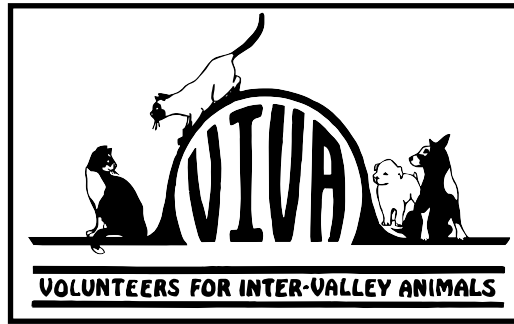


♥ If you love your pets, have them spayed or neutered. ♥

- **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**



Tiger always has his nose up in the air. He's not stuck up though; he just relies heavily on his sense of smell because he's blind. Tiger arrived at VIVA last month having lived his life so far in the garden courtyard of an apartment complex in Los Angeles. It's dangerous for a blind cat to be outdoors, which residents of the complex realized recently when Tiger was missing for several days after the door to the courtyard was left open. He was finally found in the street under a parked vehicle, crying for help. Only twenty feet from his complex, Tiger was lost and confused. When Tiger's friends tried to find a shelter in Los Angeles that would help him find a safe indoor home they were told that Tiger is unadoptable because he's blind. We beg to differ. Tiger needs no special care but he would prefer a quiet home where the furniture doesn't get moved very often. He would probably also prefer to be an only pet. Tiger will be 6 years-old on July 12th and his dream is to celebrate his birthday by having a can of tuna in his new home. If you'd like to meet this special cat, please email his foster mom, heather@vivaonline.org. Tiger is fully vaccinated and FELV/FIV negative.

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

*"Helping
the Helpless"*

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Permit No. 132

JULY 2008

CALENDAR:

7/4: Fourth of July: be wary

7/19: Cow Appreciation Day

7/26-27: National Greyhound
Memorial Weekend

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

JULY: ADOPT A RESCUED RABBIT MONTH

BOY, DO WE HAVE KITTENS!

As of this writing, we have a litter of black and white kittens in our "new condo" that are absolutely ready to go to permanent homes. In addition to them, we have **forty-nine (49)** kittens in foster homes. By the time this newsletter comes to you, we probably will have even more.

One would think that with all the spaying and neutering we do, each year there would be fewer births. Because of people who do not spay or neuter and people who abandon their cats to fend for themselves outside, the numbers never seem to get smaller.

Do you have room in your home for one more? Please come to the Adoption Center on Saturdays to pick up a new family member.

WISH LIST

Two-ply Paper Towels

Liquid Laundry Soap

Liquid Bleach

Fabric Softener Dryer Sheets

Friskies Buffet Canned Food

FOOD DRIVE: GOAL - 1000 CASES OF FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD, ANY SIZES, ANY FLAVORS

VIVA has been hit hard by the rocketing cat food prices. For twenty+ years, we have been buying Friskies Buffet when it was on sales 4/\$1.00 (25 cents a can). That price has doubled in the last few years. A "sale" now is 10 cans for \$4.50. Regular price is now two for a dollar. By the time this newsletter reaches you, who knows?

We are asking our members and supporters for help. From those of you who are able, we're asking for monetary donations, as soon as possible, specifically for us to be able to purchase this food. Please send whatever you can afford.

One can is \$.45 plus tax

One case is \$10.80 plus tax

Ten cases are \$108.00 plus tax

With VIVA's three facilities (The Adoption Center, Sylvester House, and The Feral Cat Sanctuary), we feed approximately six cases a day plus the dry cat food.

For those who can help with their time, we need volunteers to head the food drive, contact food stores, set up drop sites, coordinate the fundraiser. In other words, a group of volunteers to make this a major success. Please take this much-needed food drive fundraiser as your time to help VIVA help the helpless. VIVA NEEDS YOU! Call Gwen at 735-1200 to volunteer.

FERAL CAT SANCTUARY: A MUCH-NEEDED WORK PARTY

On Saturday, July 12th, we are having a work party at the Feral Cat Sanctuary. There is always a lot to do, so everyone is welcome. One big project this summer will be rebuilding the greenhouse which is falling down. We have carriers of all sizes that need cleaning, so we can distribute them around the sanctuary buildings in case of an emergency. If the carriers are clean and ready to use, it will make rescue work possible. I continue to make friends with the sanctuary cats and believe I would be able to rescue at least half of the cats if we had a fire or some other reason to remove them. In the past, I thought the only thing I could do would be to open all the gates and hope the cats could escape if we have a fire.

