



Letter from the Director

In 1996, Paul Berry and I co-founded Southern Animal Foundation with the primary mission of addressing pet overpopulation in the Greater New Orleans area. Fundraising resulted in purchasing the city's first mobile spay/neuter clinic with hundreds of thousands of surgeries performed on pets of indigent owners for the 10 years it was operational. In May of 1998, Pam Casey and I co-founded Spaymart with the vision of a fixed low cost spay/neuter clinic with mobile options for outlying regions.

Although Hurricane Katrina aborted this effort, the organization continues to offer spay/neuter initiatives through local, participating veterinary offices. That said, it gives me a great feeling to step back and see how far we've come in 15 years. Neuter Scooter, Spaymart's public awareness campaign regarding feral cats and how to humanely control the numbers, has grown from sterilizing 100 cats in 1999 to 2000 ferals in 2010. Additionally, the LASPCA opened its low cost spay/neuter clinic earlier this year, making the service possible for low income families, that would otherwise find the procedure cost prohibitive. Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter has delivered an aggressive, proactive spay/neuter initiative entitled Fix-A-Feline to its residents, with the goal of encouraging people to sterilize their pets, and thereby reduce euthanasia rates. Daily, I hear of different programs popping up across the state. But we must not lose our momentum. Area shelters are still forced to euthanize countless adoptable cats and dogs because there are too many and not enough homes to go around. By networking and sharing information with family and friends regarding spay/neuter options, we can visualize the day when there are no more homeless pets.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn".



Lynn Chiche with Casey

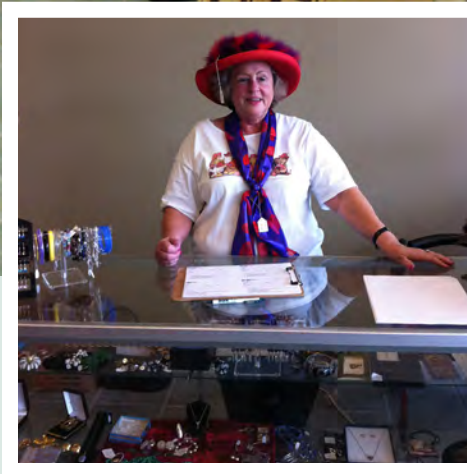
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Spaymart Thrift & Gift Now Open



Spaymart Thrift and Gift opened June 1, 2011. The store is located at 6601 Veterans Blvd., at the rear of the shopping center with T. J. Maxx. Proceeds go to care for and feed the many homeless animals at the Spaymart Sanctuary. Our shop Director, Lee Doane, and many wonderful volunteers have made it all possible. Donations are accepted during regular business hours, Monday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm. Due to space limitations, please visit the Spaymart website for a detailed list of accepted items or call 504-454-8200 for more information. And while you're shopping "Where Animal Lovers Love to Shop", please remember to visit the Linda Graff Second Chance Adoption Center located within the store. The four legged residents will welcome all the extra attention. The center offers many older, rescued cats the necessary exposure to secure forever homes.



Janice Russo store volunteer



Seniors for Seniors Program

In April of this year, I attended a conference in Rockville, MD entitled "Senior Cats for Senior Citizens", not realizing what a profound impact this trip would have on me. Upon arriving in Rockville, attendees were escorted in minivans to a Senior Citizen Center. Cats were displayed, talks were given relating to the health benefits to seniors by owning a cat, and refreshments were served. I was impressed with all the detailed information.

Health benefits to seniors included lowering blood pressure, fighting depression and loneliness, live longer, etc. However, I truly didn't understand the depth of this program until the testimonials began. I was transfixed with what I heard. The loneliness and depression of the elderly is something we might all face, but we prefer to post pone thinking about this presumed future event. But for many, it has arrived. The kids are gone, physical limitations set in; perhaps you're house bound and find your day revolves around the possibility that a friend might drop by. And usually they don't. The scenario is a prescription for depression. But what if some loving creature shares your life, sleeps at your

side, delights in your touch, and waits to sit in your lap. Suddenly, you have something to care for, something that cares for you, something that makes it all worthwhile.

