

CAT CARE QUARTERLY



MEET

MEATLOAF

WHAT TO EXPECT
**WHEN ADOPTING
A SENIOR CAT**

CELEBRATING OUR 10TH
**TAILS OF THE
PAINTED CATS**

SUMMER 2025 | catcaresociety.org



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Our Mission

To be a safe and enriching place for all cats on their journey to a loving home. We do this by providing compassionate care, shelter, adoption services and community engagement.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

26 | Free Seminar:
Resolving Litterbox Issues

August

1-31 | Clear the
Shelters Month

01 | Colorado Day
at the Capitol

23 | Free Seminar:
Senior Cats

September

27 | Free Seminar:
The Benefits of Play

October

18 | Tails of the
Painted Cats Gala

21 | Cat Takeover
at New Terrain Brewing

25 | Free Seminar:
Clicker Training

Learn more and sign up for these events at catcaresociety.org.

PAST EVENTS



FORE the FELINES

Our inaugural Fore the Felines event at TopGolf was a swinging success, raising **\$3,415** to support shelter cats in need! Guests enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon that included a delicious lunch, rounds of TopGolf, a silent auction, and even tips from a professional golf coach who helped guests perfect their swings. It was a fantastic day of friendly competition and community spirit.

From the Executive Director

A Summer of Compassion, Powered by You

Dear Friends,

As summer settles in, things are heating up here at Cat Care Society in more ways than one. Kitten season is in full swing, and with it comes a wave of new arrivals needing love, care, and medical attention. In April and May alone, we welcomed 95 kittens into our care, and our incredible foster families are helping them grow strong until they are ready for adoption.

So far this year, we have facilitated the adoption of 410 cats and provided care to a total of 618 animals through our shelter programs. Thanks to your support, we are able to provide a safe haven for cats of all ages and needs, including seniors, cats with medical conditions, and those who just need a little extra time to find the right home. This work is only possible because of you. Your donations, advocacy, and belief in our mission keep us moving forward.

This fall, we will mark the 10th anniversary of our beloved Tails of the Painted Cats gala. This special milestone is more than just an event; it is a symbol of the creativity, compassion, and community that define Cat Care Society. We hope you will join us in making it our biggest celebration yet.

Looking ahead, we are building plans to relaunch our volunteer program later this year, with new opportunities for supporters to get involved in hands-on ways. As always, our mission grows stronger with your partnership.

Thank you for making this season and every season one of compassion and care.

With gratitude,
EC Michaels
Executive Director, Cat Care Society



Dan & Jack

Jack spent two months at the shelter before Dan came to visit. Dan was hoping to find a cat with lots of personality, and Jack quickly caught his eye. He couldn't help but notice how Jack strolled around the room, happily chatting with visitors and wanting to be close to everyone. When Jack crawled up onto Dan's shoulders and let him walk around with him (a little habit that was also a staff favorite at Cat Care Society), Dan knew he had found his perfect match.

Now happily settled into his new home, Jack is still his chatty, charming self, especially when asking for treats. He's settled into a comfortable routine with his meals and enjoys sipping from his very own glass of water on the counter, in addition to his automatic drinking fountain.

Dan shares that Jack is learning his daily rhythm, resisting the urge to wake him in the middle of the night, and knows just when it's time to curl up on his lap or snuggle beside him on the couch. He's also discovered that Friday nights are perfect for people-watching as crowds head home from Rockies games.



“

He is also the embodiment of why people should adopt older cats - he is so well behaved, not getting into trouble like eating plants or knocking things over, and he scratches just the tiniest amount to get my attention more than anything else.