If you can help on July 12th, please call the shelter (735-6741) or my home (736-3995) or e-mail me at shirleycram@juno.com.

OOPS! CORRECTION OF LAST NEWSLETTER'S ARTICLE

The Humane Farming Initiative, which is about farm animals, will be on the ballot in November. AB1634 is not an initiative; it is a bill in the state legislature and is currently waiting to be voted on in the Senate Local Government Committee. The people who oppose AB1634 tried to get 4 anti-pet initiatives on the November ballot but failed to qualify.

Donations

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Gray–
When we rescued Gray she was living in a tree with her friend Tuxie. The two friendly kitties had left a colony of feral cats and sought solace in the branches of a tree in a quiet yard.

Gray is a very friendly little lady who prefers curling up on a lap and getting kisses to climbing trees. If you're interested in adopting Gray, please stop by and see us.

MR. BLISTER



Blister was rescued by one of our evening volunteers. A great cat, he is a "tuxedo", black with white chest and a few white toes.

Blister is very loving but adventurous. He didn't want to stay in his assigned room but scooted out even if a foot was put up to keep him in. He often just jumped over. Not only did he like to roam the halls, he very often would get out the front door and run for some grass to eat. The volunteers set up a "time out" cage for him in the hall on days when they became too annoyed with chasing him.

Blister was chosen to attend a recent cat show in Monrovia. He was a hit! He even ribboned. But the best news is he was adopted. He came back to us for three weeks before his new caretaker was ready for him. We miss him; he's a great cat. We are very happy for him and wish him a wonderful new life.



Morning Glory and her M litter siblings need homes. Visit us and fall in love.

CAT LOVER'S LETTERS

March 6, 2008

Hi VIVA Staff & Volunteers,

I was quite excited last November 14th when I talked to Hal and he said, "We have a little three-month-old orange tabby kitty for you." My husband, Roger, and I were going to drive over to the SLO Animal Services Shelter that afternoon but changed our plans. We drove 125 miles (round trip) through a lot of construction to reach your wonderful VIVA facility. We were so impressed with the whole atmosphere and how the different cats were separated by rooms.

Little Toby (renamed from Mason Mouser) was waiting for us in a cage with his siblings. He was the only orange and white kitty and had just been neutered the day before. He was "ready to be adopted," we were told, and as soon as I held him and he started purring, I looked at Roger, and he said, "You can have him." (He had been dubious about the whole trip late that afternoon.) Toby "meowed" (in his carrier) all the way home but has been happy ever since.

That evening, we let him explore our large family room, breakfast room, kitchen, laundry room (cat litter box and food & water) back hallway, and carpeted steps (6) and hallway leading to upstairs guest rooms (closed). He was wide-eyed! After dinner we introduced him to Reggie, our four-year-old (adopted at 6 months) orange & white tabby cat. Reggie hissed at first and Toby kept his distance. The following day, they were "buddies" and started sleeping side by side. They've outgrown the little cat bed and cushion on our rocking chair, but our family room sofa (with towels on the cushions) is just fine and comfortable. Reggie has always been a lap cat and Toby is too. Reggie was a bit jealous at first when Toby jumped in my lap but now prefers Roger's lap which has more space for him. Sometimes Toby joins him there, where they snuggle together.

May 18, 2008

I forgot to mail this a couple of months ago. I enjoy reading your newsletter every month. We wish we were closer to help out. Toby is now almost 9-months-old. He has grown so fast but is still a kitten "at heart". Our family room is his play room with various cardboard boxes to jump in and out of and to sit on near the low windows to look outside. He and Reggie chase and tumble with each other every night about 11 PM while I'm watching the late news. During the day they both like to lie in the sunny garden window above the kitchen sink and look outside. The side windows are usually open for fresh air.

Whenever I come home from tennis or shopping, Toby is always at the door inside, waiting to greet me and, of course, receive a hug. He is certainly "the joy of my life" right now since our grandchildren have moved away. Also Roger thinks Toby is the most handsome cat we've ever had. He has beautiful markings, perky ears, and the most expressive eyes.

I have recommended your facility to several friends for adopting a kitty.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Underwood.