



Fall/Winter 2016

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ABQ, NM 87199-0394

**Join us during  
the weekend of  
Fri. Jan. 13  
and change  
your luck!  
Save %50 off on  
adoption fees  
for black cats  
over 6 mos. old  
(and their best  
buds too!)**



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

# The Scratching Post



## From Figment... to F.A.T. Katz

The holiday season is a time of great joy for so many, and a time of giving and receiving for most of us. It is the time of the year when we gather with family, friends and pets and celebrate life's good fortunes.

Now take just a minute to think of the last time you saw something that really bothered you, upset you, or disturbed you. Next, think of what you have thought about doing since then to make a difference in that situa-

tion. Why are the situations that grieve us the most the ones so few are moved to help?

In June 2012, I asked myself these same questions. The staggering number of homeless and unwanted pets dying in the "shelters" each year made me think about what I could do to change this. How is it possible that so many pets could die from so many reasons in today's world?

So I decided to do something about it. Although I had never done anything like this before, I started F.A.T. Katz. I believe there are ordinary

people who can do extraordinary things when they decide to. My goal was to rally ordinary people to our rescue to save as many kitties as possible from death and sickness in the shelters. If we put our minds to it, we *can* make a difference. What I really want everyone to understand is that no matter what, **we can do something!**



Of course, it hasn't been easy. I learned how to become incorporated as a non-profit charity, to build a website, logo and graphics, and worked tirelessly. On several occasions I almost gave up. There were so many obstacles, so many people

who said they would help, but who never followed through. Thankfully, the encouragement from my family and several close friends kept me going. (Seeing the pictures of all the little kitty faces helped too.)

Although some days it is very discouraging or difficult to keep going, I know that there are so many kittens and cats in our area who need me — they need us. So I just keep pushing through those tough days, remembering that this can be done, and that giving up is not an option. I could have given up at any time. I could have comforted myself with the sentiment that, "Hey, I tried my best." But the fact is, giving up is never your best.

~Cont. on pg. 3





**Change Your Luck (and theirs too!)****Adoption Event**

Join us on the weekend of **Fri. Jan. 13th** to **change your luck for the better** by adopting a black cat (and hopefully their buddy too!) There are several pictured here. They are grouped together as different pairs and options.



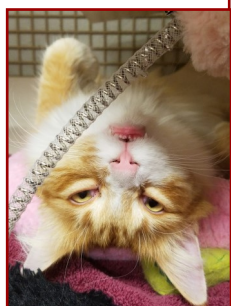
Talia  
Ringo  
John



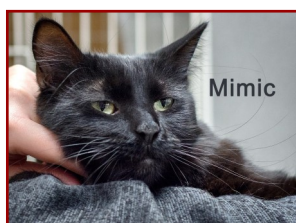
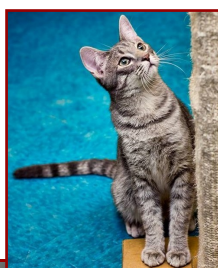
Holly & Sinatra



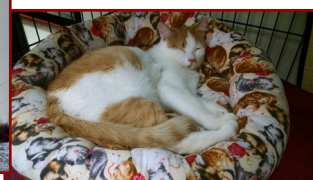
Ren  
Rey  
Leia



Reese  
Le Pew  
Konah  
Krillin



Mimic



Mimic  
Calliope



Poe  
Brie  
Anise



Wordsworth  
(Wordsy)  
Elsa



Elsa



Bruce  
Luigi  
Canto  
Valentina



VALENTINA



Valentino



Halie  
Koralina  
Semper



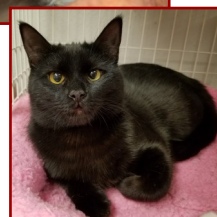
Semper Fi



Khloe



Suzzette



Khloe  
Treble  
Suzzette



Rashka

If the groups of pics are touching, any of the two would be ok together as a bonded pair. Remember, one of the pair has to be black to get the 50% off special on both kitties.



# Fundraisers/Events

## Gift Wrapping

Let us wrap your Christmas gifts while donating to your favorite cat rescue! Join us at **Barnes & Noble, 3701-A Ellison Dr. NE** on the following days for gift wrapping.