- Dan

”

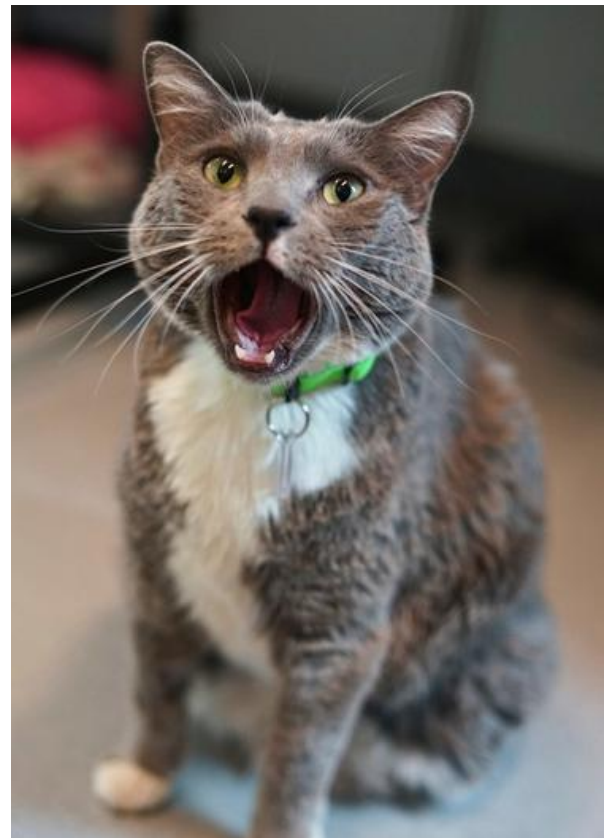


meet MEATLOAF

Meatloaf is a sweet and chatty 6-year-old girl who's stolen lots of hearts here at Cat Care Society! Her chubby cheeks, love of a good nap in the sun by the window, and chirpy meows will surely steal yours too.

Meatloaf is looking for a quiet home where she can be the only cat. She's sweet, social, and snuggly—but she also has some ongoing medical needs. Arthritis, a wobbly gait, a special diet, and a history of urinary issues (that have improved in the shelter) mean she'll need regular veterinary care and a compassionate adopter.

Thanks to donors like you, Meatloaf is thriving while she waits. Your support covers her medications, special food, and all the care she needs to feel her best. She's also been sponsored, so her adoption fee has already been covered by a generous supporter.



Meatloaf may need a little extra care, but she has so much love to give in return! Could she be your perfect match?

Visit catcaresociety.org today to fill out an adoption application!

What to Expect When You Adopt a Senior Cat

BY BETH DOKOLASA

Cat Care Society believes that all cats are worthy, regardless of their age or abilities. Senior cats, in particular, hold an extra special place in our hearts—and it's not just us! Time and again, we hear from adopters who submit successful adoption updates that feel the same way. Senior cats are sometimes overlooked in shelters, but those who choose to adopt them often say it's extremely rewarding and they're amazed at the quick and deep connections they make.

While every senior cat is unique and has their own personality, there are some common things you can expect and prepare for when you adopt a senior cat, which we'll share later in this article.

What is a Senior Cat?

Unlike humans, cats don't start receiving AARP letters in the mail to let them know they're considered a senior, but they do often show their age in subtle ways, through their physical health and behavior. Cats typically enter the senior category at age 10, which is when their nutritional and wellness needs begin to shift. However, some veterinarians begin senior wellness exams as early as age seven to help catch potential health concerns early.

Like humans, cats can age prematurely due to lifestyle factors such as lack of nutrition, trauma or injury, and lack of preventative veterinary care. When a cat's history is unknown—as is often the case with strays and other cats seen in shelters—veterinarians rely on indicators such as the condition of their teeth, skin, coat, eyes, and mobility to estimate age.

What You Can Expect When You Adopt A Senior Cat

Expect a Mellow and Appreciative Companion: Yes, senior cats often sleep more, but they're also wise and experienced, and therefore less curious and mischievous than their younger counterparts. Not only will you be waking up less to the midnight zoomies and other cute but chaotic kitten energy, your new senior friend will likely be more than happy to curl up in your lap or nearby to keep you company while you work or relax.

