Tent**

A cat tent can be fun for your cat any time of year — but especially when strangers or unfamiliar family members are visiting. Whether your cat will venture out to enjoy her new cat tent in front of guests, she's sure to enjoy it in a more secluded environment, like an empty bedroom.

#### What You'll Need

A 15" by 15" piece of cardboard 1 medium T-shirt

2 wire coat hangers Tape
A bunch of safety pins 1 pair of pliers

#### What to Do

- Start by cutting the hooks off of the hangers.
  - 2. Push one end of a hanger into the corner of your cardboard so that about 1 inch pokes through the other side.
  - 3. With your pliers, bend the end of the hanger at a 90-degree angle, and secure it to the cardboard with a piece of tape.
  - 4. Take the other end of the wire and push that through the opposite corner of the cardboard.
- 5. Bend the end and secure it in place with tape as well.
- 6. Repeat this on the other corners with the second wire.
- 7. With a small piece of tape, secure the point where the wires intersect.
- 8. Take your shirt and put your tent frame inside it.
- 9. Using the safety pins, secure the bottom of the shirt and its sleeves to the bottom of the tent.

# Why do cats "Chatter?"

Is it anticipation? Frustration?

Or this really cool thing scientists studying monkeys discovered?

A recent discovery about wildcat hunting techniques has brought new light to a well-known behavior in domestic cats.

A group of scientists doing fieldwork in the Amazon forests of Brazil were recording the vocalizations of a group of pied tamarin monkeys, when a wildcat showed up and started making calls identical to those of the monkeys.

This was the first recorded instance of a wildcat in the Americas mimicking the calls of its prey.

Researcher Fabio Rohe, who worked on the monkey project, suspects all cats can copy the calls of their prey. Cats are known for their physical agility, but this vocal manipulation of prey species indicates a physical cunning which merits further study, he says.

Even the most domesticated of cats still have hunting instincts, and behaviors related to those instincts surface from time to time. One of these is "chattering," which generally happens when a cat sees a bird or a rodent outside a window.

Cat chatter usually begins with a bird loudly chirping near a cat. The cat becomes riveted to the bird. After just a minute,

the cat will then start to tweet and chatter, its mouth moving in sync with the birds beak.

There are a few theories about why domestic cats chatter when hunting. The reasons that make sense are that they chatter in anticipation or they chatter when frustrated. Another probable reason for this is that they are chattering in response to the surge of adrenalin.

The word "chatter" implies meaningless sounds, but Rohe's work in the Amazon indicates that the sounds could mean a lot more to the intended prey than previously thought. The monkeys in his study were nearly fooled, and many feral cats succeed in catching birds with the chatter technique.





# **ADOPTABLE KITTIES!**

Teddy

I am a beautiful, brown tabby who is VERY sweet, loves attention and to play. Give me a shiny ball or even a cat sized tennis ball and my FAVORITE wand tov. mv best buddy Rascal and I am a happy camper. I also like my down time being petted and loved. I get along with VERY mellow cats (I have a little PTSD so if they growl at me I will likely chase), I am super friendly with people and will adjust well in my new home. I must be adopted with my buddy



Rascal and would probably be OK with a kitten or another VERY easy going cat.

#### Rascal



I am not at all shy, I am cute and, oh so sweet. I love to play, am curious and love to be held. I am very friendly and like to curl up in bed with my people. I get along very well with other cats, and would do well in any home. I need to go with my best buddy Teddy as I am his favorite companion! I love human contact and being petted. I love to play and explore, and like laser, furry, feather or wand toys. I am not afraid of much and am VERY outgoing. You can see that I am the most handsome kitten around! I haven't been around dogs but I think I would do OK with a small or mellow super cat-friendly dog.

#### Ruby

I am a beautiful orange tabby girl who is oh, so sweet! I'm a year-and-a- half old and am an active young girl who'll need a lot of attention and play. Petting is one of the things I love. I get along with other cats, and love to play with my brothers, sisters and foster siblings. I am very



friendly and could get used to small cat-friendly dogs as well.

#### Maggie



I am approx. 3 years old and need to be the queen of the house! I am talkative, loving and playful with the right toys of course. I am very outspoken and have a fierce mind of my own. I dare you to challenge me on this!! I am a lover and want to sleep with you and will sit with while you watch TV and hang out. I'm not fond of most cats and would

prefer to be the only kitty. I would be OK with a cat-friendly dog as well. Please come and visit me at Petco and you'll see how amazing I am!

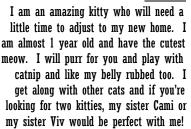
#### Nomad & Teremiah

This is quite the pair of kitties! Both black and white and both just adorable!! They are playful, loving and will need a little time to adjust to you. When they settle in, they will sleep with you and want your attention. They are a bonded pair who



very much and would LOVE to be adopted together. They are approx. 2 years old and are great! They love catnip, their basket beds, their cardboard scratchers and you!!

#### **Eddie**





#### Cami



I am a beautiful and shy girl and will need time to adjust but it will be worth it for you! I have lots of love to give and I am becoming more outgoing as time passes. I just want attention, petting and love. I like my cat tree and know how to use it. I get along with other cats and need to have another kitty in the home to

pal around with. My brother and sister and I take care of each other and if you're looking for two kitties together, my brother Eddie or my sister Viv would love to come home with you too!

#### Vivian

I am a sweet girl that will ask you for attention. At first, I will be shy and cautious but once I realize you're OK, I will be your best friend! I am almost 2-years old and such a good girl. I need a FOREV-ER home where I can prove what a great girl I am! I love to sleep with my foster mom, like petting and like catnip and



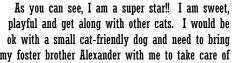
treats. I use my scratching post and get along with other cats too!

