



# The Scratching Post

## Pet Therapy Anyone?

Finals Week is always stressful. Students are scurrying about scrounging up last minute GPA boosts and some are simply trying to weather the semesterly storm. Being a student housing community, we at Lobo Village wanted to give our residents some help with regards to this unavoidable stress. Luckily, our friends at F.A.T. Katz were more than willing to help!

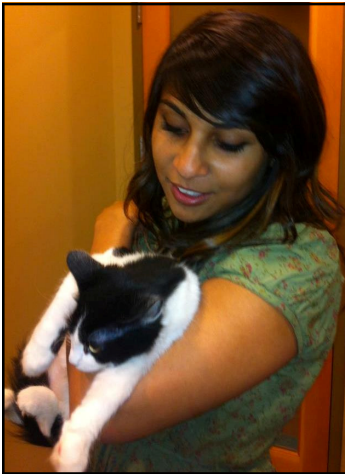


"Paws for Effect" was a joint event between the two groups on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Over 23 cats and dogs had a play-date with us for the



night, as both volunteers and foster parents with F.A.T. Katz stopped by the Lobo Village clubhouse allowing their pets and fosters to soothe our mentally fatigued residents. With over 125 residents in attendance, our animal friends received more than enough love. A homeopathic version of pet therapy, residents were allowed to run around with the dogs and play with the cats. With dogs and cats over a wide range of sizes and more than a handful of adorable little puppies and "tuxedo" kittens, any and all animal preferences were accommodated. A night of childhood frivolity was exactly what our residents needed to relax prior to and finish strong through the terror of Finals Week.

Thank you F.A.T. Katz, especially Jen Souhrada, for



coordinating with us and allowing us and our Residents such a wonderful experience. All the volunteers were wonderful and made the whole evening amazing. So much positive feedback reverberated from our Residents that we can't wait until next Finals Week for hopefully another chance to play with our new furry friends!

~Lobo Village



## St. Patty's Day Photos

On Sat. Mar. 9th & Sun., Mar. 10th, 11am-5pm both days, at Petco, 6300 San Mateo NE, please bring your dogs, cats (that are fairly mellow), ferrets, rats, mice, lizards, etc. for St. Patty's day photos! We will be taking St. Patty's Day photos, by donation, of your pets or you with your pets! If you don't have pets, we will loan you a kitty so come out to support your local cat rescue!!



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



## Larger Than A Leprechaun Foster-A-Thon & Fundraiser

Join us at Boofy's Best For Pets, 8201 Golf Course NW, Sun., Mar. 17th, 12-4pm for an annual Foster-A-Thon. Justice Great Dane Rescue will be there too. We will have some cute cat related gifts for sale, adoptable kitties and we will be available for questions and information about our group and cats in general. Raffle,

food, baked goods, face painting, give-aways and more!



## A Feline Fiesta!

The next cat show is soon approaching! Come out to the Fairgrounds, School Arts Building, Sat. May 11, 9am-5pm and Sun. May 12, 9am-4pm for a Feline Fiesta! Sponsored by The Enchanted Cat Club and judged by TICA there will be cats of all shapes, sizes and colors, judging rings, vendors and adoptable cats! We will be there so come on by!

## Fetch-A-Palooza

The largest adoption event of the year is coming! Sat. June 1 & Sun. June 2 at Journal Center, 7777 Jefferson NE, hosted by the Albuquerque Journal and Sponsored by the City of Albuquerque and Petco Foundation, this is an event to behold. Rescue groups from all over the state come together with their adoptable animals and adopt out hundreds of pets! Thousands of people attend, vendors, veterinarians, food, music and entertainment too! If you are looking for an adoptable pet, please come! See you there!

# FETCH-apalooza

## Yard Sale

We are now collecting items for the yard sale. We are collecting on Tuesdays 5-7pm and Saturdays 1-3pm at McKinney Mini Storage, 5825 McKinney NE. Call the phone number at the gate when you arrive and we'll let you in! If you haven't been to one of our sales, it is really something! It will be July 13 & 14, 8804 Harwood NE!



## Volunteer Spotlight

This edition is focused on Shay Marie Ramos.