Because older cats have lived longer and likely experienced highs and lows, they recognize when they've got it good! When you bring a senior cat into your home and provide them with a cozy bed, stable routine, and tasty food, they are more than happy to show their gratitude and appreciation. Whether it's slow blinks, sweet head bumps, or deep purring, senior cats have their own gentle ways of expressing love and appreciation.



Expect a Senior Cat to Need Little Training, Just Some Time to Adjust: Most senior cats have lived in a home before; they understand household routines and are usually litter box trained, making the transition to their new home life easier. Some senior cats may need a little extra time to feel like themselves again after shelter life, and your patience goes a long way. With less training required, there's more time to focus on bonding, which can help them adjust.

Expect Specific Mealtime Needs: As cats age, they require different nutrient profiles to thrive. Healthy senior cats often do well with senior-formulated dry and wet foods, which are typically higher in protein and lower in calories and fat. They may also be enriched with supplements like antioxidants and glucosamine for joint health. Additionally, as cats get older, they may develop health conditions that require specially formulated and prescription food, such as for kidney support and diabetes.

Along with a special diet, senior cats may require ongoing medication, depending on the health condition. Fortunately, just like other habits, such as always escorting you to the bathroom or meowing loudly if their mealtime is even one minute late, cats can also get into the routine of taking their medicine. When you adopt a cat with a health condition from Cat Care Society, you'll receive guidance on what foods and treats may be most appropriate for your new cat, as well as instructions on how to administer any required medication to set you both up for success. For cats requiring specialized ongoing care, we may have you meet with our veterinary team before completing the adoption to ensure you understand your new pet's medical needs, feel confident transitioning them to your home, and have all the information you need to continue care with your preferred veterinarian.



Expect to Plan Ahead with Pet Insurance: If you are planning on getting pet insurance, be sure to get it as soon as you adopt a senior cat. This will help ensure that any health conditions that arise will be covered, as most pre-existing conditions are not. Read more in our pet insurance blog article (bit.ly/ccs-insurance)

Expect Your Senior Cat to Embrace Play, Puzzles, and Peaceful Moments: Senior cats still enjoy and benefit from play and enrichment; they might just have shorter endurance and be a bit more selective in how and when they participate. Puzzle feeders and other food- and treat-dispensing toys offer mental stimulation. Opportunities to climb and gentle play with wands and crinkle toys provide physical enrichment, and creating intentional warm and sunny spots as well as places to hide and recharge support emotional wellbeing.

Opening your home to a senior cat means offering love, comfort, and stability when they need and appreciate it the most. Plus, the bond and companionship you'll share can be incredibly rewarding.

At Cat Care Society, we know how special older cats are, and we're here to support you every step of the way. Whether you're a first-time adopter or an experienced cat parent, we invite you to consider the joy of bringing home a senior cat.

Please note that the traits we've shared are common among senior cats, but not guaranteed. Your new feline friend may have their own quirks and needs based on their personality and life experiences.

Celebrating 10 Years of Art, Cats, and Community



Tails of the Painted Cats Returns This Fall

Cat Care Society's signature gala, Tails of the Painted Cats, is back for its 10th anniversary, and it promises to be more dazzling and meaningful than ever. Set for October 18, 2025, at Pinehurst Country Club in Denver, this biennial fundraiser brings together art lovers, cat enthusiasts, and community champions for a one-of-a-kind celebration benefiting the cats and programs of Cat Care Society.

At the heart of the event is a stunning collection of original, cat-shaped sculptures, each one painted or decorated by a local artist. These unique works of art are auctioned off during the evening, alongside an array of exciting silent and live auction items, including hand crafted pottery, painted canvases, and masks.

This year's event will be masquerade themed, and guests will enjoy dinner, live piano music, and the chance to raise a glass and a paddle for a cause that touches so many lives. 9News Reporter, Steve Staeger returns as this year's emcee, and long-time favorite Doug Tisdale returns this year as our auctioneer. Back by popular demand is the wine pull, heads-or-tails game, as well as a few surprises in honor of our 10th year.

