



# The LITTER SCOOP

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

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## Tommy's Travels: From Trash to Treasure

We live in a throw-away society. Few, I think, would dispute that fact. With the exception of those remaining among us who experienced the privations of the Great Depression, few yet embrace the values expressed in the old saying: "use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without".

Nonetheless, it can still be said that there remains in our culture a fascination for the discovery of "buried treasure". Yard sales, garage sales and rummage sales abound from spring to fall each year. And surely you've had the opportunity, as I have on more than one occasion, to observe how quickly the unwanted items set out on our neighbors' tree lawns are snatched up by passersby before the trash collectors can remove them the next day. He said it well who coined the phrase: "one man's trash is another's treasure".

That phrase couldn't more aptly summarize Tommy's travels. Once belonging to a local family and enjoying the comforts of regular meals and warm shelter, he one day last year found himself cast out onto the streets to fend for himself ... cast out to be forgotten like yesterday's trash.

Being not faint of heart, Tommy made the best of his diminished circumstances. He roamed the streets of Blawnox, finding food where he could on the porches of sympathetic residents, becoming something of a familiar fixture in the neighborhood. Perhaps the remaining years of his life might there have been sadly played out, had it not been for the providential arrival on the scene of a woman who had been asked to help trap a mother and three kittens in his neighborhood.

Marianne successfully trapped the little family and the woman who had requested her help decided to take the kittens in and try to socialize them. The kittens responded quickly and were vetted; the woman placed two with friends and family and kept the third. The feral mom kitty was spayed and released.

As the weather turned colder, the woman grew concerned about the mom kitty and determined to try to bring her inside. She left the warm outdoor shelter she had provided for her in place, in the event that she could not adapt to living indoors. Thankfully, she made a good adjustment, and Tommy took the opportunity to avail himself of her cozy and now unoccupied shelter. Observing that Tommy was sticking close by, the woman again sought Marianne's help. Marianne easily scooped him into a carrier and took him to FosterCat foster parent Kim. Tommy took up residence in Kim's husband's warehouse, where Marianne often visited him. When it became readily apparent that Tommy was immanently adoptable, he was vetted and delivered to Northway PetSmart for adoption.

A few days later, Melissa was visiting the PetSmart to pick up a prescription for one of her dogs. The moment she

saw Tommy, she was reminded of a much beloved feline, who had passed away some time ago. When she went into the adoption center to visit Tommy, she knew that she wanted to adopt him. Her only concern was how he would react to her two dogs.

She needn't have worried. "Tommy is completely 'chill' with the dogs", she reported when I called to check on his progress. "My black Lab is still a little snippy with him when she gets jealous, but he just ignores her. He is the most laid back cat I have ever known. He's very affectionate with the dogs and with us and it is just so adorable to watch them all lined up sitting on the couch together. Tommy loves to

snuggle and butt heads. When he purrs he sounds just like a pigeon. And my husband can't believe how loudly he snores. I have been looking for a cat like Tommy for a long time. He is wonderful and I just love him."

Tommy has completed the most important journey of his life. He is a living testimony that one man's trash is another's treasure. I'd say he is home to stay. And that is what **saving lives, one cat at a time**, is all about.



## A Home for Me?

Gabrielle is one of those pretty, sweet and affectionate kitties that has come into our program and has just not found a home. Rescued as a stray in Verona when her owner no longer wanted her and tossed her outside, Gabrielle came to us almost two years ago. She has been displayed for adoption several times at various PetSmart stores, but because she does not respond well to a caged environment, her sweet personality has not shown through.

Gabrielle would make a wonderful companion for a single adult or family. She would be happy as an only pet, but would be fine with another cat or a dog. She just needs an opportunity to be seen as the gentle, loving kitty that she is. We would be happy to place her with a qualified potential adopter on a trial basis to give her that opportunity.



If you would like to meet Gabrielle, please contact us at [www.fostercat.org](http://www.fostercat.org) or 412-481-9144.



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

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### 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!

Thanks to all of you who took the time to send us updates and photos. We are happy to be able to share these with all of our cat loving friends.



Thanks for the smooth process in adopting Peri. She is now known as Kate Crackernuts. We are always happy to provide a loving home and expect Kate to have a happy and fulfilled life with us. J.H.

Snowy (adopted 2/15) and her new sister Peaches (adopted 9/15) are doing well and enjoying each others' company. We love them both. K.M.



We adopted Rascal from the South Hills PetSmart. He is doing great and we love him, especially our kids. He loves to play and snuggle with them. A.S.



Hallie and Annie are both doing very well. They are so sweet and loving with each other and are doing very well with our son. We are so happy that they have become part of our family. M.D.

Lilly (formerly Aurora) has made a great transition to our home. She is getting along very well with our other two cats and is quite entertaining. She loves to play fetch, which delights our daughter no end. I've included a photo of her napping with her adoptive sibling Smudge. T.L.



Quinn (formerly Jasmine) is everything we could have hoped for in a kitty. She and our very active one year old kitty Catness are having a ball playing together and Quinn is rubbing up against the dogs and trying to make friends with them too. E.C.

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 Tommy.**

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)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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would like to become a FosterCat volunteer.

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.

Juno is doing great. He is the perfect fit and gets along so well with our other cat and with our dogs, as you can see from the attached photos. C.C.



Gizmo and Peeta are very active girls and keep us busy, but we are glad we were able to adopt them and keep them together. They are so much fun M.M. And M.C.

**Check out our website:  
www.fostercat.org**