



# The LITTER SCOOP



A quarterly newsletter for members and friends of FosterCat, Inc.

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## An Answer to Prayer...A Home for Tabitha

The Scriptures teach us that in eternity past, God freely and unchangeably foreordained whatsoever comes to pass. He who created the heavens and the earth and all that they contain, providentially overrules the affairs of all of his creatures to bring about His most holy will. In other words, He not only ordained the ends, but also the means that would bring about those ends. And one of those means is the prayers of His people.

Some of us have prayed for a home for Tabitha for a very long time. This rather ordinary looking tortie kitten came to us from a horrific hoarding situation at the age of four months in July, 2014. During the first six months, she spent time in the Adoption Centers of several different PetSmart locations, but no one expressed any interest in her. Then in January, 2015, a family applied to adopt her. The application was approved and Tabitha went to her new home the next day. When I called to follow up on the progress of her integration a week or so later, the adopter reported that things were going very well and they were very happy with Tabitha.

In June, Tabitha's adopter called to say that she wanted to return her. She claimed that Tabitha was chewing up her carpeting and her daughter's doll clothes. I had never heard of this sort of behavior in a cat, so I asked some questions and suggested some remedial measures that might solve the problem, but the adopter was not interested. She wanted Tabitha gone and that was that. So Tabitha returned to foster care and the adoption circuit.

As time went on, Tabitha grew increasingly unhappy in a caged environment, so we came to the conclusion that she would probably have to be placed through a home to home adoption. She became a more or less long term "temporary" resident with one of our foster parents who, because of her work schedule can only foster kitties who don't need to be regularly transported to vet appointments and PetSmart stores. Tabitha seemed happy in this foster home and got along well with the resident feline and canine family members.

In the meantime, we tried various means of finding a permanent home for Tabitha. We featured her on our website and in our quarterly newsletter. We posted her photo and bio in various vet offices and at our annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. We mentioned her to adoption applicants who contacted us to inquire about adopting an adult cat. And we prayed. But the Lord did not provide a home for Tabitha.

Then, in February of this year I received an online application. The applicant stated her request quite simply: "We need a cat. A cat needs us. It's just a matter of making a match." I liked that approach and I contacted her immediately. I learned through our conversation that M. A. and her husband were lifetime animal lovers, who currently provided a home for a small 11 year old dog, and a 10 year old semi feral male cat named Max. M. A. had recently retired and wanted to adopt a kitty who would be more people oriented than Max. I told her I would get back to her with some suggestions.

When we spoke again I mentioned several kitties, including Tabitha, who would be good candidates. I filled M.A. in on Tabitha's history and she wanted to meet her, so we arranged for her to visit Tabitha in her foster home. The meeting went well and soon Tabitha joined M.A. and her husband for a trial foster period to see how she would fit in with their existing pets.

The first few times I checked in with M.A, things were going well. They started Tabitha off in a room by herself, as we had recommended, and she was being "a real sweetie" who only hid under the bed the first day and then was cuddling with M.A. in bed the next night. As time progressed, they began introductions with Fluffer and Max. Some hissing and growling ensued, but as an experienced cat owner, M. A. knew this to be normal and was optimistic that all would be well in time. I began to think that our prayers had at last been answered.



Unfortunately, that did not turn out to be the case. As the weeks passed, Tabitha grew more determined to "be the boss" and began to demonstrate aggressive behavior towards both of the other animals. Still, M.A. said that she and her husband had "fallen in love" with Tabitha and were determined to "make it work".

I don't think any one could have tried harder or anguished more deeply over an introduction process than this couple, but despite their efforts, things continued to go from bad to worse. In the end, they just didn't feel it was fair for Fluffer and Max to have to live in constant fear of Tabitha's aggressive ways. We all agreed that it would be best for Tabitha to go back to foster and that she would

need to be placed as an "only" pet. She took up residence with one of our foster parents who has no pets of her own and did very well in that environment.