This year's event is particularly meaningful as we mark the final gala overseen by long-time Art Director Jane Dorsey, who has helped shape Tails of the Painted Cats into the beloved tradition it is today. Jane's passion for merging art and animal welfare has left a lasting impression on the event and on the hearts of everyone who attends. Stepping into the role is Tara Deenihan, our Art Coordinator, who brings fresh energy and a deep commitment to continuing the legacy of excellence and creativity.

Funds raised during Tails of the Painted Cats support every facet of Cat Care Society's mission, including medical care, shelter operations, adoption services, and community programs. In a time of growing need, this event is a powerful reminder that compassion and creativity go hand in paw.



Tickets are on sale now, and we hope you'll join us for a night that celebrates the artistry of our community and the lives of the cats we serve.

Learn more at catcaresociety.org/topc



SCAN ME

**Vote for your
favorite in the
People's Choice
Award!**



Peace of mind, a legacy of

“*LOVE*”

Some years ago when I was working in Downtown Denver and lived in an apartment that didn't allow pets, I discovered the Cat Care Society (CCS) and subsequently volunteered with them. It was a wonderful way to fulfill my need for interaction with cats, and I helped the cats with socialization, time and attention, and petting if the particular cat was interested.

I moved on, and so did time. I began to realize that I was missing an important step as I worked on creating my will. What would happen to my cat if I became incapacitated, or died unexpectedly? Once again I turned to the Cat Care Society for help.

They have two programs, the first being the Nine Lives Legacy Society. Their website has concise, easy to understand guidelines for including CCS in estate plans, even providing sample wording and other information regarding ways to make legacy gifts and how to notify CCS.

The second program is the Guardianship Program and as with the Nine Lives Legacy, the website gives easy instructions. I could detail as much as I wanted about my cat's habits, medical history and food on the form.

I can relax knowing that even though my cat was adopted from another shelter, if the time comes he will be well taken care of by the Cat Care Society until he is adopted to another loving home.

– Monika B.



About Nine Lives Legacy Society

The Nine Lives Legacy Society (NLLS) honors those who choose to include Cat Care Society in their estate plans through a will, trust, beneficiary designation, or personal property. Their support ensures a lasting future for CCS. Members of NLLS are invited to enroll in our Guardianship Program, which provides temporary care for your cat should they survive you.

Monika's support ensures the future of Cat Care Society by securing a planned gift that will sustain our mission to help all cats for generations to come.

If you want to become a legacy society member—and ensure your own cat's future care through the Guardianship Program, visit catcaresociety.org/legacy-giving or contact Director of Philanthropy, Ashleigh Leader at aleader@catcaresociety.org or 303-237-4559.

GIFTS MADE WITH LOVE

JAN. 1 - MARCH 31, 2025

Thanks to everyone who has made donations **in honor of or in memory of** someone special!

Gifts not listed here will be credited in the next issue. Please send corrections or questions to aleader@catcaresociety.org.

