



# Meowing Messenger

709 South 8th St. (Between Gum & Hickory), Fernandina Beach, FL • 904-321-2267 • Email: CatsAngels@CatsAngels.com

## Passione Gatti di Canepina A Passion for Cats...Update

By Tony Koziol



The building and land were generous donations for the PGC project

It has been a year and a half since Passione Gatti di Canepina (PGC) started to materialize from a dream of Rosemary Slattery, a volunteer at Cats Angels. A lot has happened in that short period of time. With gifts of land and a building to house the project, it has continued to grow. PGC now has a fully up and running Trap/Spay-Neuter/Release program in Canepina Italy. It is a registered Cat Colony within the province of Viterbo and typically has 2-4 cats neutered/spayed every month. More than fifty cats have been neutered and released back into the community as a result. An extensive vaccination program is also an integral part of the program at PGC and more than 70 cats have been vaccinated and dewormed.

Additionally, 18 cats have found good homes because of the extended outreach program which PGC has developed with other like-minded organizations within Italy. The latest adoption was of a pair of cats, Romeo and Giulietta, by two young women from Rome. Stefania, another of PGC success stories was brought this summer from Rome to a loving family in Valencia, California.



Rosemary and her business partner in Italy, Piera, feed 30 feral cats in 4 colonies around the town of Canepina on a nightly basis.



Romeo and Giulietta together in Rome



Stefania, now a California Girl

A big thank-you (mille grazie) goes out to Beth Hackney and Cats Angels for their continued support of PGC. Gratitude also is extended for the generosity that has come from many of the Cats Angels volunteers and supporters.

You can see more pictures and keep up with all that is going on at Cats Angels Italy (PGC) on Facebook at Passione Gatti di Canepina.

# 2018 Purrfect Cats of Cats Angels Photo Contest Winners Announced



The winning calendar cover shot of Audrey was taken by Pat Glassbrenner. The 2018 calendar photo contest, judged by Scott Moore and members of the Island Art Association Photography Group, was not an easy task as there were 68 photos to choose from this year. The four runners-up with full page pictures in the calendar are Pat Byrd and Big D, Bonnie Howell and Audra, Ashlyne Griffis and Ogie, and Evelyn McDonald and Bodie. Everyone who submitted will have at least one of their photos on our collage pages. The calendar will be on sale late October at the Cats Angels Thrift Store and online through our website [www.catsangels.com](http://www.catsangels.com). The 2018 Purrfect Cats of Cats Angels calendar makes a wonderful holiday gift for anyone. The 2017 calendar was a sellout, so don't delay your purchase.

The photo contest and calendar sales are an annual fund raising project for Cats Angels. We appreciate all of the support from our contest photographers and judges, cooperation from the photo subjects and your purchase of the calendars.

## Hurricane Irma and Cats Angels

It was a rough time in the early hours of Monday, September 11 as Hurricane Irma passed to the west of Jacksonville. Cats Angels was lucky as our only damage was the loss of the canvas awning in our courtyard. When it was safe to move about, our volunteers who rode out the storm checked on the cats and the facility around 10:30 A.M. The cats were fine and their only complaint seemed to be getting their breakfast at lunch time. Parts of the island experienced tornados and many of our volunteers had damage to their homes and property, but we were back to our full crews by Tuesday and Wednesday. Thank you to all of our volunteers who made the needs of our cats a priority despite having their own storm damage and cleanup to take care of.

During hurricane season, it's important to have your pet up to date on vaccinations and the paperwork available for the pet friendly shelters. Be sure to have enough of your pet's medications and food for at least 3 days. If your pet is not microchipped, they should have an ID collar with your contact information. Sometimes the choice to evacuate is a last minute decision and being ready with your pet's need will help relieve some of the stress.

### Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA Mission Statement

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) believes that animals, as living creatures, have value beyond economic measurement, and are entitled to legal, moral and ethical consideration and protection.

