

The

Mewsletter

June 2018

Volume 2, Issue 4



Our first Animal Care Expo was a blast!

In May, Founder and Shelter Director Leslie Sawyer attended the Animal Care Expo for the first time. This conference, hosted by The Humane Society of the United States, had over 1800 attendees from 43 different countries. There were so many workshops going on—in 10 different tracks at one time—that Leslie wished she had 9 people attending with her!

Some of the information Leslie acquired will be put to use immediately, including shelter design strategies (especially the recommended flooring and wall-covering for the new shelter), fundraising tips, and best practices for volunteer engagement. After a fascinating talk by Jackson Galaxy on cat behavior, she came home with an order placed for three of his books!

Other ideas may be implemented in the future. One of these is “kitten kindergarten”—a program for owners during their kitten’s critical socialization period designed to enhance the human-animal bond, keep cats in homes, and raise confident, well-trained cats. Another intriguing idea is how to start a “working cat” program to place feral or “fractious” cats in alternative residences such as barns, warehouses, or retail.

Apart from the workshops, Leslie made invaluable connections with some of our allies. She visited with representatives from Petestablished, the platform EAH uses to track intake, adoption, and veterinary status of our cats. She also stopped by the Petco exhibit and discovered that EAH would be receiving a \$2500 grant!

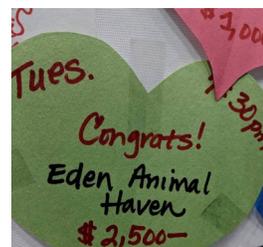
Leslie kept travel costs to a minimum by arranging to stay with one of our adopters in Kansas City while attending the conference. The 2019 meeting will be in New Orleans, and we hope to send at least two people next time to absorb even more information!

For our Summer Open House on Saturday June 23, 12-3pm, we are seeking donations of clay cat litter!



Animal Care Expo 2018

May 14–17, 2018 | Kansas City, MO



A-meow-zing gifts to Eden Animal Haven!



In May we received a stack of handmade kitty pads and toys from the 1st Unitarian Universalist Church Sew Sew group! Our cats, kittens and adoptive families will love these!

We also want to thank Tammy Ruff and Teresa Horn for holding May birthday fundraisers for us. Thanks for your generosity!



Special thanks to Nestle Purina Petcare Company!

For the second time, this amazing company has donated an enormous amount of cat and kitten food to EAH. In May we took delivery of:

- ♥ 960 lbs. of dry kitten food
- ♥ 1210 lbs. of dry cat food
- ♥ 2040 cans of wet cat food

A donation of this size will probably feed our cats and kittens for up to year, allowing us to direct more of our funds to completing the shelter.

Our deepest gratitude to Nestle Purina!

Friends of EAH: Dick and Sandy Sawyer



Dick and Sandy Sawyer have supported the idea of EAH since it was just a dream. Now that it's a reality, they support

it through a room sponsorship (see p. 3) and a monthly donation.

Sandy said her daughter always wanted to dedicate her life to improving the lives of animals. "Leslie loved animals since she was born. We were not allowed to kill a mosquito," she recalled. "When she got out on her own, she started taking in abandoned and abused cats, long before she ever thought of a shelter."

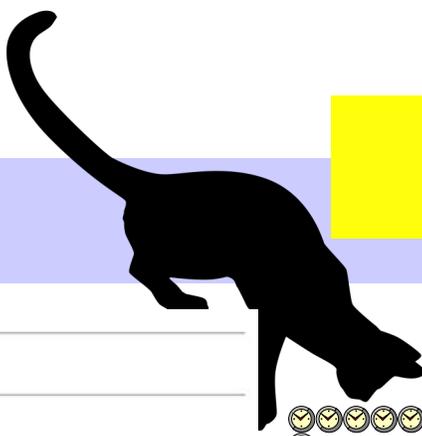
She said her daughter has an amazing ability to find cats and dogs in need that most people would pass by without seeing. "It's

like she's a magnet to these animals," she said.

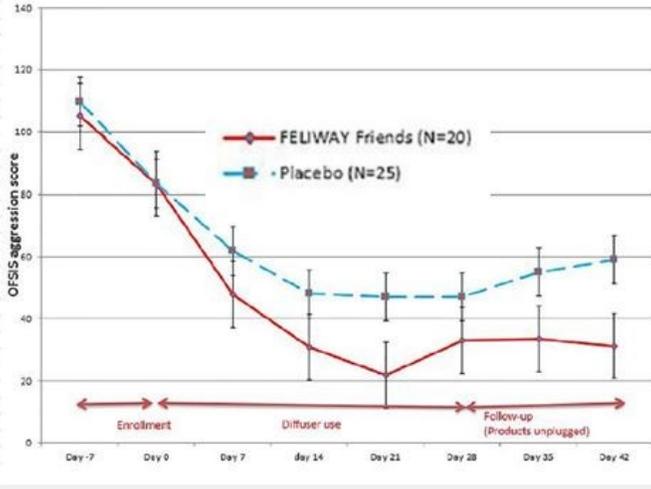
Sandy believes helping cats in need is Leslie's great contribution now, along with working with teen boys at the Good Samaritan Boys Ranch.

