

# The LITTER SCOOP

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

Vol. 18, No. 1 March 2017

## Showers of Blessings

2016 was a year of many blessings for FosterCat, Inc. As we shared in our recent Membership Drive mailing, the Lord blessed us last year with a record number of adoptions. We were also blessed financially by the especially generous gifts of many of our supporters. But, as if that were not enough, as the year was drawing to a close, we were also blessed to place two long term foster kitties into wonderful permanent adoptive homes. I hope that as I share their stories with you, you will be able to rejoice with us in this especially sweet blessing.

The Lord works in mysterious ways, so we actually have to go back to August, 2016, when the seeds of blessing were first planted in the form of a foster parent application submitted by a young lady in New Castle. While Shawna lived a bit too far away to be able to manage ongoing trips to our vets and to the PetSmart stores where we display our kitties for adoption, we thought she might be interested in fostering Gabrielle, a kitty who had come into our program in April 2014 as a kitten, when the brother of a woman who had been feeding her outside threatened to shoot "the \*\*\*\* cat" if she didn't stop coming around and crying to come into the house. Gabrielle is one of those kitties who doesn't



Gabrielle

like other animals, so she didn't do well in the Adoption Centers surrounded by lots of other kitties. She was also not happy in her current foster home because of the dogs and other cats who also lived in the home. Shawna had no other pets, so we thought her home would be an ideal place for Gabrielle to stay until she could be placed in a permanent home.

After getting to know Gabrielle, Shawna grew very fond of her and seriously considered adopting her, but had hesitated due to some uncertainties in her employment situation. Then, one day in early January, I received an email inquiring about Gabrielle. It's author, Dianne, explained that she had seen Gabrielle's photo on our website and was intrigued by her story. She and her husband had recently lost their kitty and were wondering if Gabrielle might be a good fit for them. I responded immediately (with much excitement) that Gabrielle was currently in one of our foster homes and that if Dianne would submit an application, we could go through the process of qualifying her as an adopter and then arrange for her to meet Gabrielle to see if she would want to adopt her.

After receiving the application and determining that Dianne and her husband would be excellent adoptive parents, I asked our president, Barb, who manages our foster program, to contact Shawna and ask if she would be willing to have Dianne come to her home to meet Gabrielle. It was at that point that Barb learned that Shawna had actually emailed her a few weeks earlier to say that her employment situation had been resolved and she was now confident that she was in a position to adopt Gabrielle. For some reason, Barb had not received that email.

Speaking of showers of blessings, you have surely heard the old saw "when it rains, it pours"? Here is a kitty who has been

in our program for nearly three years without a single application for adoption and now, within the space of a few days, two families have opened their hearts to her. A happy dilemma, but a dilemma still.

I emailed Dianne to tell her what I had learned and explained that since Shawna had been caring for Gabrielle for several months and had actually tried to inform us of her desire to adopt, that we needed to give her first consideration. And, with some degree of both hope and trepidation, I attached a photo of Autumn and asked whether Dianne might be willing to consider another kitty in our program, who had also been waiting a long time for a home of her own. I went on to tell her that Autumn, who is about the same age as Gabrielle and who also needs to be an only cat, had come to us in 2014, when her owner moved and put her and her four siblings outside to fend for themselves. They were found seeking shelter in the drawers of an old dresser on her deserted back porch; some had been taken in by another rescue group and Autumn had come



Autumn

to us. I had placed her in a good home in January, 2015, but she was returned by the adopter, who realized that Autumn was too frightened of her other two cats to be able to enjoy her life there. She, like Gabrielle, had not done well in the Adoption Centers and was currently residing in one of our foster homes with no other animals, waiting for the right person to come along.

Dianne couldn't have been more gracious. "I'm delighted that Gabrielle has found a permanent home," she responded. "We would

love to make Autumn a member of our family. Please begin the adoption process. I can't imagine our giving her back. She is a beautiful cat (but aren't they all). We will be happy to do anything you need us to do. We are so excited!"

Showers of blessings? This is a deluge! I can hardly believe that this is happening. Of course, I explained to Dianne that we wouldn't want her to adopt Autumn without meeting her first. I arranged to visit their home to execute a Trial Foster Contract and one of our foster parents delivered Autumn to them. A few days later I received another email from Dianne: "We are in love. Please send the final adoption papers."

Now that both of these sweet girls have had time to settle comfortably into their lifelong homes, we are happy to report that they are both thriving:

"Gabrielle (Gabby) is a one in a million sort of cat. Never had we imagined that we would find such an amazing fur baby. She loves people and is always careful to greet visitors, walking from person to person to make sure she gives attention to everyone."

—Continued on back—

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



**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!

We are happy to share these updates and photos from recent adopters:



Serephina

Sophia

I thought you would enjoy these shots of the sisters (Sophia, formerly Ava and Serephina, formerly known as Reese). I am so glad to have adopted both of them. They are so affectionate and sweet and entertaining. As you can see, they are very fond of each other too. T.E.

Spooky (formerly known as Rocky) is as sweet as he can be and is adjusting to his new home. He is slowly being introduced to his canine and feline siblings. He is starting to come and sit on my lap to get brushed. G.H.

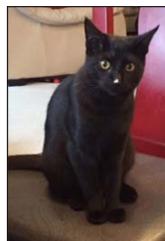


Bunny

Bunny and Lulu are doing great. We love them. Thank you so much for everything. M.R.



Lulu



Twizzler is absolutely wonderful. The boys carry her around like a baby. We decided to change her name to Shadow, because she follows them around constantly. She loves to watch videos and is very playful. She and our older cat are slowly becoming friends too. We are telling everybody about how wonderful FosterCat is. J.S.

Here is a photo of Lavender with her canine brother. It took a few days, but they have become good friends. We have changed her name to Thumbelina, or Lena for short, because of her multiple thumbs. She is wonderful and we love her. S.K.



## Showers of Blessings

—Continued from front—

“When she first came to us as a foster kitty, we were told that Gabby was a timid cat who had had trouble finding a home. But within the first week of her arrival, she made our house her home and we wouldn’t have it any other way. We had just lost our two cats shortly before she came into our lives and she has filled the void in our home. We may have fostered and adopted her, but it was she who rescued us.”

And on to Autumn...

“Last August we were devastated by the loss of our beloved 14 year old calico, Cabanna. I vowed, never again. Enter divine intervention and the wonderful FosterCat organization. Whether she is sleeping on her scratching pad or hiding under a rug, Autumn gives us joy and laughter every day. She is a wonderful addition to our family.”

Amen!

## Attention, All Adopters

Many of you have kindly kept in touch with us via emailed updates and photos of your adopted kitties, and we hope you will continue to do so. Please note, however, that Alexa’s email address has changed. Please make note of the change and direct all future emails/photo attachments to her at [ajhowald@yahoo.com](mailto:ajhowald@yahoo.com). Thanks, and keep those updates coming. We love to receive them!

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 Gabrielle and Autumn.**



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 \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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.