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will act as an advocate on behalf of animals and as an enforcer of their rights;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will provide for the well-being of animals who are abandoned, injured, subjected to unfair or cruel treatment, or otherwise in need;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will continue its work of ending the animal overpopulation crisis by providing a community-wide low-cost sterilization, vaccination, and adoption program;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will cultivate respect and awareness for the rights and needs of animals through an educational program

## SPAY AND NEUTER THE RESPONSIBLE SOLUTION



## A reminder about microchips

After Hurricane Irma, Cats Angels received calls about cats that had been found and the chip was still registered to Cats Angels. We responded with the information we had about the owners, but in some cases it was over four years old. Please take the time to make sure the information on your cat's microchip is up to date with your current address and contact information. If you are not sure of the chip number, refer to the paperwork you were given at the time of adoption. Look for a barcode sticker or with your pet's vaccination information. If you are unsure your cat is microchipped, your vet can scan for the chip or call Cats Angels if you adopted from us. The microchips used by Cats Angels are from 24 Pet Watch and most recently from Found Animals. You can go to the Found Animals website at [www.foundanimals.org](http://www.foundanimals.org) to initiate a transfer or update your information. You can also contact Cats Angels and we can help you with the process. Current ownership and contact information will get your pet back to you easier and quicker.

### CATS ANGELS THRIFT STORE

709 S. 8th Street, Fernandina Beach

Open Monday through Friday - 11 AM to 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

HUGE selection of used books, Furniture, Appliances,  
Home Decorations & Pet Boutique

Visit our second location in Trailer Park Collectibles  
at 702 Centre Street - Open Daily



# International Homeless Animals Day Walk and Vigil

Young and older alike participated in the 2 mile walk as Cats Angels recognized International Homeless Animals Day on August 19 in Fernandina Beach. They were joined by other supporters for the Candlelight Vigil. Groups worldwide joined together on this day to bring attention to the plight of the homeless and overpopulation of animals. You can learn more about what is being done by the International Society for Animal Rights by visiting [www.isa-online.org](http://www.isa-online.org) and ways to support their efforts.



## Life Lessons from Lydia



Well hello to all my peeps.

My what a summer. Irma sure did pack a punch. And the heat, well it was enough to make even a southern belle like myself perspire somewhat.

But you know what makes some pets perspire even more.... the idea of their family moving and not taking them with them. We hear from people every day who are moving and "can't take their pets with them."

Now we all know that things do happen and sometimes humans are forced to move to an apartment or home where pets are just not welcome. But if possible try to find a pet friendly housing arrangement. Humans have no idea how stressful it is for a pet to be taken to a shelter or rescue. Their whole world is turned upside down. Many stop eating and fall into a deep depression, some even die. And that is not the premature end we want for our furry kids.

Below are some internet resources for pet friendly apartments:

*My New Place Pet Friendly Apartment Search*

<http://www.mynewplace.com/ep/pet-friendly-apartments>

*Great tips from Zillow on finding pet friendly housing*

<https://www.zillow.com/blog/finding-rental-with-large-dog-tips-145740/>

*Pet friendly apartments search engine*

<https://www.peoplewithpets.com/>

Check with local realtors, they can tell you which communities are pet friendly. Be sure it is for their lifetime when deciding to adopt a new family member. Ciao for now all my lovelies, nap time for me. Meeeeeeeeoooooooooooooooooooo



## Cat Tips:

### How to Properly Greet a Cat

Chances are, you already know just how to greet your own feline companion, but saying hello to someone else's cat is a whole different story. Cats can be picky when it comes to who they show affection toward, so it's important to approach an unfamiliar feline carefully. Below are four tips for properly greeting a cat:

1. Let the cat make the first move: Immediately approaching or reaching out to a strange cat can result in the claws coming out. Let the cat approach you and pay attention to body language. If the cat gives you a friendly gesture like rubbing against your legs, that's usually a good sign that it's okay to interact.
2. Pay attention to your own body language: Avoid prolonged eye contact, as this can be intimidating. Instead of crouching over the cat, just reach a hand out and let the cat investigate.
3. Pet the cat's head, neck or side: Once the cat feels comfortable enough with you, gently stroke the cat's head, neck, or sides. If the cat tenses up, stop petting.
4. Use treats: If all else fails and the cat's owner is okay with it, dropping a couple treats nearby is sometimes a good way to encourage an uneasy cat to socialize.