FROM **IN HONOR OF**

Yolanda Aleman.....Catalina, a wise and beautiful old soul cat
 Brian Atwater.....Gizmo
 Anna Baron.....Havana, Phoenix & Misha
 Carol Blair.....Jinx, Jack, Martha, Pippa! (Binky, Lincoln, Domino)
 Edward and Colette Brooks.....Miles O'Brien - our cat we adopted from CCS!
 Megan Burd.....Mojo Cat
 S. Carrick.....Charlie
 Carolyn Cline.....Missy, Joey & Baby
 Ronald and Michaela Colfer.....Maya
 Jack and Nickie Donnell.....all needy cats
 Laura Evans.....Jim & Carol Douglas
 Monica Flaim.....Monica Flaim
 Janet Fletcher.....Ty & Edmond
 CT Fox.....Captain Fuzz
 Lori Freedman.....All passed & present fabulous Freedman felines
 Christie Goodwin.....Socks
 Gary and Kristin Hathaway.....Our CCS rescues Mr. Pibbets & Tempest
 Jane Hedlund.....Maverick
 Chanel Heermann.....MC
 Anne Hellstrom.....Evelyn Rambo
 Susan Jiron-Garcia.....Lucy
 Georgia Keller.....Joan Bondy
 Robin Kidder.....Romeo & Desi
 Kathryn Pitner & Robert Leatherman.....Pepper
 Mary Matey.....Conan, Rambo & Miss Roxie
 Susan McCaffery.....Pumpkin
 Charles and Jeri Meacham.....Connie Nudelman's Birthday
 Eric Neff.....Poppy Cat
 Corinne Novak.....Kevin Hanly & Sissy
 Stephanie Parker.....Leslie Woodruff
 Dee Pierce.....Ornyx
 Elizabeth A and K Douglas Riggs.....Jimmi, Slinky & Mochi
 Scott & Gina Rowsam.....Dr. Cecily Palamara's amazing work!
 Rebekah Sabia.....Aspen & Echo
 Jane Scherer.....Claudette Hamilton
 Derek Schulte.....Julia Schulte
 Rodolfo Sosa Cordero Camacho.....Frida Gato
 David Stone.....Pippa
 Thuyvi Vo.....Toko and Cuddles
 Jana Wagner.....All of you who cared for Kiefer & Aoibhe
 LouAnn Waldschmidt.....Ariel, Mr. Chan
 Haley Weiss.....Boots Schacht
 Deborah Wells and Wilson Abney.....The Staff of Cat Care Society
 Dianne Wood-Nicoletti and Stanley Nicoletti.....Gillian & Gus
 Ralph Zervas.....Roo

FROM **IN MEMORY OF**

Lisa Aldrich.....Gracie Klanderud
 Marie Alm.....all my kitties at Rainbow Bridge and in honor of Emmaline - Snuggles
 Shannon Argentati.....Cookie & Terrazzo
 Yautra Aspen Gay.....Finnegan
 John and Patricia Bales.....Claudette Hamilton
 Douglas Beeman.....Sweetie
 Richard Bennett.....Sonja Bennett
 Jane Blankenbuehler.....Gracie & Zoe
 Paul and Victoria Brown.....Gabe, Jake & Finn
 Dennis Burdick.....Penny Burdick
 Jeff and Jamie Burns.....Pumpkin
 S. Carrick.....Kokoa
 S. A. Chacon.....Cissie & Cassie
 Connie Chrane.....Majic & Tricksey
 Susan "Sue" Corbeil.....Penny
 Marsha Crest.....Crash
 Robert and Barbara Delong.....Delores-June Busby Johnson
 Stacie Duffy.....Ann Scheer
 Peter Dupree.....Ceres Hamer
 Erin Ellebracht.....Harley Ellebracht
 Susan Fernandez.....My parents & my brother, with love.
 Jeffrey French.....Maggie
 Jodeen Garcia.....Squidgy
 Cynthia Gehman.....China Doll and in honor of Belly Boy
 Lynette Gildermaster.....Finley
 Robert and Ann Greenbaum.....Tiffany G.
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 Diane Huber.....Taji, Piper, Scout, Jack, Jordan & Kitty
 Richard Hughes.....Sandra Wachter
 Michael & Blanche (Betsy) Huseby.....my loving furry friends
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 Pamela Kaiser.....Simon & Bailey
 Susanne (Susie) Kobs.....Ken Kobs AKA Best Cat Daddy EVER
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 Mary Wilcox.....Marci Swearingen
 Charlene Wilson.....Snowball
 Robyn Wood.....Whiskers Druggan
 Theresa Worden.....Our sweet girl, Nutmeg
 Jean Wulff.....Wulff Cats
 Qian Yao.....YoYo Yao

FROM **ON BEHALF OF**

Megan Fellbach.....Jesse Cornier
 Silva Gore.....Stephanie Gore
 Alena Johnson.....Jelly roll (now Jellybean)

Cute cat pics and important updates.
This is what social media was meant to be. Join us.

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cats without leaving your home.

