

♡ 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

blue-eyed beauties awaiting homes . . .



Denise



Ellen



Moxie



Zipper

**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"*

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA  
Permit No. 132

# FEBRUARY 2009

## CALENDAR:

2/14: Pet Theft Awareness  
2/24: Spay Day USA  
2/27: Polar Bear Day  
Adoptions are held every  
Saturday 10AM - 4PM  
Or by appointment

February is Prevent  
a Litter Month

## SPEAKING OF LITTERS.....

Kitten season never ended last year. Foster homes still have them, and our kitten rooms are still full. We are going to be in desperate need of foster homes very soon. When we don't have them, we have to turn away litters. Then, when the county shelters don't have room, you know the consequences. Please call our shelter if you think you even might be able to care for litters before they can be adopted.

## WE ARE SO VERY THANKFUL

St. Francis Veterinary Hospital, Village Veterinary Clinic, and Santa Ynez Pet Hospital all give VIVA free dentals on a monthly basis. You can imagine with as many cats as we have, we could never afford dental care, and many of our cats develop tooth and gum problems.

## SANCTUARY WORK PARTIES

Shirley plans to conduct tours and work parties the last Sunday of each month. There is so much work to be done out there. Can you help? Please call her: 736-3995. At least 70 cats will thank you!

## THE JANUARY REPORT ON OUR 1,000 CASES FOOD DRIVE

The Los Padres National Forest S.B. Ranger District (see names on the donation page), Dorothy Elerding, Gerlinde Jantz, B.J. Barber, Marsha East, Martha Hicks, Heidi Ashby, and Carolyn Joly all brought canned food to add to our total. Here's the update:

Goal:	1,000 Cases	
Donations: \$6,490	=	590 Cases
Food:		<u>189 Cases</u>
Total:	779 Cases	221 Cases to Go

## CAN YOU HELP?

... Gwen Francis

VIVA needs volunteers - steady, reliable, weekly workers. Listed below is the number of volunteers and man hours needed to operate VIVA for one day only! (cleaning rooms, feeding, washing dishes and boxes, cleaning cages and condos, doing laundry, etc.)

<u>SHIFTS</u>	<u>VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>EMPLOYEES</u>
Day	5 - 6	2
Man hours:	30	10
		Total of 40
Night	2 - 3	0
Man hours:	10	0
		Total of 10

DAILY MAN HOURS: 50

This is a minimum schedule and does not include bookkeeping, phoning, secretarial, fundraising, veterinary visits, nursing care, trapping, fostering, socializing, etc.

Please look at your schedules and try to include VIVA for one day or one evening (3 hours per day or evening). Call Gwen @ 735-6741; leave a message stating which day or evening you are available.

## ADOPTIONS

... Gwen Francis

Our adoption center is so full at this time with beautiful kittens and cats needing loving, permanent homes. Please open your hearts and homes to a needy cat or kitten. They give back double what you put into it; they fill your home with unconditional love. Please consider adopting. There's always room for one more...

We also have many shy and semi-feral cats that need homes. Some can be barn cats, which means: 1) They must have a tack room or secure shelter to transition in and use as a safe place when things scare them. 2) They must be given time to adjust to new surroundings which can take two to four weeks. 3) They must be introduced and given time to be comfortable with other animals (dogs, horses, etc.) so they are not threatened or chased off. 4) They must be fed daily. This does not keep them from hunting mice...that's an instinct and happy well-fed cats are better hunters. 5) In other words, they must be cared for and treated with compassion. Call Linda or Heather @ 735-6741.

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#### AARON, FEBRUARY'S SENIOR LOOKING FOR A SPONSOR

We're not sure how long Aaron has been with us, but we estimate at least 12 years. He has lived in the Rooms 2/3 area until just recently when he was moved to Room 4, the "Old Folks" room. For most of his life Aaron has been shy, not easy to pet. A few months ago, one of the staff noticed that he was limping.



Thinking he probably just sprained his foot jumping, we didn't take him to the doctor until we noticed a lump which turned out to be an extensive growth above his right foot. Surgery was tough, scraping the bone. In a cage for at least three weeks until his stitches came out, Aaron seems more content in Room 4. In fact, he doesn't shy away but lets us pet him. Now he's looking for a Parent Sponsor. \$25 a month and he's yours!

PS: Last month's "old guy" Mouse got a sponsor because of our story!

#### THE STORY OF GROWLER

...Shirley Cram

Growler is now a resident of the feral cat sanctuary. She is a fat, sassy, sleep grey/black tabby who no longer growls. She was found in a dumpster behind Wal-Mart with a litter of kittens. We don't know if someone threw her and her kittens in this dumpster or if she picked out the dumpster as a safe place. It was just luck that a nice young man found them and brought them to VIVA. If he had not, they would have been crushed to death when the trash was picked up. Growler had five kittens and was a very protective mother...thus her name. She ended up here at the sanctuary because we did not think she was adoptable, and when she first arrived here I would have thought the same thing. She did nothing but growl at me. Little by little she settled in and after some months began to allow me to touch her. Now, she sleeps in bed with me and loves to be petted.

#### SPAY/NEUTER TASK FORCE

...Shirley Cram

Appointed by the S.B. County Board of Supervisors, this group met Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> and will meet again 2/18 in S.B., 3/4 in S.M. and 3/18 in S.B. The task force is considering the pros and cons of mandatory spay/neuter for the county of Santa Barbara. The public may speak.