When asked why she volunteers, she told us this:

Well, where do i start? Last night I was asked to write for the newsletter why I do what I do for F.A.T. Katz. I started to laugh. "Are you serious?" I told myself. "I have no clue how to write anything interesting. I didn't do well on my essays in school and now I'm being asked to write for a newsletter? Ha ha ha!" And after the kind of week we have had this week, my brain is fried.

It has been a very exhausting, draining, stressful, sleepless, and emotional roller-coaster ride of a week. After racking my brain trying to think of something to say I finally said, "Don't worry about it right now, it'll come to you later." It's later now and it finally hit me.

I have a million reasons I could list why I do what I do for F.A.T. Katz, but a list is just a list.

So..... here is my story.

On Wednesday night after Duncan had been found (see pg. 4 for that story) Eileen, Susan, and I walked to a neighbors house near Duncan's rescue location. (The elderly gentleman had loaned me a trap on Sunday afternoon to add to the two we had already set up.) We knocked on his door to return his trap, graciously thanked him and told him that Duncan was found. He was very happy for us but then asked, "What is so special about THIS cat? Why would you go all out and so full force to find THIS particular cat?" (I will give you more on this in just a minute.) Then yesterday I met up with a few non-F.A.T. Katz friends in the afternoon and I mentioned to one of them that we finally found Duncan. She laughed at me and told the others what I had been doing for 5 days and nights. They all looked at me a little weirdly, snickered, and one said, "No way? He wasn't your cat, so why would you beat yourself up for a cat that isn't yours?" Yes. Yes I did. And, I will do it again and again if needed. They didn't understand why I did it, let alone why I would do it again. In my mind, in my heart, and in my eyes it is very simple why I do it. I do what I do for F.A.T. Katz because I care, because I love animals, because I LOVE cats. My answer to the elderly man was simple too. We are a cat rescue. Each and every one of our cats is THIS special and they mean the world to us.



Every person is going to have their own reasons, but I have been called to do this. I need and want to love, comfort, give attention and affection to as many cats as possible. The lives that F.A.T. Katz saves are all worth saving. If you were a cat wouldn't you want to have that extra chance at a loving home? Wouldn't you want to have someone love you? Care for you? Feed you? Each and every cat whether it's a F.A.T. Katz cat or my own cat, deserves to have a chance at a wonderful life. These cats that are rescued from certain death at a shelter are given another shot at a great loving life and I want to be a part of them getting that extra chance!

I do what I do for F.A.T. Katz because of what they do for the lost, left behind, tossed away, forgotten about, and abused cats of New Mexico. I do what I do because fostering, volunteering, donating, and just "doing" for the cats and for F.A.T. Katz warms my soul, fills my heart with joy, and simply makes me happy. I thank God that F.A.T. Katz cares and that I am a part of this organization.

~Shay Marie Ramos



Shay and Baker



**Mary & Allie**

These two sisters were rescued from a feral mom who had her kittens under a portable elementary school building. Socialized and super sweet, they love to lie on their backs in your arms like a baby and purr for you. Born 3/26/12, they are good with



other cats, good with kids and dogs. They would love to find their own forever home and are now accepting applications. You will be rewarded GREATLY with their love!

**Sadie, Dean & Sammy**

Dean: he's smaller and braver than Sammy but still somewhat shy. He feels secure hanging out with his bro Sammy and would love to be adopted together. He likes rolling toys with bells and the string toy, enjoys brushing and chin scratching. He will purr for food, and sleeps with foster mom.

Sammy: he's larger than Dean and is shy but will warm up and purr when picked up and petted and for food. He will sleep on bed with his foster

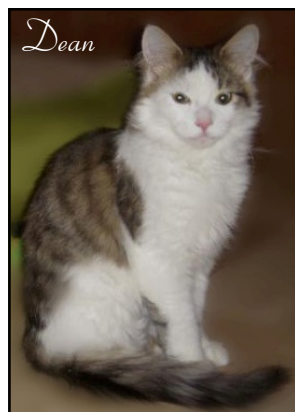


mom, likes to be in enclosed places; box, baskets, etc. and likes rolling toys with bells and string toys. Not much of a lap cat but enjoys being brushed and likes chin scratching too.