I left the room thinking, what a win, win situation—an elderly cat gets a home and an elderly person gets a companion, a new lease on life. On the return flight home, I remember thinking how the program fit into Spaymart's mission of reducing euthanasia rates. When you consider that older cats are among the first to be euthanized at area shelters, it all made sense. For seniors (62 years and older), the adoption fee is waived, an annual vet appointment is provided by Spaymart and the organization agrees to take the cat back should the senior die or can no longer care for the cat. If you know someone who could use a four legged friend, please contact Spaymart at 601-749-0268 or email spaymart@hughes.net.

Spaymart houses over 275 senior cats, most rescued from cruelty cases or homelessness. If you would like to contribute to their daily care, please visit our website at www.spaymart.org.

Senior Success Stories



Louise Ervin

June 24, 2011 was a very special day for "Obi" and me. We adopted each other that day. "Obi" is such a loving laidback cat. He loves to snuggle at night, sit on my lap and watch TV or just be near me. This gives you such a feeling of love and peace. "Obi" is the best companion anyone could want. Thank You Lynn, Spaymart and the Senior Citizens Program. God Bless You!

Susan Buzick

For as long as I can remember cats have always been a major part of my life. As a small child they provided me with untold companionship and pleasure and

have continued to do so throughout my life. I cannot possibly imagine my home without the pitter-patter of little feet, a TV-buddy who prefers the middle of my stomach to any other spot in the house or the sound of purring at the foot of my bed. However, as one grows older the fate of these precious treasures weighs heavy on your mind and must be deliberated. This is where Spaymart's Senior Cats for Senior Citizens Program made the difference for me, Shakey, Foots and

Beulah. There is peace of mind knowing they will never be homeless and always cared for. Thank you Spaymart for this wonderful program that brings such joy to elderly people as well as elderly cats.

Mary Francis Ready

I have been shut in with a bad foot for quite some time and feeling really lonely—until Rudolph and Sparkle came into my life. They have made such a difference! I am never bored and they are so cuddly. I can't thank SpayMart



enough for their Senior Cats for Senior Citizens Program and for bringing these charmers into my life. I want to tell all my older friends what they are missing. Thank you Spaymart.

KITTEN FOSTER PROGRAM UPDATE

The Kitten Foster Program Director Lauree Nunez and medical coordinator Joan Avent have had a busy summer working with the public and saving the lives of countless kittens that would otherwise become feral or succumb to disease and die on the streets. Homelessness isn't pretty, but we can only rescue as many as foster homes allow. If you can assist us by fostering, please contact Lauree at 504-343-7000. Each life is precious and deserves a chance to live. With a 65% kitten mortality rate, the suffering speaks for itself. Flea anemia, parasites, and predators take a toll, eventually resulting in death. But if we all do our part, this can change.

Lauree and Joan



The program is based on a voucher system offering medical services at drastically reduced prices as an incentive for the public to foster. Last year, 275 kittens were placed in forever homes. If you would like to promote Lauree and Joan's work, please make a donation to the Kitten Foster Program.

SUCCESS STORIES



Numi

Dear Spaymart, I can't believe it has been a year since we brought this beautiful little itty bitty runt size kitten home. We feel so blessed to have her in our lives and will always remember Spaymart for that. She is full of trouble and love but we wouldn't have it any other way. She is 9 1/2 lbs and has the softest angora fur. She is able to hold the stick of her feather toy with one paw and play with the feather using the other paw. If I don't wake up when she thinks I should be, she will run around the room including the bed in high speed circles knocking everything down and sometimes crashing into my head until I wake up. After which, she sits like an angel with a look that implies that she has been sitting patiently the entire time. She loves being held, carried around,

brushed, and rubbed. She stays with me while I shower, sleep, and waits patiently with the dog at our dinner table for anything to come her way. When we don't see her then we know she is up to no good. Can't thank you enough for this blessing. -Lana

