

THANK YOU!

Your generous donations provide routine care for the cats and kittens rescued throughout the year. It is especially difficult during kitten season in the spring and summer of each year, some kittens arriving with mama, and some without. Many come with upper respiratory infections, ear mites, and parasites. Some mamas and kittens need lots of supportive care, abandoned and starved, they may require several trips to the vet to get them healthy. We believe that every life is worth saving, and do not euthanize kitties unless all hope is lost.

Visit our website: <http://www.thecatscradle.org/>

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheCatsCradle>

To see all of our awesome cats for adoption go to: www.petfinder.com or www.adoptapet.com and search for The Cats' Cradle of NC

You can see cats at the Morganton PetsMart every week and at the Hickory PetsMart 2 weeks of every month. We are a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit. All donations are tax deductible.



The Cats' Cradle Inc.

PO Box 1915

Morganton, NC 28680-1915

www.thecatscradle.org



The Cats' Cradle of NC

Fall 2015 Newsletter

Our Mission:

To bring about a time when no more abused or abandoned cats will be destroyed.

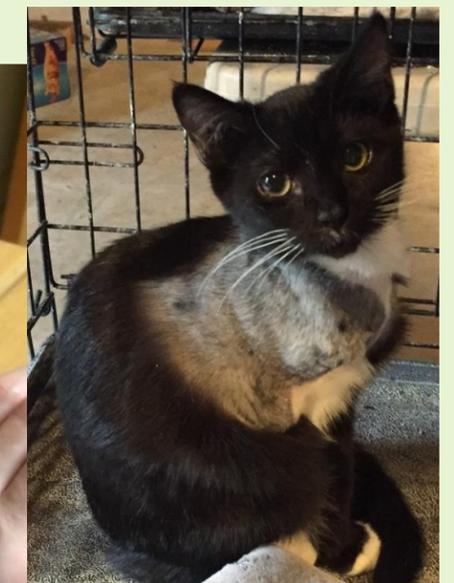
Special Thanks to sponsors & volunteers for recent fundraisers

Frank Paradine and Di'lishi for their Community Giveback Program

Frank Cooper for organizing the 5k10k race & to our sponsors, runners & volunteers

Rhonda Petersen for organizing the yard sale & Heather Dula for assisting

DUCHESS suffered an unknown injury to her right leg which had to be amputated. She was able to come home after spending more than a month in the hospital and is now on her way to a full recovery. She will soon be ready to find her forever home. Thanks so much to all who donated to help cover her medical bills. Without you, we could not continue our life saving work!



DONATIONS RECEIVED

Special Recognition – Long-term Donors

Norma & Richard Blackburn	Jeff & Maria Helton	Patty Moffatt & Steve Noggle
Karen Clark –Caruso	Sarah Johnson	Monica & Gary Olinger
Brian & Linda Clark	Brenda Kincaid	Nancy Puckett
Lois & Jerry Clark	Sonya Moore	Keith & Lynn Whisnant

In Memory of

Nancy Setzer in memory of Farris’ beloved cat Mimi,
Norma & Richard Blackburn in memory of Kinsey
Norma & Richard Blackburn in memory of Major
Karen Clark-Carusio in memory of Brian & Linda Clark’s cat Heidi
James Pearse in loving memory of Sly, Ty, and all our other loving feline friends
Lynda Garibaldi in loving memory of Laddie, Angelo, Margaret, and Taffy
Lynda Garibaldi in memory of Steve Farlow
Holly Hollifield Farlow in memory of Steve
The staff of the Burke County Public Library in memory of Steve Farlow
Helen & Brent Sheppard in memory of Frances Johnson
Lynda Garibaldi in memory of Charlotte Simasek
Suzanne Simasek in memory of Charlotte Simasek
Julie Salmon & James Mansene in memory of David Callahan

In Honor of

Rhonda & Christian Petersen in honor of our foster cats & kittens
David Mitchell in honor of Raven
Gary & Monica Olinger in honor of Nikki Vee
Norma & Richard Blackburn in honor of Major
Charlotte Simasek in honor of Crickett
Nancy Puckett in honor of Tux
Christelle Faulkner in honor of Charlie
Jon, Rachel, and Sasha Simasek in honor of Charlotte Simasek’s birthday
Lois & Jerry Clark in honor of Linda Clark’s birthday
Linda & Brian Clark in honor of Karen Clark-Carusio’s birthday
Lois & Jerry Clark in honor of Karen Clark Caruso’s birthday
Board of Directors of Corning Cable Systems Credit Union in honor of Jeannie Bowman’s 24 yrs of service