Sadie: she's a cute little tortoiseshell with an orange spot on her head, beautiful stripes on her body and cute ear and toe tufts. She likes to purr and will stay on

your lap for a while. When she sleeps with her foster mom she snuggles right in and kneads and purrs. She loves to be petted, have her cheeks scratched and likes people on her level to sit and play with her on the floor. She would prefer a quiet home or maybe be an only pet. She is learning to be a little more outgoing and is very quiet (except at feeding time).

All 3 like treats and Friskies canned food. Small dogs, cats and calmer or older kids would be OK. All will need patience and time to adjust to feel comfortable in a new home. All were born 8/28/12.

**Bella**

Bella, born 3/7/11, is a loving, playful girl. She likes her sisal scratching post, furry mice and soft balls to play with. She loves to climb to high places too. She's OK with dogs, kids, gets along with other kitties and would love to have a friend to play with. She is looking for a home of her very own.

**Pandora**

She's a REALLY sweet girl who loves to purr! Very playful, outgoing and likes to be petted. She's OK with other cats and kids but would be good as an only kitty too. She runs across the room making a trilling sound, likes her floor-to-ceiling cat tree to climb and scratch and likes her catnip kicker toy! She'll sleep on the bed with you but not up in your face. Born 3/9/12, she is a very curious and loving little girl.

**Blackie, Zorro and Precious**

Blackie: Is still "kitten" playful, friendly, and likes human contact – petting, being held, purring a lot, etc... She's a fairly quiet, laid-back cat and likes sharing beds and curling up on



the sofa with her people. She loves many different kinds of

toys, and likes to chase "flying" things.

Zorro: He would likely do fine if adopted by himself. He has a shy side and would do best in a fairly quiet home. It may take a little while for him to warm up. He'll always come out to eat and play though! He does like people, petting, etc, but is a bit more of a "cat's cat".



Precious: extremely playful and friendly, loves to be petted, and picked up. She'll pretend she doesn't like being held but will purr her head off. She likes to share beds, wait outside the shower and generally be close to her people. She loves all kinds of toys but chasing "flying" toys are the best.

All 3 were born 4/5/11, like treats, canned food and are good with other cats.

**~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.**



## ***And on the 5th day..... God made kitties..... (come home that is).....***

Duncan has been found and is home safe and sound!! Many of you may have already seen the Facebook posts about it but I wanted to send my sincerest thank you's to everyone! He is an amazing guy and is acting like we're crazy and overreacting..... He is none the worse for wear, a little dirty and hungry maybe but not freaked out at all.

Duncan, our extra large orange and white kitty managed to get out of his foster home on Friday, Feb. 8th while his foster parents were out of town. We didn't find out about it until Sunday morning and went straight to work on bringing him home!

It was a crazy four days for us and we couldn't have done it without so many of you coming out to help! And, of course, without the neighbors keeping watch. Sometimes they watched a little too well because we even had the cops called on us one night..... oh well.....

So, when we found out on SUNDAY morning that he had been missing since probably FRIDAY day or evening, we managed to get a crew together right away. Six to eight people went over immediately to start the search. Nothing the first day. Sunday evening we got flyers ready and printed and the second day (Monday) we started putting them up on telephone poles, passing out small flyers to everyone and on their houses, knocking door to door and stopping people in the streets. We got a tip from a gentleman who was positive he had seen Duncan about 7-8 blocks away 2 hours earlier. We rushed off and started working that area of the neighborhood, set a trap and on foot searched until 11:30pm!

Third day..... Tuesday, morning, we got a call that a lady's cat brought him into the house to eat the day before which was about a block from the previous sighting. We met and searched, flyer'd the neighborhood, knocked on doors and talked to people some more. We got a call while there saying someone had seen him on the side of a house so again, we rushed over but couldn't locate the kitty he called about. Ali did her best interrogating a great little tortoiseshell kitty on the sidewalk too but she never would talk! We set a couple more traps and left around 9:30pm.