Mouse and Sparta

Dear Kitten Foster Program, Although our family was looking for only one kitten it was impossible for us to separate Sparta and Mouse. Both kittens have been so wonderful for our family. Lauree could not have picked out better suited kittens if she was psychic. I am extremely glad we took both. They are a riot to watch and are very bonded. When we are busy doing things they really are each others favorite toy. I am finding many of the behavior issues of kittens are null and void due to them keeping busy with each other.

The kittens started out as my daughter's but now after a few months she has to fuss due to the fact that the rest of the family is constantly playing and bonding with them. I am so glad I asked Lauree to pick our

Mouse



Sparta and Bently the dog kitten for us. It was a leap of faith but I couldn't be happier. She spent a lot of time asking about our family so she could give us the best pet and she did. -Brook Kornegay

Miyagi and Miyamoto

My family always had cats while growing up so I am no stranger to their unique personalities. I have never seen a kitty so excited to see another kitty as much as Miyamoto was with Miyagi. Miyagi certainly embraced Miyamoto's company as well. They are a great pair and are inseparable. Thank you Kitten Foster for such a wonderful addition to my home. -Rebecca



Neuter Scooter Campaign 2011

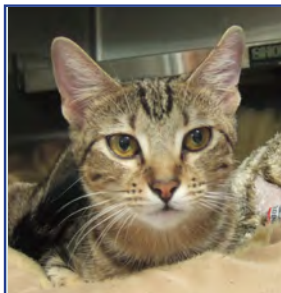
Spaymart's public awareness campaign regarding feral cats and the humane method of controlling their numbers has always been a special concern for this organization. Many of our supporters may not realize that Spaymart actually began as a feral cat program. Reducing euthanasia rates is the primary mission of this organization, and feral cats comprise the largest number of any animals entering area shelters for euthanasia. Consequently, their numbers must be dealt with effectively and humanely if we are ever going to reach a goal of zero euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals. This year's campaign will run the entire month of October. Sterilizations will be based on a voucher system with a \$10 co-pay to the public. Services include ear tipping (universal sign of sterilization), vaccinating and sterilizing. Spaymart will partner with local and state-wide humane societies and participating veterinarians to promote the campaign.

The goal of Neuter Scooter is to increase our outreach to include the entire state of Louisiana. It's an opportunity for feral cat caretakers to take advantage of low-cost spay/neuter opportunities and manage their colonies. It's also an opportunity to disseminate information regarding the welfare of feral cats and to promote trap, neuter and return as opposed to trap and kill, as the method of choice to control their numbers. Together, we can help people understand how effective the humane solution of TNR can be. Each feral passing through the program will result in one less breeding cat in the spring. This year's Neuter Scooter is made possible by the generosity of the Petco Foundation, and personal donations. If you'd like to be a part of the solution, please visit our website for detailed information, as well as how to contribute to the campaign.



Felicity Charity Fund

The fund provides life-saving emergency medical services for animals of indigent pet owners or homeless animals. Assistance is available on a case by case basis, when funding allows. The organization receives desperate pleas each and every week from those who are suffering in these difficult economical times. Does this have to mean that homeless animals or pets of indigent owners must be denied life-saving assistance? Compassion may translate into life-saving medical assistance or, unfortunately, humane euthanasia for those suffering irreversibly. The reality is that without your continued support of this vital community program, it will cease to be.



Yetti

Yetti's short life has been a bitter-sweet story. At age 6 weeks, she ended up at the pound in Plaquemines Parish, huddled in the back of a cage with several other siblings. She was scheduled to be part of a transport to a no-kill facility up north. The transport was to depart from the Spaymart sanctuary. However, upon arriving at Spaymart, it

was observed that Yetti's hind foot was missing, with only exposed bone remaining. Because of her young age and pressing health issues, it was decided she was in no condition to make a 3-day venture north and remained behind.