Other Special Donations

Elaine Bolick for Blossom’s dental surgery, Patch’s eye surgery, and Duchess’ leg surgery
Lauren Hogan
Wendy Parker
Roger & Carolyn Sprinkle
John Pope, Jennifer Franklin, Michelle Rogers, Suzette Pendleton, Melynda Chatham, Bushra Terbrog, Barry Walker, Jean Judge, Rhonda Petersen for Duchess’ surgery
Michelle Rogers
Lori Steele
Joni Stone
The estate of Adele Walton

2015 YTD STATISTICS

INTAKE	158
SPAY/NEUTER	100
ADOPTIONS	80

“Nip it in the Bud”

Barney Fife said it best, “Nip it in the bud. You got to nip it in the bud”. Now Barney said this in relation to raising children, but it is a statement which may be applied to many situations. Consider this parable, which is a great example of Barney’s wise words are walking next to a river and see a kitten floating past. You jump in and save the kitten. Then another kitten floats by, so you save that one too. Then another and another float by, and soon you realize that you can’t save them all. So you run upstream to see who is throwing kittens into the water- and you stop that person.

Animal lovers and supporters want to save every dog and cat ever born, but also realize what an unattainable goal that may be because there’s always someone adding to the stream of homeless animals. Where do they all come from? Most animals in shelters are relinquished by their owners or family members of owners for reasons including health issues, financial issues, moving, death of owner, etc., or from irresponsible people who let their animals breed indiscriminately. Did you know that up to 25% of animals in shelters are purebred and as many as 10% are already spayed or neutered?

Each year, between 3 and 4 million cats and dogs are “euthanized” in the U.S. The term euthanasia is misleading in this circumstance because euthanasia is the “mercy killing” of living things that are suffering and/or have no quality of life. There is nothing merciful about putting to sleep healthy, friendly, adoptable animals. It is killing, plain & simple killing. At most shelters, at least 90% of the animals killed are adoptable.

All of this so-called “sheltering” and killing costs American taxpayers between one and two BILLION dollars every year. Here, in Burke County, as we read in an earlier article, 3,049 dogs and cats were killed last year-a 74% kill rate which is TWICE the national average. According to a recent article in the Morganton News Herald, Burke County spent over \$300,000 last year for costs at the shelter, which included killing those animals. I think there should be an alternative to all of this death.

At this time, only Burke County Friends for Animals is allowed to pull/rescue animals from the Burke County shelter and, unlike other area county shelters, Burke County also doesn’t allow the public to adopt from the shelter. There are at least four other animal groups who rescue, foster and adopt out cats and dogs in our area: The Cats’ Cradle, A Better Life Animal Rescue, Partners for Cats and Blue Ridge Animal Rescue. I propose that these groups, as well as the public, be allowed to pull animals from the shelter.

In addition, I propose that the funds already allotted for the “euthanasia” of those animals be donated to the approved organizations that take custody of them. The monies **would have been spent anyway to kill, so why not promote life instead? The local rescue groups would be able to multiply those funds to save even more animals and the animals rescued from the shelter would be vaccinated, spayed/neutered, and readied for adoption. These groups also promote and help fund spay/neuter options for the community, including feral cat colonies. These actions greatly benefit the citizens of Burke County by decreasing our homeless animal population. If you support any of these recommendations, please let your County Commissioners know.**

The No-Kill movement is making great strides in the U.S., and also in some NC shelters. Buncombe and Watauga counties, for example, are working towards becoming “no-kill” counties. People need to be educated on the benefits of spaying/neutering and adopting a homeless animal instead of buying a purebred or “designer” one. There are hundreds of “designer” dogs in every shelter already. Burke County also needs to be proactive, rather than reactive, by promoting and funding **low-cost spay/neuter services for its citizens. In doing these things, Burke County will be able to “nip it in the bud” and, hopefully one day, become a No-Kill county.**

Remember this: “Saving one animal won’t change the world

But it will surely change the world for that one animal”

By: Rhonda Petersen, foster & board member with The Cats’ Cradle.