

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*

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

V
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Return Service Requested

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.



Nicki



Peach



Kris



Owie

MAY 2009

CALENDAR:

May 3-9: Be Kind to Animals

May 9: Migratory Bird Day

May 15: Endangered Species

May 17-23: Dog Bite

Prevention week

May Should Be Adopt a VI VA Cat Month

THE GIANT RUMMAGE SALE

The big VIVA Benefit Sale is picking up steam and is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, May 15-17 in **Solvang, Nielsen's Shopping Center**, next to RiteAid, at Alamo Pintado and Hwy 246. Thanks to Roger Nielsen and family for the donated space. **Friday is "Preview Night", 6:30-8:30**, with a \$4.00 donation requested.

There will be loads of furniture, art, household items, electronics, clothing, home décor, with more donations from estates still coming in. Although **we have moved in, we haven't** even opened all the boxes yet, so there will be surprises galore. If you want to help sort, display, and price, or you have donations, or you know of a source for **borrowing tables, or you'd like the** excitement of working the sale itself, contact Day Yeager at 688-9554 or 705-8197. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have put in so many hours already!

Mark your calendar and watch for ads and posters.

WE (ACTUALLY YOU) DID IT: 1,000 CASES OF FRISKIES

March and April brought in \$882 and 21 cases which brought our total to 1,008 cases of Friskies canned cat food! Food donators are BJ Barber, Zed Utter, Martha Hicks, Lisa Toth, James & Amy Wilson, Carol Gurney, Ellen Triplett, Florence & Jerry Dunn, Marian, Nick, and Marsha East. Cash donators are listed on page three. We are so thankful for your support and hope that, even though we reached the 1,000 cases goal, you will continue to donate as the cats never stop eating and the prices keep going up. THANK YOU!

VIVA'S DOG PROGRAM UPDATE

April was a very successful month for the dog program. We were able to find terrific homes for a Pug, a Pom mix, and a Shitzu. Two of them were rescued from backyard breeders! Congratulations to Terry & Emily on their new additions to their families. Thanks to Thelma and Judy for fostering. We currently have a four-year-old neutered American Eskimo named Micah who is looking for a loving family with time for a new member. Please contact Barb Hayes if **you'd like to meet Micah or if you are interested in fostering. Barb's number is 805-733-3454** and her email address is dogs@vivaonline.org.

FERAL CAT SANCTUARY WORK PARTY NEWS ...Shirley Cram

At the March work party we had two people from Ventura, two from Santa Maria, and two from Lompoc, plus two people who wanted a tour of the facility. Everybody worked hard pulling nettles and thistles, checking fence for holes, and cleaning cages. Our April work party will be past when our newsletter goes out, so a report will be given in the next newsletter. I will not be available on the last Sunday in May: the 31st. We can get together on **Sunday, May 24th. This is Memorial Day weekend; I don't know if it's a** good time. Anyone interested in a tour or working at the sanctuary, please call me and let me know if the 24th is okay: 735-6741 or my home: 736-3995, or email me: Shirley@vivaonline.org or shirleycram@juno.com.

BEWARE OF PRODUCTS HARMFUL TO PETS AND KIDS

Many products created to clean our homes contain things that are harmful, even fatal, to pets and children. Recently a man had his dog put down due to liver failure caused by a mopping devise that used an ingredient just one molecule away from antifreeze.

It is also important to be careful when using topical flea treatments. While the product called Advantage is available in both dog and cat formulations, the product called Advantix is for use on dogs only and is very toxic to cats. PLEASE READ LABELS!

Donations continued . . .

In Memory of Princess & Zoom

Carl & Carolyn Williams

In Memory of Sydney

Sharon Reginato

In Memory of Amber/Agatha/Agnes

Paul Smor

Gwen Francis

In Memory of Pistachio

Gwen Francis

THE HISTORY OF VIVA—
THIS COLUMN BEGINS A
SERIES OF HISTORICAL
FACTS OF VIVA

Volunteers for Inter-Valley Animals, aka VIVA, was founded in October 1981. Our mission statement is simple: **"To provide a better life for the animals in our community."**

Our first work was at Animal Control. In 1981 animals were held 72 hours and then available for adoption or death. Cats were kept in a dark, locked room. When you entered this room, all you saw were little paws reaching out for help. Our first work was to obtain permission from the Board of Supervisors to improve conditions at the County Shelter in Lompoc. We raised money to purchase a bank of cages so the cats could be moved from their dark, locked room to a bright, sunny room where the public could view them. We then raised money to purchase a high pressure washer to improve cleaning the dog runs. We built a puppy play area so puppies could be taken from the often wet dog runs and allowed to exercise in the sunshine. All of these funds were raised by doing bake sales, rummage sales on street corners, and donations from caring VIVA members.

While we worked at the County Shelter we realized that healthy, adoptable animals were being killed daily because their 72 hours were up and they were not given additional time to find a home. We established a Pet of the Week Program with the Lompoc Record. Continued in June...

OLD MAN, A FERAL CAT AT THE SANCTUARY ...Shirley Cram



Old Man arrived at the sanctuary in 2008. A VIVA supporter and feeder of feral cats in Santa Maria alerted me to his situation. She noticed he had joined a feral cat colony and that he was old and tame. He lived in a drain pipe and would crawl out when she came to feed. He was cold and soaking wet and miserable. She called me and we set up a time for him to come to the sanctuary. Old

Man had a home at one time, and, like so many other cats, was abandoned by his owner. Last month the feeder who rescued him came to the work party. Old Man had not seen her for at least seven months. He knew her and was so excited to see her; he followed her around while she was working. He has now settled in at the sanctuary and seems quite content.

KALLIE AND OREO LAND IN CAT HEAVEN

Denise Riegel called VIVA one Tuesday morning, wanting to adopt a couple of old cats since she had had such a good experience with her old cat before it died. A month later, Denise wrote to us.

It has been a month since Oreo and Kallie came home to live with me. They moved from the Old Folks Room at VIVA to my spacious 2 story Victorian. They became comfortable in their new home quickly and by the third day wanted to know what the whole house looked like. Kallie is a



very loving and vocal cat... well, some would say noisy. She lets me know all of the time what she wants: food, treats, pets, or just to sit down and stop moving around. She follows Oreo everywhere. He likes to cruise the interior perimeter and keep an eye out for intruders. Oreo is shy and will come over for a pet when I am on the floor but prefers to watch me from afar. He is even learning to tolerate Kallie's need to snuggle with another cat to fall asleep. They have been delightful company for me, and I am very happy to have them here. They make my house a home.

MISSY #1 NEEDS A PARENT SPONSOR THIS MONTH



Missy is a medium-haired dark Tortie that was going from house to house on Tularosa road, looking for handouts. We think she was probably dumped out there. She now resides in Room Four, the Old Folks Room. **She's a big eater, doesn't want the back end of her body touched, and isn't crazy about any of the other cats.** She really needs a sponsor!