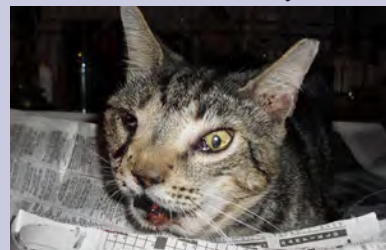
At 8 weeks of age, she underwent surgery to prevent infection and stabilize her leg. Yetti responded beautifully. She demonstrated a remarkable spirit through it all – refusing to accept her handicap and delighting in playing with any and all toys that came her way. Affection was always welcomed and she never refused treats. Her healing process was very prolonged, and the entire staff at the vet office fell in love with her. She is now 3 months old and is hoping that Santa will bring her wheels for Christmas. She has far too many things to explore in this life and has decided she must be mobile at all cost. Yetti has turned a page on her bleak beginning and is looking forward to her future with a new family who will see her for the wonderful creature she has become.



If you would like to adopt Yetti or make her Christmas dream come true and contribute to her wheels, please visit our website www.spaymart.org.

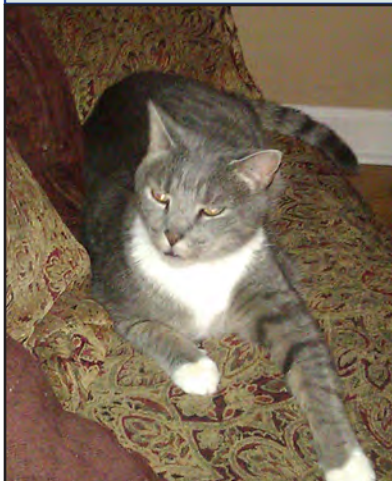
Homeless feral hit by car

After being hit by a car and sustaining irreversible injuries, this little feral was left to fend for himself and rely on the compassion of strangers. A Spaymart member saw him trying to cross the street and realized the seriousness of his condition. Medical treatment revealed that his jaw was broken in 5 places, along with a head injury, and the loss of one eye. Unable to close his mouth, eating and drinking was impossible. Without intervention, he would have lingered days before dying. The veterinarian determined euthanasia was the kindest option. The Felicity Fund provides for this act of mercy, but it isn't a free service. Someone has to provide. The fund can only help when money is available. If you would like to see The Felicity Fund continue helping forgotten ferals on the streets of our city, please make a donation today.

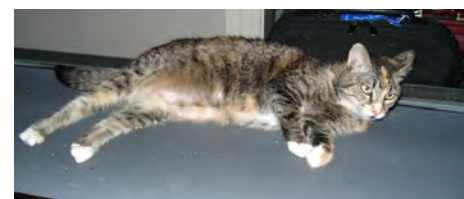


Jen and Reneé's Kit

Kit was a healthy happy cat with not much of a health issue—until he was having trouble urinating. After a visit with our veterinarian, it was determined that Kit had stones that were irritating his bladder making urination impossible. His weight dropped from 13.5 pounds to barely 9. He quit eating and passed blood in his urine and we were just watching as our beloved pet was dying. One night my sister decided to make one last ditch effort to find help for Kit. She sat on the computer trying to find some sort of financial assistance for owners with sick animals, unable to afford medical treatment. She finally found Spaymart, a non-profit organization. "We thank God every day that Spaymart exists. If it weren't for the Felicity Fund and the compassion of this organization, our cat would not be with us today. Kit is doing wonderfully and has gained all of his weight back. Thank you again, Spaymart."



