



Newsletter

What's New, Pussycat?

July 2022

# The Great A-Meow-ican Songbook!

Summertime Challenge  
2022



Fans of masterful American composers like *Purrrving* Berlin and Cole *Pawter*, rejoice! It's Cat's Cradle's Summertime Challenge, featuring songs from the Great A-Meow-ican Songbook. This year, we're bringing you timeless classics that will chatter and chirp in your ears all summer long.

While we love to "Cat-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive," it's hard to deny how these difficult times have us all shook up. Especially with inflation being sky high, we're mewling over our budget!

Over the past few months at Cat's Cradle, we've seen the cost of spay/neuter surgeries, food, and other supplies shoot way up, making kitty care pricier than ever. Furthermore, gas is astronomical; running our vans for TNR and foster transportation has become seriously expensive. We've also incurred hefty expenses at the Downtown Center because we are having to make significant improvements to the venting and cooling system. As they say in the Songbook, "There's No Business Like Cat Business," yet these expenditures make it harder to "go on with the show"!

(Continued on next page)

(summertime challenge continued)

This year's Summertime Challenge comes at a crucial time as we look to offset these financial difficulties and shore up program funding through the Fall. Our adoption, medical assistance, TNR, and pet retention programs are mostly funded through the generosity of our supporters, so don't forget that there would be no Cat's Cradle without your donations!

As a show of continued confidence in our work, we've once again received \$50,000 matching money from a soulful, selfless benefactor. If you donate between July 15 and August 15, you'll help us secure that matching money, which will go a long way to sustaining the services that cats and families in the Shenandoah Valley have come to rely on.

Last year, you all donated \$50,810.77 to the Summertime Challenge. Can you help our kitties sing a happy tune and beat last year's total? Every dollar counts as we seek to save as many lives as possible!

If you opt to give at one of the sponsor levels, just use the memo line of your check or the comment box on our online donation page to specify whether you wish to be acknowledged by name on all media, if you want your gift to be completely anonymous, or if you are fine with name recognition in our newsletter only but not on social media. To donate online, go to [www.catscradleva.org](http://www.catscradleva.org).

**THE GREAT A-MEOW-ICAN SONGBOOK**

**Summertime Challenge**  
July 15 - August 15, 2022

To help us guarantee \$50,000 matching money, won't you sponsor us at one of these levels?

**Naps Are A Many-Splendored Thing (\$1000+)**  
Acknowledged on social media for a day with photo/video and story (if requested), thanked by name on our website, shouted out in radio/tv appearances (if requested), and named as sponsor for an entire colony of cats spayed/neutered by Cat's Cradle.

**I Won't Move My Feet (If You Ain't Got That Treat) (\$500-999)**  
Acknowledged on social media for an entire day with photo/video and story (if requested), thanked by name on our website, and named as sponsor for three adoptable cats/kittens.

**When You Wish Upon A Tuna (\$250-499)**  
Acknowledged on social media as part of this giving level (if requested) and named as sponsor for a family of cats spayed/neutered by Cat's Cradle or one special needs adoptable cat/kitten.

**The Tabbies Who Lunch (\$150-249)**  
Named as sponsor for one medical assistance client cat/kitten.

♪♪ Won't you purr along with the Summertime Challenge? ♪♪

## THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT!

# 2022 NUMBERS

- 780 spay/neuter surgeries facilitated (through 4/30)
- 214 cats and kittens rescued from partner shelters (through 5/15)
- 165 cats and kittens adopted out (124 local & 41 via transport) (through 5/15)
- 60 Medical assistance client cats helped (through 4/30)



## Meet our Downtown Center Staff!

Over the past year, we've had two wonderful new team members join our Downtown Center staff. From providing resources to the community to decorating our Downtown Center and hosting the popular Coffee & Cats (Thursdays through Saturdays), this young, energetic pair does many wonderful things for Cat's Cradle and have brought a renewed vigor to our organization. Let's meet these fresh faces!

Kristin Rhodenizer joined us in August 2021 as Adoption Coordinator. Her drive, outgoing personality, and ability to connect with people makes her the perfect person to match each cat with the right family. Kristin is from Verona, VA. She currently resides in Harrisonburg and is entering her senior year at JMU studying Public Policy & Administration and Social Work. Kristin enjoys painting, any type of puzzle, and Lego building sets. She is a huge cat lover! Her favorite



Kristin

part of her job is meeting new people and interacting with all the adopters and cats.



Kat

Kat Manness became our new Call Center Rep/Counselor in January 2022, and her empathy and commitment to helping animals is exemplary. In this role, Kat coordinates help for families needing financial assistance with veterinary care and facilitates assistance for spay/neuter surgeries at our partner clinics for owned and feral colony cats. Kat was born in Roanoke, VA and currently resides in Harrisonburg with her partner, nine cats, and their dog Benji. She enjoys growing herbs, flowers, and succulents, and she also loves crafting and spending time in nature. The favorite parts of her job are seeing cats go from harrowing situations to loving, caring homes and helping families that would do anything to help

their pets but don't always have the means to do so.

Join us in welcoming Kristin and Kat and praising the excellent work they do!



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What a deal, you get your awesome deals from Amazon, and Cat's Cradle gets a donation!

**Last quarter, we received \$739 and have received \$10,499 since the program's inception!**



WANT THE PURRFECT INSTA PHOTO?  
WANT TO LOVE ON KITTIES?

Come visit  
Harrisonburg's first  
Cat Café!

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy visiting with cats and kittens in one of our kitty rooms. All proceeds to to our spay/neuter program.



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