The Sawyers encourage other cat lovers to support EAH with a monthly pledge, which can be done through PayPal or a direct deposit through the bank. "Small amounts that EAH can count on, month to month, do add up," Sandy said.





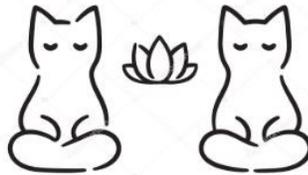
Cat-ologue



New cat? Tips for harmony

Best Friends Animal Society recommends preparing a separate space for a new cat or kitten in another room, with food, water, litter box, and places to hide and relax. Play with the new cat in there for at least an hour daily, for a couple of days. Your old cat will sniff at the door and there may be a few feline curse words exchanged.

Introduce them through a barrier, or by opening the door slightly and letting them sniff each other. If all goes well after another day or two, let them get together, allowing the newcomer access to his safe space as needed. Most times cats become friendly, or at least learn to coexist, in a week or two but it can take up to several months.



Recently a cat was returned to EAH because it did not get along with other cats in the home. One thing that might have helped is the use of pheromones.

An April study in *Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery* found that using “cat-appeasing pheromone” for 6 weeks significantly decreased conflict between cats (red line) compared to placebo (blue).

Conflict dropped even among cats exposed to no pheromones. The authors believe this was because all cat-owners in the study received training on using redirection strategies (such as offering food) rather than punishment when conflict did arise.

A surprising side finding was a correlation between declaw status of any cat in the house and ongoing conflict between cats. We will discuss the question of declawing in a future newsletter.

Kittens are accommodating and easily learn to get along with an older cat who already is the “head cat” in the household.

An easy way to make sure your cats get along is to adopt a bonded pair. EAH has several: Hemingway and Hadley, Chrissy and Janet, Solomon and Bo, and Jabari and Buju. Or select from several pairs of kittens that enjoy each other’s company. Plus, if you adopt any two cats, you get a \$25 discount on the adoption fee!

Sponsor a room for paws-terity!

EAH offers room sponsorships in the new shelter. In exchange for a donation, you can name “your” room for a beloved cat, relative, or your company. Some donations include lifetime care for one or more of cats if they outlive you.

Naming rights only:

- ♥ Laundry/storage: \$2,000
- ♥ Quarantine room: \$2,000

Naming & lifetime care:

- ♥ Lobby (4 cats): \$15,000
- ♥ Large (3 cats): \$10,000
- ♥ Medium (2 cats): \$7,500
- ♥ Condo (1 cat): \$5,000



Contact us!

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edenanimalhaven.org



Donate:

<https://www.youcaring.com/eden-animal-haven-468747>



Follow us:

<https://www.facebook.com/edenanimalhaven/>



See our video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc4PO9VEius>



Find our adoptable kitties:

<http://awos.petfinder.com/shelters/MO613.html>



<http://www.petestablished.com/organization/312>



Help us while you shop:

Amazon Smile <https://smile.amazon.com/>



iGive <https://www.igive.com/welcome/lp15/wr35.cfm?c=71113&p=19992&jltest=1>

On the catwalk: Teddy & Tiara

At Eden Animal Haven, we promise adopters that we will take back any cat that does not work out, and although we don't like to see it happen, we stick to our word.

Teddy (right) and Tiara (below) were both recently adopted and returned, through no fault of their own. Teddy went to an inexperienced adopter who

decided he wasn't a "cat person." Teddy is very outgoing and loving, but he does not get along well with other male cats.

Tiara was returned for not getting along well with the other cats in the home (see p. 3 for tips). She is extremely affectionate and social.

Their adoption fees are sponsored.



Kathy Means White Henderson submitted the winning Kitten Smitten caption this time. This is Chatty (featured in the March "Catwalk") perching on John Adams of Fox 5 News. Obviously, she is one of the friendliest cats at EAH, but has been waiting a year to be adopted. Please give Chatty a look (or a listen)!



JOIN US FOR...
- OUR OPEN HOUSE -

SATURDAY, JUNE 23rd, 12-3pm.

See our building in progress!
Meet our cats and kittens for adoption!
Walk our beautiful grounds!
Bring gifts for the kitties!



Amazon Wish List - <http://a.co/8V3yrkh>
Kuranda Beds - kuranda.com/donate/14308
1649 E. 562nd Road, Brighton, Missouri