

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

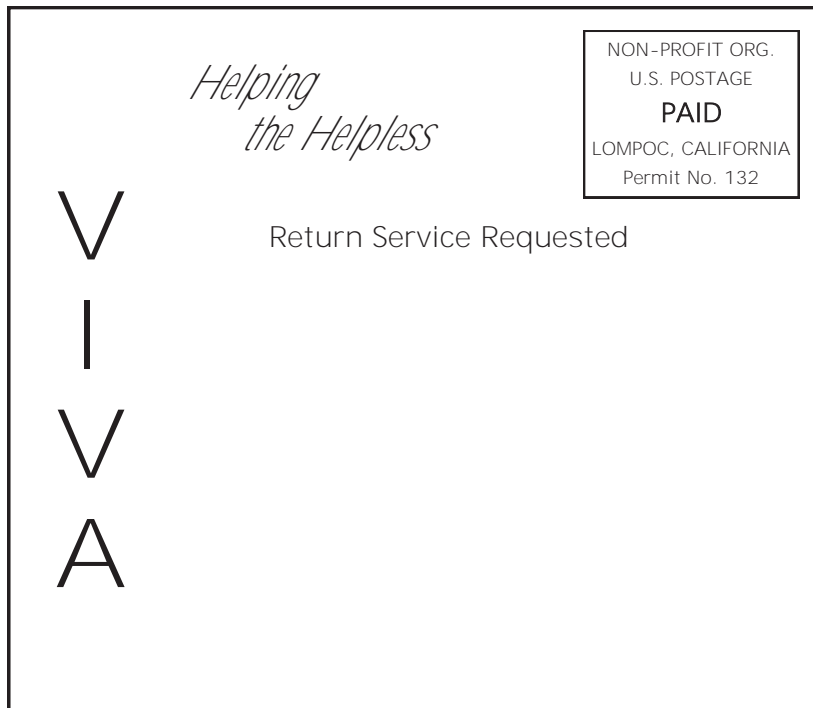
Hours:
Saturdays from
10 to 4 or
By appointment

Phone:
(805) 735-6741

Mailing Address:
VIVA
PO Box 896
Lompoc, CA 93438

Website:
<http://vivaonline.org>

Email:
info@vivaonline.org



A NON-PROFIT HUMANE ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL ANIMALS

- No-kill Cage-free Cat Shelter
- Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Assistance
- Pet Adoption Services
- Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) for stray and feral cats



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

If you can't adopt one of these wonderful cats right now, please come visit anyway. They love the attention.



Red Roamer



Callie



Emmie



Hetty & Hannah

JULY 2009

CALENDAR:

7/4: Protect your pets

7/18: Cow Appreciation Day

*July is Adopt a pair of
Kittens Month at VIVA*

KITTENS GALORE

Every year, "A" begins the names of the first litter; the names continue through "Z" and then "AA" - "ZZ", etc. We're at the "N"s already this year. We like to adopt kittens in pairs if at all possible. Can you handle a new pair OR can you foster litters?

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

REMI NDER:

The entire month of July, at the South Side Coffee Company at 105 South H Street in Lompoc, there will be a celebration of the CAT through fine art photography taken by award winning photographer Lynn Andrews and VIVA photographer Heather Kennedy. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to VIVA. All of the photography will be very affordably priced. A reception will be held there on Sunday, July 5th, from 1 to 4 PM. Please come to support this effort!

SANCTUARY WORK PARTY

The last Sunday of every month, a work party is scheduled...so much to do always. Food & drink are provided, so Shirley needs to know how many to expect. If you can help, please call: 736-3995.

SPONSOR PARENT PROGRAM REVI SITED

We've been asked to review the Sponsor Parent Program, reminding people of the cost and obligations. We began this program a few years ago so we could help support the "old folks" and others in our shelter that most likely will never have homes of their own. The cost has always been just \$25 a month. We probably should raise it as \$25 doesn't even cover the cost of "room and board", not to mention visits to the cat doctor. There are no more obligations involved, although Carolyn wanted to pay for Helen's dental and removal of a growth on her forehead. If you want to be a Sponsor Parent, just write or call us. We'll find a cat for you or you may want to sponsor Skippy.



Skippy came to the shelter with two siblings when they were about five months old. His siblings were adopted; although he was probably the most striking with gorgeous eyes (large, round, and the color of green grapes), he was just too shy and never came around. Some of us volunteers can pet him, but after all these years, he still doesn't want to be touched by strangers. He's not an "old folk", but recently we moved him into Room 4 where there is less stress and less traffic. He seems happy there, spending most of his time atop the rolling cubby-holder on the patio. He'd make a wonderful sponsored cat! Call or write to us.