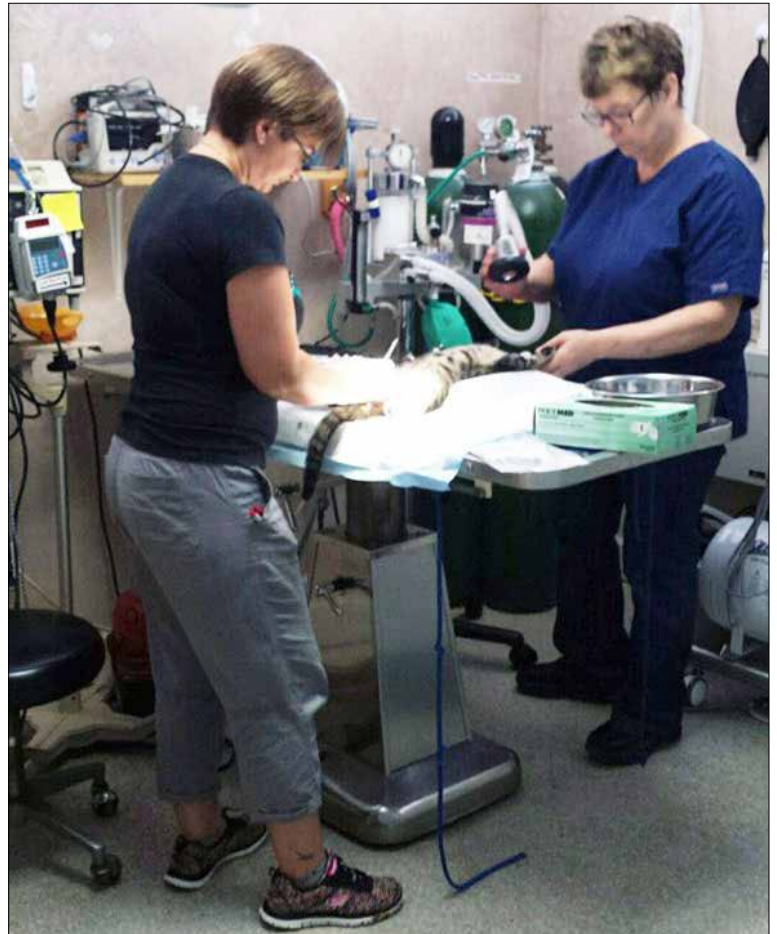
# Paying it Forward

Cats Angels lost a very good friend. Dr. Kelly Farrell of First Coast No More Homeless Pets passed away earlier this year. Dr. Farrell was a compassionate human being who truly cared for animals in every circumstance. Our volunteers and countless numbers of our cats benefitted from her loving and giving spirit. With Dr. Farrell in our thoughts, Cats Angels donated a cauterization machine to be used in the Dr. Kelly Farrell Surgery Center so that we too may help other animals in her name.



A Memory Garden has been planted at the entrance of Cats Angels by Mark Hamby of Mark's Landscape. The two trees are a tribute to our longtime and much-loved volunteer Wills Shores who passed away in 2016 and to Dr. Kelly Farrell who we lost earlier this year.

A huge THANK YOU to Dr. Sarah Parks and the staff of Jacksonville Community Pet Center-Beaches for their time and generous donation towards the spay and neuter of 24 cats on Sunday August 13, 2017. Cats Angels helps on average 50 cats each month through our Spay/Neuter Program. Our appointment book fills up fast and we are very grateful to Dr. Parks for her help.



Cats Angels is a supporter of Nassau County Animal Control and the work they are striving to do to keep Nassau County's shelter a no-kill facility. On April 22, 2017 their new Kitty Enclosure was officially opened with a ribbon cutting by Beth Hackney, Executive Director of Cats Angels. The outdoor enclosure was built by Ted Kostich of KDI Builders and his crew volunteer George Frye. The construction materials were all donated. This not only gives the cats at the county shelter the opportunity for some protected freedom but also socialization which helps them get adopted. Along with the Kitty Enclosure grand opening, a party was held to promote the adoptions of all the animals at the shelter.