In Memoriam



Sadie

Sadie, of blessed memory, a lush and beautiful torty/calico, passed away a bit more than a year ago at the old age of 17 (or so) human years. She was a Katrina rescue and her age was uncertain, though estimated by our veterinarian. Spaymart brought Sadie to us after Bob, our previous cat, died at the age of 23. She was wonderful and she immediately staked out her space in the middle of the bed ---on a pale blue comforter. We quickly learned to let her take her share of the bed out of the middle. She was a most wonderful and engaging little cat. Friends argued over whose turn it was to feed her when we went out of town; people at work asked about her; neighbors came over to play with her. Sadie's favorite place, besides the middle of the bed, was the screened-in porch. There it was "kitty TV" all day long--birds, cars, other animals, the college students next door....all activities to keep a cat busy and happy. But everything else stopped for her when "her" David came home from work. At the sound of his car, Sadie would fling herself at the front door, meowing pitifully. "David, David, David," she would cry. And she wouldn't stop until he picked her up and carried her to her bowl---and dinner.

We miss her. She was our sweetheart. We now are living with two other calicos, also by way of Spaymart and our beloved Lynn Chiche. And Sfat and Hester Panim are continuing the tradition of sleeping right in the middle of the pale blue comforter.



Makenzie

Makenzie Rae came into my life in 2002. I had my own spastic kitten, Preston, and he desperately needed a friend. Makenzie a slim, seven pound calico fit right in to the household.

I decided to move to New Orleans in 2009. After a long and eventful trip from Indiana to Louisiana, she and Preston seemed even more inseparable than before. We were happy to be here, but living in New Orleans turned out to be more expensive than I had planned. Although I could pay bills and buy groceries, I didn't have much else to spare.

Not long after we got here, I found a lump on Makenzie. I didn't know what to do without money to take Makenzie to the vet, so I began looking online for cat rescue sites. Finally, it was suggested I contact Spaymart. Within two days, the organization had given me contact information for a vet and Makenzie had an appointment for a biopsy. Unfortunately, she did have cancer, but she had 7 wonderful months at home with her buddy, Preston, and passed away peacefully in May. In October 2010, before her biopsy, I didn't know what I was going to do. I was without money and without help. Spaymart's Felicity Fund changed our lives. It gave Makenzie her dignity and seven happy months that she wouldn't have had otherwise. It gave me an option, and hope, when I was stranded. Hundreds of cats would be homeless, abused, and probably dead if it weren't for Spaymart. Thank you isn't nearly a strong enough phrase.

Makenzie Rae, 1995-2010

Featured Cat



Velvet

Velvet is a beautiful, long hair steel gray and white cat who is very active for her age. She belonged to Linda, a wonderful, kind woman, who unexpectedly passed away in April, leaving Velvet homeless. There were no friends or family members willing to give her a home, but Spaymart was determined she would only have the best care until that perfect someone steps into her life. Velvet's brother, Danny, developed bone cancer in May and had to be euthanized in June, leaving her not only without a care giver but her best buddy, as well. Her world has been turned upside down but the right person could change all that. I'm sure Linda would be comforted to know Velvet found a second chance at love.

You can adopt Velvet by calling the SpayMart shelter at 601-749-0268 or visit the SpayMart website at www.spaymart.org and fill out a pre-adoption questionnaire.

Age: Approximately 10 years old
Breed: Domestic Long Hair polydactyl
Color: Solid Gray
Sex: Female

All cats offered for adoption by SpayMart have been vet checked, sterilized, vaccinated, combo tested and micro chipped.

Wish List:

- Crib mattresses/crib fitted sheets
- Twin mattresses/fitted twin sheets
- Medium/large towels
- Liquid laundry detergent (HE for front loading washer)
- Fancy Feast canned food
- Paper towels
- Bleach
- Paper plates
- Petco/Petsmart gift cards



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Spay Mart

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Volunteer Opportunities

Adoptions

Counselors needed to assist with adoption at Petco (Tchoupatoulas and Williams) and Petsmart (Clearview Pkwy)

Thrift Store-Sanctuary

Daily animal care

Kitten Foster Program

Please visit www.spaymart.org for more opportunities

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