PS: June's cat, Robbie, now has a Sponsor Parent!

CAT LICENSING A POSSI BILITY

... Shirley Cram

It has recently come to my attention that the Spay/Neuter Task Force may be considering cat licensing. I don't know if they have voted on this or not. I did attend a meeting of the Solvang City Council where a letter was read from the Santa Barbara County Health Dept. about a pilot program to license cats and dogs as they do in Calgary, Canada. Licensing cats will not work! It may work in Calgary but the central coast of California is entirely different. We have a long breeding season; they don't. We see kittens as early as March and as late as January. I would venture to guess that Calgary sees first litters in June and none after Sept. It is a city of over 1,000,000 people; the central coast of CA is rural.

If you believe, as I do, that licensing cats will not work but cause the death of many cats, now is the time to write to the Task Force, attend their meeting and speak out for cats, contact your Supervisors and let them know. To reach the Task Force: Susan Klein-Rothschild, Public Health Dept, 300 N. San Antonio Rd, SB.

THE HISTORY OF VIVA

THIS COLUMN IS THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT VIVA

The spay/neuter runs continued in 1983 with runs to Santa Barbara in a pickup with camper shell full of dogs and cats. The next day volunteers drove back to Santa Barbara and picked up the animals. The owners met us and retrieved their pets. We were so busy, often booked three months in advance for large dogs, that we established a second spay/neuter run to a veterinarian in the Santa Ynez Valley. We spayed and neutered over 4,000 animals on these runs. We discontinued these runs when a veterinarian moved to Lompoc and agreed to meet SBHS prices for the surgeries.

At last we could expend our energy on other matters. In 1985, we rented a small house on G Street and established the VIVA Thrift & Specialty Shop with a cat shelter built in the back. We did dog adoptions every Saturday in the front yard. We brought dogs from Animal Control to our shelter and had great success with this program. True to our name, everything was done by volunteers. We had AM & PM shifts to care for the cats, a crew to run the Thrift Store, volunteers to run the dog program, and a crew to work at Animal Control. We also took on two additional projects: the leasing of Bonnie Blu Kennels and in 1990 the opening of Sylvester House. The August newsletter will fill you in on these endeavors!

A FAMILY REUNITED ... Shirley Cram

Last year VIVA received a call from a commercial vegetable farm requesting the removal of some feral cats. There was a mom cat and kittens and two other cats who were probably surviving kittens from a previous litter. The people who worked at the farm liked the cats and fed them, but because they were involved in growing vegetables for distribution and consumption, they felt that the cats had to be relocated. When our trappers went out to the farm, the mom cat and kittens were their first priority. Mom cat, whose name is now Penelope, is an orange tabby with beautiful aqua eyes. Her kittens were some of the most beautiful I have ever seen, and they were all adopted. We could not really tell how feral Penelope was so she came to the sanctuary. One of the other cats from the previous litter was a lovely long haired brown tabby with some orange in her coat and those lovely aqua eyes. Her name is Melanie and she too lives here at the sanctuary. While our trappers were trying to get the mom cat, a young orange tabby male went into the trap and they shooed him away so they could work on the females. After the females and kittens were removed, they could not find the young male. Everyone felt bad about this and assumed he had probably not survived. Some months later we received a call from one of our VIVA members who told us she had a mom cat and kittens and needed our help. This person lived two to three miles from the vegetable farm. She also mentioned she had a large male cat hanging around. Lo and behold, here was our orange tabby boy, also with those gorgeous aqua eyes which are so rare in orange cats. Now the family is all back together; they live here with me at the feral cat sanctuary.



BANDIT MUGS SHELTER VISITORS & GETS NEW HOME

Diana Ibay wrote: *Just wanted to let you know that Bandit has settled into his new home and is a very happy kitty. We have re-named him Dominic, and he answered to his new name immediately on the first night we had him. He's a lovebug — enthusiastic, curious, and playful. We have made him a fishing pole toy, catnip-stuffed crocheted balls to bat, bite, and kick, and hung a soft ball and tassel from his cat tree for more play-time fun. I find that he is extremely intelligent and needs a lot of input and variety to be really happy. We're trying to make sure he gets it.*

Since Winston's retired, Dominic has company all day, and he's got both of



us in the evenings. He begged to go outside from Day 1. We settled that by trying him out with a harness and leash. Once he understood that he could go out into our yard on leash with one of us, he accepted it. So now he gets to sit in the sun, explore under the trees, help us with yard work, watch hummingbirds, eat grass, and sniff everything everywhere.