Last month her foster family planned to be away on vacation for a few weeks and asked if we could relocate Tabitha temporarily until their return. In response to their request, we moved Tabitha to another foster home with no other pets. During this temporary stay, one of the foster parent's roommates fell in love with Tabitha and decided she would like to adopt her permanently. She submitted an application and we spoke on the phone a few days later. I wanted to make sure she understood Tabitha's background and the absolute necessity of her being an "only" pet.

I told her how long Tabitha had been waiting for a home of her own and about all she had experienced during her 3+ years in our program. She assured me that she would be able and willing to make a lifelong commitment to Tabitha and provide her with the stability, love and care that she needed.

J. M. has reported that Tabitha is doing great in her long awaited permanent home. She loves her "quirky personality" and her affectionate cuddling.

—Continued on back—

[www.fostercat.org](http://www.fostercat.org)



**Saving Lives . . . one cat at a time.**

(412) 481-9144 • www.fostercat.org

P. O. Box 23414

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-6414

### Mission Statement

Our mission is to develop and sustain an organization to provide temporary foster care for cats and kittens in private homes until permanent homes can be found.

*FosterCat, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.*

## Happy Tails!

Once again, thanks to all who have taken the time to send updates and photos of your adopted kitties. Please enjoy the following from some of our adopters.



Roxie Moxie  
Luna Tuna

Roxie Moxie (formerly Tiffany) and Luna Tuna (formerly Savannah) are doing great. We could not have asked for better additions to our home. Though not litter mates, they get along together so well. They are so good natured and love attention – which our boys love to give them. Our dogs have taken a little longer to acclimate, but they are getting there. The kittens mostly just ignore them.

We are so grateful to FosterCat and the family who cared for the girls before we adopted them. S. T.

Penelope is doing great. She has adjusted very quickly to her new home and is getting along famously with all of the other kitties. It is such fun to watch her running around and playing. She is a gorgeous kitty and we love her. J. C.



Vega (formerly Flower) has found her forever home and a new friend. The moment she came out of the carrier, Shady ran over to greet her. He is so happy to have a friend to play with and Vega follows him everywhere. I couldn't have asked for a better companion for my little guy. We both love her so much. L. D.

Raven is a sweetie. She is very friendly and loves to cuddle and has fast become an important part of our family. She gets along well with her adoptive siblings Pepper and Midnight. L. N.



Just finished reading your most recent newsletter and decided to send you an update on Chloe. She is 17 now, but still keeping us in line. It's hard to believe we adopted her in 2000.

Chloe takes her position as "house manager" seriously. She has brought us so much joy over the years, even with her bossiness. She never became a cuddly cat and abhors being picked up, but that is okay – we love her just the way she is. P. S. and J. M.

Please mail to: FosterCat, Inc., P. O. Box 23414, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-6414



**Yes! I want to support FosterCat's life-saving efforts for cats like Tabitha.**

Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$100  \$50  \$35  \$25  \$15  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please credit my contribution towards:

Membership  General Support  
(Annual membership: Family \$25.00 • Adult \$20.00 • Student/Senior \$15.00)

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I would like to become a FosterCat volunteer.

I would like to become a foster parent.

*All contributions are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.*

The official registration and financial information of FosterCat, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

Thank you so much for our new family member. Mo (formerly Donovan) has settled in nicely and has made fast friends with Max. He was the perfect choice for our family. J. H.



### A Home for Tabitha

—Continued from front—

M. A. and her husband adopted Marco, another FosterCat kitty, in July and he is doing well in his new home too.

And so, our prayers have been answered, in the Lord's perfect wisdom and timing. Interestingly, the New Testament book of the Acts of the Apostles records the story of a Christian woman named Tabitha (meaning beauty or grace in Aramaic) who "abounded with deeds of kindness and charity." When Tabitha became ill and died, her fellow believers pleaded with the Apostle Peter to come to them quickly. When he arrived, Peter sent all the mourners away and prayed over her and Tabitha arose from the dead. It seems to me, that in a sense, our Tabitha, like her namesake of old, has been given a new life by that same divine mercy and power. And we are grateful.