

♥ If you love your pets, have them spayed or neutered. ♥

- Cattery
- Low Cost Spay/Neuter
- Adoption Services
- Foster Homes
- TNR Assistance



- Feral Sanctuary
- Lost and Found Service
- Animal Placement Service
- Pet Owner Education
- Cat Boarding



Angel & White Sox—  
mom and baby



Scooter—  
purebred Bengal



Luau—  
gentle giant



Vince—  
Sweet and lonely

**Adoption Center**  
**Street Address:**  
133 North D Street  
Lompoc, CA 93436

**Hours:**  
Saturdays from  
10 to 4 or  
by appointment

**Phone:**  
(805)735-6741

**Mailing Address:**  
VIVA  
PO Box 896  
Lompoc, CA 93438

**Website:**  
<http://vivaonline.org>

**Email:**  
[info@vivaonline.org](mailto:info@vivaonline.org)

VIVA

*"Helping  
the Helpless"*

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LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA  
Permit No. 132

## AUGUST 2008

### CALENDAR:

8/16: National Homeless

Animals' Day

Adoptions are held every Saturday 10AM - 4PM or by appointment on Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs mornings.

### AUGUST NEEDS TO BE:

"ADOPT A PAIR OF

VIVA CATS" MONTH

### WHERE'RE THE CAT LOVERS?

It seems that during the winter when no kittens are available, every other phone call is from someone wanting a kitten. Now that kitten season is in full swing, where are those people who wanted kittens? Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, we adopted out only one kitten, Marmalade, an orange with white, beautiful male.

Last month's newsletter informed you of our 49 kittens. Well, now we have even more, not to mention all the beautiful adults. Do you have room in your house and heart for one more adult or a pair of kittens? Come on Saturday!

### WISH LIST

Two-ply Paper Towels

Liquid Laundry Soap

Liquid Bleach

Fabric Softener Dryer Sheets

Friskies Canned Cat Food

***Did you know that the ancestors of today's cats first evolved about 45 million years ago, during the late Eocene era? They were first domesticated 5,000 to 8,000 years ago in the Nile River Valley, Egypt.***

## 1,000 CANS OF FRISKIES CAT FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

We are off to a good start. Our members and friends have been generous and anxious to help with food and financial donations. But, only two people have offered their time. I hope of have containers and signs, etc. ready to go within two weeks, so please call to offer to help. Help us Help the Helpless!

Goal:		1,000 cases
Donations:	\$2,042	186 cases
	Food	<u>34 cases</u>
		<u>-220</u>
		780 cases to go

The following people have donated food: Carol Combs, Cindy & Bruce Stovall, Linda Hess, Julie Simons, Karen Bousquet, Shirley Dace, Jim Brock, Ernie Snowdon, Martha Hicks, Sharon Foreman, Pam Burke, Diane H, and Allison Siewert. The financial contributors are listed on the Recent Donations page. We apologize if we have left anyone out. Some of you may have sent checks, not marked for food drive, or added extra to your monthly check for that purpose. We could have overlooked a notation on your check. As for dropping food off, it involves many volunteers and some may not have included you on our list. Please know how every grateful we are and accept our THANKS and know that we regret the error.

Note: Friskies has changed the label. They have dropped the "Buffet" from the name. It's now just Friskies. Remember that we feed many, many cats, so all flavors are welcome. ... Gwen Francis

## NEWS FROM THE FERAL CAT SANCTUARY

The six volunteers who came to help at our work party accomplished a lot. The fence line was checked for holes in the netting and tunnels under the fence, carriers were washed with the high pressure sprayer, cat shelters were cleaned and filled with fresh straw, and general clean-up of buildings took place. Thank you to everyone who came to work. The cats really appreciate all of our efforts.

In a previous newsletter, I asked for volunteers to establish a telephone tree. No one called to say they would be part of this system. Perhaps I didn't explain it very well. If we should have an emergency and need to evacuate the sanctuary, I would be busy loading what cats I could catch into carriers. I wouldn't have time to call a dozen or more people to help. With a telephone tree, I would only have to make one call. The person I called would in turn have the names and numbers of three or four people, and each of them would call three or four until we had enough help. Anyone interested in helping, please call me at the cattery: 735-6741 or send me an e-mail:

[shirleycram@juno.com](mailto:shirleycram@juno.com)

## JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> SPAY DAY SET A RECORD!

This is a letter from Stacy Crump-Silva & Jan Glick,  
Santa Barbara County Animal Services

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### THE DISPOSABLE CAT

by Steve Dale, published in USA Weekend

Everyone agrees there are too many dogs and cats in shelters. However, according to a 2006 survey by the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators, increasingly more cats are given up at shelters than their canine cousins.

'The reason cats are given up is sometimes pretty amazing,' says Bob Rohde, president of the Dumb Friends League in Denver. 'Indeed, shelter officials have told me of some explanations people have used for giving up their cats: the cat doesn't match our new carpeting or my black cat sheds on my new white sofa.

Studies show that behavioral problems are the most common reason both dogs and cats are relinquished to shelters. But, according to a 1997 survey by the National Council on Pet Population, cats are abandoned at shelters more often for behavioral issues than dogs (the complaint heard most often is that the cat misses the litter box).

Rohde believes that, to the general public, cats have less value than dogs. Another indication of this is that far more pet owners claim their lost or stolen dogs at shelters than cats. The Humane Society of the United States says an estimated 30% of those dogs who land in shelters eventually are reclaimed. Of the lost cats who find themselves in a shelter, a meager 2% to 5% are ever identified by their owners. Sadly, well over half those shelter cats are never adopted, and most are euthanized.

Dear Shirley Cram,

It is with great pride and a heartfelt thank you that I write this letter. Our June 8<sup>th</sup> spay day resulted in the altering of 95 cats and kittens. We had 101 cats show up for the event; 6 were already altered. We spayed 57 females and neutered 38 males. We know that our proactive efforts will have a far-reaching effect toward curbing the cat overpopulation issues that are currently so prevalent in the north County areas.

Volunteers from Catalyst for Cats and VIVA, as well as a few members of the public, worked very diligently to bring us all of those cats. A few of those cats were pregnant females, and a few of them were nursing mothers. With these efforts, we can tell that we have made a difference.

Spay Day was truly a team effort, from the trappers who worked so hard to capture the kitties, to the volunteers who assisted with everything from checking in cats to scrubbing the floors, to the vet techs who anesthetized, shaved, and assisted the doctors in every way possible, and, of course, the skilled veterinarians who did surgery after surgery throughout the day.

Thank you so much for all your help and efforts for this event. The work that you did made a huge difference in the lives of each cat that came through our doors. I know that you share in my excitement as these events continue and grow. I hope that you will continue to play an active role in future Spay Days. Your devotion and commitment to the animals is commendable.



Smokey Jo is a pedigreed Russian Blue who came to us with her best friend Mito, a pointed Russian Blue, in June when their favorite person died. Smokey Jo has a dust allergy but otherwise, both she and Mito are healthy seniors. These wonderful cats have lived together their whole lives so we'd like to find them a home where they can remain together.



Zorro Zales is the sweetest little cat we know in spite of all he's been through a lot in his short life. Zorro watched as all of his litter mates got adopted and he got left behind. Although he's a favorite of our volunteers, we would love to see him go to a home of his own. If you'd like a young cat who will be completely devoted to you, Zorro is your cat. He is FELV/FIV negative and he's just had a dental.