Fourth day, Wednesday, we decided that we needed people out during the day driving around at random times so that's how it started on Wednesday. Got a call from someone who saw Duncan sleeping in his dog house in the backyard. It was seven to eight blocks back in the other direction and only three quarters of a block away from where he went missing..... We set a trap in the dog house, and people drove around at random times. On Monday, we had started plastering that part of the neighborhood but when we got the first "sighting" we left there and moved where we thought he was. We went back to plastering that area and knocking on doors, etc. We met again around 4pm to finish the bombarding of the neighborhood with flyers, posters and such. It was still daytime so people could still actually see the posters. At almost 8pm, Shay rolled up with four more cat traps and a lot of fried chicken (the best food to use when trying to trap a cat). We had re-grouped to decide what our next move would be and Lynne said she was a frozen popsicle so she started to leave. We were talking about placing the traps and Lynne decided to drive down the street one more time since it's easy to see cat eyes in the dark

with a flashlight or headlights! As she turned, she saw some neighbors petting a cat that looked like Duncan. She stopped, saw it was him and asked them to put him in their van and wait there. Not wanting to turn her truck on and risk freaking him out, she tried calling us but we were outside talking about the trap situation so she ran the half block to get us. We all jumped in our vehicles and descended on the neighbors with Duncan in their van. They recognized him from a poster we placed earlier that day! As soon as I saw him, I knew. It was him and he was home!!!!

We were ecstatic of course and we all started crying and it felt so unreal. What a stroke of luck that we all happened to be standing in the same place at the same time! We hadn't all been together at the same time except at the beginning of our search when we all got together to determine our routes. We were always calling each other and checking in by phone. Something placed us all together at the same time and we were all there together, talking and waiting..... Little did we know.....

Those four days were cold and miserable outside so kudos to everyone who came out to search! Thanks to everyone who shared our posts and was checking in. Thanks to Shay Ramos who stepped right in and told us all where to go! Well, at least what streets to put flyers on and kept track of where we had already been! Thanks to Susan Warren, Nancy & Karl Lysett, Alison Endicott, Alex Mirabal, Anne & Mark Hoeffler, Marilyn Heyward, Jay Va, Kirsten White, Tanya Field, Lynne Fullerton, Lori & Dom Turey, Judy Houha, Shannon Healy, Jan & Jim Loeb, Christina Hogan (forgive me if I forgot anyone) for coming out to search on those cold and windy days and nights! And thanks to Tom for bringing us pizza!

WOW!!! We were all exhausted and agreed that whoever wants to adopt this guy has to pass a scrutinizing adoption process to make sure they're acceptable!!

Thank you everyone!!! WE LOVE YOU AND COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!!!

~Jen Souhrada



## Ask the Vet:

### Five Things Owners Don't Know About Their Cats

Wonder what pet owners do and **don't** know about their pets? Some owners are stumped by basic parts of feline healthcare while others might be familiar with a rare and unusual condition - occasionally both at the same time! Here are five questions which usually boggle the average cat owner.

#### 1. How much water should a cat drink per day?

As a general rule, cats should drink 20 to 40 ml of water per pound of body weight per day. This comes out to about 1 to 2 cups of water for a 10-pound cat. Some cats may drink less if they are eating canned food since canned foods contain a high percentage of water compared to dry food.

#### 2. How much water intake is too much?

Anything more than 20 to 40 ml per pound per day is considered excessive and can be associated with diseases such as diabetes mellitus or kidney disease.

#### 3. How can you tell if your cat is obese?

Studies show between 25 and 40 percent of all American household pets are overweight or obese. One way to tell if your cat is fat is to look at his shape. Cats of a healthy weight have a sleek or slightly hourglass appearance with the waist tucking in slightly below the ribs. Fat cats, on the other hand, have abdomens which protrude from the sides as well as enlarged fatty areas on either side of the tail base and over the hips. A fatty area may also be present on the neck and front of the chest. When obese cats walk, they may have a classic waddle. And remember--we might call them jolly but a fat cat is not necessarily a happy cat. In fact, his health may be at serious risk, and he may even grow depressed or suffer from joint pain and other health complications.