**12/17, 10am-9pm**

**12/23, 6-9pm**

**12/24, 10am-2pm**

## Bah Humbug!

It's Flower McFlower's Annual Bah! Humbug! party for the people! Take a break from holiday madness and enjoy a light buffet dinner & nibbles with us at **Boofy's Best For Pets, 8201 Golf Course Rd. NW, 6-9pm**. We'll provide food and beverages; you bring good company, holiday cheer, and a donation to help the kitties of F.A.T. Katz! Vegan/vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free items will be available for those with special dietary needs.



## The Scratching Post

### 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](mailto:FatKatzAbq@gmail.com) and we can provide you with all the info you need!

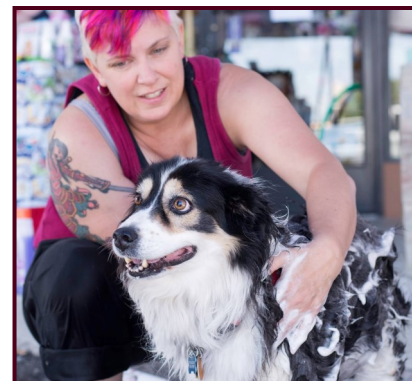
## From Figment.... to F.A.T. Katz—cont. from Pg. 1

Unfortunately, as the word spread, donations subside rather than increase. Short bursts of attention were followed by longer periods of inactivity. It was not for lack of fundraising efforts and trying. People often say “someone else will do it.”

It's easy to get discouraged by the big picture or distracted by the details, and we tend to forget that we have been given so much. What we cannot forget is how to give. So this holiday season, as you are trying to find that perfect gift for your family and friends, consider what a small gift would do to help some kitties who are in real need. Maybe even a membership or donation in your loved one's name.

My wish for all who read this is to simply remember this – the question should never be “Why” should I help but “Why not?” Be Extraordinary! One person can make a difference!

~Jen Souhrada



## Looking For Somewhere Local To Make Your End Of Year Donation?

Look No Further.....

F.A.T. Katz has been in operation for four and a half years and has rescued over 775 cats and kittens in our short time.

With basic vetting, which includes testing for Feline Leukemia & Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, sterilization, vaccinations and microchipping, the costs are just under \$100.00 per cat. This doesn't include any extra expenses such as upper respiratory, eye infections, dentals and much, much more.

As a registered 501(c)(3), we are able to provide you with a donation receipt for your tax-deductible donation.

To make your end of the year donation, please use the enclosed envelope and mail in or see the other options on the membership/donation form on the last page of the newsletter.

Time has gotten away from us yet again and the holidays are upon us. Since we need to conserve our funding for our outstanding medical bills we are not listing everyone who donated separately and in which category they fall into.

Please know that we GREATLY APPRECIATE everything you have all done to donate, volunteer, foster and support the kitties of F.A.T. Katz and we look forward to many more years of continuing success with your help.

## What your donations do.....

We are so happy that you are interested in donating to F.A.T. Katz! Most people wonder where their money goes when they donate. We have decided to give you some ideas of what your money does.

\$10 covers one rabies vaccination

\$25 covers all shots for one cat

\$100 covers complete vetting for one cat

\$150 feeds four cats on special diets for two months

\$300 covers one dental cleaning with some extractions

\$1,000 covers tests and one night hospitalization for an acute, life-threatening condition

\$15 covers one FeLV/FIV test

\$60 covers one spay or neuter

\$130 covers one complete blood panel

\$400 covers one minor eye surgery



We sincerely thank you for all of your donations and support—big or small—and hope you will continue supporting our F.A.T. Katz kitties!



## Furry, four-Legged Gifts

Animals make cute presents, but there are a few things to keep in mind before giving them away for the holidays.

Holiday pets don't always get a happy ending. In fact, some shelters, see an increase in owners surrendering their pets after the holidays. While it is the goal of pet stores, shelters and breeders to place pets in a loving home, pets can't make a choice of where they go. So if you are intent on giving a pet as a gift, it's really incumbent upon the rescue or shelter to make sure that the gift giver is making a good choice and they're making a good placement.

But how does a gift-giver ensure that they are setting the pet up for success? While we aren't completely against giving pets as gifts, we would advise that the pet not be present during the holiday. It's not the norm of how your house is. There's a lot of activity going in and out. With a holiday comes wrapping paper and ribbon. Add in toys with small parts, poinsettias, house guests and a full table, and

you have a stressful and chaotic environment for a new pet. We suggest that gift givers go through every step of the adoption except picking up the pet up. Instead, wrap a box containing a photograph of the pet and give that instead of the actual pet. Once the holidays have slowed down and the house has been restored to normality, that is the best time to pick up a pet.