## How are your donations used by Cats Angels? Here's just one story.....

**Charlotte**, a very young pastel Torti kitten, was brought to Cats Angels by a Good Samaritan who saw her in a horse barn dragging her front leg. We took her to First Coast No More Homeless Pets where surgery was done to repair her broken shoulder. We are happy to say she is now recovered and will have full use of her leg. We had to keep a watchful eye on her as she's one active girl! Thanks to your support and generous donations, Cats Angels was able to take care of Charlotte's medical costs. More good news, Charlotte was recently adopted into a loving, forever home.



**YES, I want to help the Cats at Cats Angels.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **YOUR DONATIONS HELP CATS ANGELS SAVE LIVES**

Visit [www.catsangels.com](http://www.catsangels.com) to learn more about the four levels in our Sponsorship Program and donate through PayPal or circle your level of sponsorship here on this form and send to us. You will receive a special Thank You from the kitty you sponsor.

- \$25 Whisker Licking Good Level - helps to purchase cat food
- \$50 Helping Paw Level - to cover yearly vet checks and vaccinations
- \$110 Gold Mouse Level - will cover the cost of FIV/Feline Leukemia testing, spay/neuter and vaccines.
- \$200 Cheshire Cat Level - will help cover the costs of dental treatment for our cats

If you don't want to sponsor, your tax deductible donations are urgently needed and always greatly appreciated. A donation of:

- \$10 purchases a rabies shot
- \$25 buys a feline leukemia/FIV combo test
- \$30 will neuter one boy kitty
- \$60 pays for one spay that will prevent thousands of unwanted births

Please make checks payable to Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA and mail to P.O. Box 16072 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035 in the enclosed envelope. *The kitties Thank You!*





# CATS ANGELS, INC. SPCA

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 16072

Fernandina Beach, Florida 32035

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US POSTAGE PAID  
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PERMIT NO. 48

## Four Seasons Bistro

Cats Angels Charity Night is back at Four Seasons Bistro on A1A/200 just off Amelia Island. They have great

food in a newly expanded relaxed atmosphere. Four Seasons Bistro gives 10% of sales back to selected charities in Nassau County. Cats Angels Nights are the 2nd Thursday of every month - **be sure to tell your server you are there to support Cats Angels for us to receive credit.** Visit [www.fourseasonsbistro.biz](http://www.fourseasonsbistro.biz) for menu info and reservations can be made through [opentable.com](http://opentable.com)

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



Every Sip Helps  
Save a Stray

Our Morning Mews Breakfast Blend is a smooth light-bodied coffee freshly roasted and packaged in Florida. Roasts include Breakfast Blend - regular and decaf, Roastmaster's Blend and Frisky Feline French Roast. Purchase a 12 oz. bag for \$10 at our Thrift Store. Call (904) 321-2267 or email to [catsangels@catsangels.com](mailto:catsangels@catsangels.com) for shipping details.

### Garage Sale leftovers?

We accept clean, working items except clothing, computers or old TV's during business hours at Cats Angels Thrift Store.

**Donations always appreciated**

### Adopt from Cats Angels

Cats Angels Adoption Center is located at 709 S. 8th Street in Fernandina Beach on Amelia Island is open Monday through Friday 11 AM - 4 PM and Saturday 11 AM - 4 PM.

Visit [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) or our website [catsangels.com](http://catsangels.com) to see their pictures and read about Cats Angels kitties waiting for their forever homes.

## www.catsangels.com



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**Halo says,** "Aluminum cans help homeless cats"! A collection bin is in the parking lot at our Thrift Store 709 South 8th Street, Fernandina Beach, FL.



EVERY DOLLAR YOU DONATE IS VERY IMPORTANT  
**Cats Angels receives no government funding.**

All of our revenue is raised by private donations, grants and fund raising. The Nassau County Animal Expo, calendar sales, Coins for Kitties and various events throughout the year help bring in much needed money to carry on our Spay/Neuter, TNR and Adoption Programs. These monies help us give the best care possible to all the cats, especially our Adoption Center kitties.