#### Alexander



I am a shy but sweet young man. I am best buds with my foster sister Prize and need to be adopted with her. I am learning to love people and petting and I love snuggling with my sister. I will take a little time and patience to adjust to my new home. I am affectionate but startle easily. I need to go to a home with my favorite sister and would love to meet you!

#### Prize



him. I am a great girl who likes to talk, snuggle and likes high places and my people. I would love to meet you and take your application to see if you are the right family for me!



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

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

~Ask us about our adoption fee specials!



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### <u> Low-Cost Spay/Neuter</u>

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 293-2830 or email <a href="mailto:FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com">FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com</a> if interested.

# Volunteer, Foster & Donor Drive

Do you love cats? Want to be involved with the kitties? Need to volunteer from home? Not in a position to donate funds? Don't want to work directly with the cats? Well, you're in luck! There are so many ways you can help the homeless cats and kittens of the Greater Albuquerque Area.

This is a very important time of year to step forward and help! We are always in need of volunteers, fosters and donors! If we have nowhere for the kitties to go, we can't help. If we don't have the funds to care for the cats, we cannot save them.

Please consider giving of your time to help us raise funds, at our adoption events, transporting to and from the vet, from the shelter, doing laundry (towels and beds), hold your own fundraisers, foster a kitty or two, or administrative tasks.

Call or email F.A.T. Katz for more info! 505-293-2830 or FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com.

#### **Mission Statement:**

- ~Provide a safe haven in the form of foster homes for stray, orphaned, abused or neglected cats in the Albuquerque metro area.
- ~Provide veterinary care to all cats and kittens in our foster program and spay/neuter them prior to adoption.
- ~Relocate cats and kittens into permanent, adoptive homes.
- ~Educate the public regarding the need for spay/neuter and provide counseling and advice about cat behavior and care issues.
- ~Assist owners through low-cost spay and neuter for their cats and through our surrender and adoption program, give them peace of mind knowing that their cats will be cared for "for life" through our adoption program.
- ~Limit cat overpopulation by assisting in the trap-neuter-release (TNR) of feral cats.
- ~Welcome all volunteers and fosters into the F.A.T. KATZ family with respect and support.



We plan to continue our "Happy Tails" section in our newsletter but can't do it without your updated pics! We invite those of you who have adopted a cat from us to submit a photo labeled with the pet's name and date adopted to our e-mail address: <a href="mailto:FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com">FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com</a>

# <u>Time to Renew Your</u> Membership (Or Join!)

It's that time of year when non-profit, charitable organizations thank their members and ask for membership renewal fees and additional contributions during kitten season. In return for your fee or contribution, we will not send you address labels, calendars, or other "free gifts." You will simply receive a thank-you card doubling as a tax receipt. As a member of F.A.T. Katz, you will receive our Newsletter and other mailings, and the satisfaction that you have single-handedly helped save cats and kittens in the Albuquerque area.

We know that there are many worthy causes that appeal strongly to your generosity. But our well-loved foster cats need your support.

The numbers tell the story. In fiscal year 2014, our total revenue was \$44,712.65, and our total expenses were \$31,591.93. We did have a bit of a cushion, just not a plump one. This year, so far, our expenses have outweighed our revenue with emergency surgeries and extra medical care needed. So... we need your support to keep going and to restore that cushion.

The membership form is on the last page and explains briefly how you can contribute to special programs if you wish. We're looking forward to sending you that Thank You!!



#### Sponsor Opportunities!

**1st opportunity** - Microchipping. Nearly 10 million pets get lost each year and without ID, 90% will never be reunited with their families again. Because of this fact, we microchip all of our foster cats and kittens! To avoid raising our adoption fees, we are seeking a sponsor(s) for our microchips.

**2nd opportunity** - Sponsor-acat. We are always in need of litter and extra funds for medical care. We have a lot of kitties

in our program that would love a sponsor(s)! Some of those kitties are listed on page 2.

YOUR generosity and love is what keeps us going and continuing to save so many little lives! Your donations are tax-deductible too!



# Maria Ma

## So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodnight

Three and a half years ago when F.A.T. Katz was a discussion, we asked Marilyn Heyward if she would become Foster Coordinator for the kitties. At the time she said "as long as we don't get slammed like we used to get." Well...... Over 575 cats and kittens later, we'd say it's been a little successful.

The end of December is sad for us as Marilyn is moving away and has relinquished her duties as Foster and LST Coordinator. She has been a HUGE part of our team scheduling all the vet appointments and also coordinating our low-cost spay/neuter program.

F.A.T. Katz could never have happened if she hadn't said yes when we popped the question. We're so happy she did and are very sad to say goodbye. We have a new Foster Coordinator, Barbara Humphries who is doing an excellent job so far and we couldn't be more pleased to welcome her to her new position!

We can never tell Marilyn how grateful we are for all she has done to help F.A.T. Katz get where we are and hopefully with your donations and support, we will keep going strong!

There are a few ways you can donate. Mail a check to our P.O. Box using the enclosed envelope, donate directly through PayPal using our email address listed to the left of the newsletter, visit our website <a href="https://www.FatKatzAbq.org">www.FatKatzAbq.org</a> and click the donate button or our Facebook page <a href="https://www.Facebook.com/FatKatzAbq">www.Facebook.com/FatKatzAbq</a> and use the donate button.



# Thank You

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:

WORK PHONE:

DATE:

F.A.T. KATZ is a registered

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.