#### 4. Why is my cat fat?

There are many reasons why cats become obese but the two main reasons are too much food and not enough exercise. If the extra weight amounts to more than 15 percent over ideal body weight, the cat is considered clinically obese. At this point health risks become more serious and pronounced. The greater a cat's caloric intake over the course of his life, the shorter that life span will be. Fat cats have an increased risk of developing cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, liver disease, diabetes, orthopedic problems, and even neurological problems. As our cats' protectors, we should take obesity seriously and feed and exercise our feline companions sensibly. (Remember, playing burns calories, so get that kitty moving!)

#### 5. Are all treats unhealthy?

There are healthier ways to spoil your cat that can still show him or her you love them without packing on the pounds. For example, fresh "cat grass" or a little bit of high quality fish flakes such as bonito flakes is a low-calorie alternative to fatty snacks. It's healthy enough to permit the frequent treat-giving to which many cats have become accustomed.

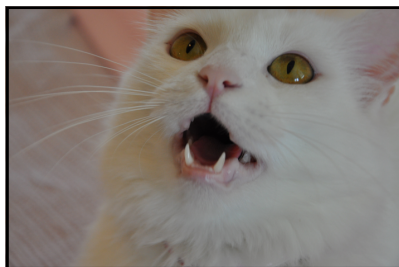
~Dr. Jon, Pet Place

### Happy Tails



I just wanted to let you know that Sophie (now Nala) is doing great with her sister Crayons. She is everything I was looking for! Absolutely perfect! God truly blessed me by leading me to your group! Thank you so much for allowing me to adopt her and bringing joy and love back into my life!  
~Mary Hewitt

Lola is doing great! She is as sweet and cute as can be. She hasn't had any litter box problems and actually uses both litter boxes. She enjoys being with us and helping oversee anything we may be doing. She has been busy testing everything out in the house for good places for a cat nap. ;) We were pleasantly surprised to see Lola enjoy her new cat bed too.  
~Nancy Beamer



Marley is doing great. He fit right in the minute he came through the door. We have our routines. The picture shows Marley with his playmate Otis (6).

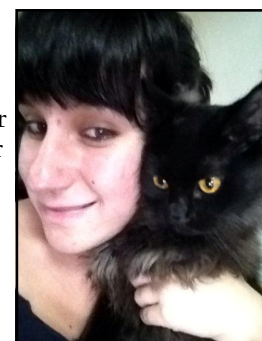
Marley has made the older boys act like kittens again. Marley isn't bothered by the dogs either.

He is getting plenty to eat and burning it off!

Just know that Marley will enjoy a very pampered and very long life here. We love him!

~Jackie Gooding

"I really want to applaud F.A.T. Katz!!! For a lot of reasons. First off, we found our big boy Duncan! Yay, safe kitty. But also because the members of this group, our fosters and volunteers are awesome. People went out in the freezing cold, late at night to look for this big guy. I respect that. Even more than what they did, I respect why they did it. In the name of the kitties. Not to get attention or recognition. Not to be praised by others, but so a lost kitty could be found. So thank you F.A.T. Katz and mostly thank you, Jennifer Souhrada, for all you do for our feline friends."  
~Alex Mirabal Foster & Volunteer





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



Kiff LaBar-Shelton  
and Oliver



### **Thank You To The Following Sponsors:**

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A huge thanks to all of our volunteers, fosters, donors and members! If you are interested in donating or becoming a member, please see below, and if interested in volunteering, complete the form below, call 505-293-2830 or email [FatKatzAbq@gmail.com](mailto:FatKatzAbq@gmail.com)!

### **WISH LIST**

Cat litter - clumping and non-clumping  
Canned (Friskies and Fancy Feast) & dry foods  
Toys, catnip  
Scratching posts, trees & cardboard scratchers  
Cat beds from Pet Edge (call for details)  
Towels  
Foaming, non-alcohol hand sanitizer  
Small garbage bags  
Copy paper, printable address labels  
Printable postcards (4 to a pg), printer ink  
Stamps - postcard and first-class  
Foster homes  
Volunteers for adoption or special events  
Gift cards - Revival Animal, Petco, PetSmart, WalMart or Idexx  
Sponsor a newsletter  
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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

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!

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ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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