We also believe that the recipient will enjoy the pet more if he or she has met it first. Also, if the recipient makes it clear that they are not ready or do not want a pet, do not override their decision or encourage them to own a pet if they are clearly not prepared to do so. The best pet gift is giving someone a pet they have already met, bonded with and are exuberant about sharing their life with that pet. We find the adoption process to be more rewarding when everyone involved is included in the entire process. That's something you can't do if you're giving a pet as a surprise. It's such a big commitment and with a gift, you have no chance to really commit to that. Eliminating surprises also avoids the risk of the recipient of the pet being unhappy or unprepared for the gift.



If pet owners are planning to travel to the homes of friends or relatives for the holiday, waiting to get the pet also avoids the risk of leaving a new pet home in an unfamiliar house or even traveling with the pet. It's possible the rescue can make arrangements to hold the pet if the adopters plan to travel for the holidays. It can be very stressful, going from one environment to the next with different noises and people and all that chaos.

While rescues, shelters and breeders all have different philosophies on gifting pets, we all agree that they should be treated with more care and preparation than the common holiday present. A pet is a new member of your family and that is not something that should be entered into lightly or on a whim or an impulse.

Giving a pet as a gift is not as easy as just sticking a bow on the pet. Here are some of the "dos" and "don't" of pet gift giving:

### Do:

- Pick up the pet after the holidays have ended. This avoids confusion for the pet and keeps them away from hazards.
- Clean up all of the Christmas ribbon before releasing the pet into the household because it can cause bowel obstructions.
- Make sure the recipient is ready for the pet.
- Give the pet a timeout if the environment it is in gets chaotic during the holidays.
- If getting kittens, make sure to get a pair so they keep each other busy while you're away.

### Don't:

- Keep plants such as poinsettias and lilies near cats or dogs because they are poisonous. If your animal has been poisoned, call the Animal Poison Control Center at 855-764-7661.
- Travel right after you bring a new pet home. It can be frightening and overwhelming to the pet to be alone in an unfamiliar house.
- Assume that the pet recipient wants a pet. Talk with them first and involve them with the process.
- Ignore whoever sold you the pet. They know the pet's quirks best, so believe them whenever they give you any warnings about them.



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

***Ask us about our adoption fee specials!***







Marlon &amp; Leeloo

Pinto & Chama  
(fka Munchie)

Gigi

Rue  
(fka Sombra)Selene, Zorro  
& Dom

## Send Us Your Pictures!

We continue our "Happy Tails" section in our newsletter. Remember, we 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:

[FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com](mailto:FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com)

Happy Tails

## 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](mailto:FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com) if interested.



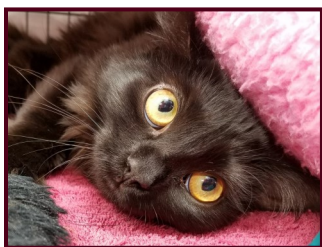
©Warren Photographics

## Change Your Luck (and theirs too!)

### Adoption Event

Join us on the weekend of **Fri. Jan. 13th** to change your luck for the better by adopting a black cat!

Save 50% off on adoption fees on black cats over 6 months old. Adopt a bonded pair in which one or both are black and you will receive the same reduced fee for both kitties.



We have a lot of beautiful house panthers waiting to meet you and take your application! See Pg. 2 for several of them. Call or email for more info. 505-293-2830 or

[FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com](mailto:FatKatzAbq@Gmail.com)

### Mouseburger Bites

3 oz. finely ground beef  
2 tsp. oatmeal  
1 egg  
Catnip

Knead the ingredients together very thoroughly and form into a flat oval. Broil under a medium heat for 5-7 minutes, turning frequently until the outside is crisp. Wait until cool, then slice into bite sized chunks and feed to your cat.

### Homemade Toys and Treats

**FOR CATS!**

Great gifts ideas!



**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

Sherlock checking in  
from his forever home  
with Scarlett!

He seems to be a little  
humiliated with his  
Halloween costume  
though.....



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 below!

**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 90394 – Albuquerque, NM 87199-0394  
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.