

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
I
V
A

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**



Baby, Oreo, Gracie, and Mister (clockwise from top left) lived together until their owner died last winter. The four kitties were put outside and left behind to fend for themselves by their owner's family. Luckily, they lived at a cat-friendly apartment complex where kind strangers fed them, watched over them, and finally called VIVA to try to find them new homes. Baby is very sweet but he was clearly the most traumatized by the ordeal. He has fluffy white fur and blue eyes. Oreo is a friendly and confident black and white bicolor who loves kids. He is less thrilled to be amidst the many other cats at the shelter, though. Gracie is an older gray tuxedo cat who would want a sunny window to sleep in. Mister is a big, blue-eyed, teddy bear. If you have room in your home, please consider adopting one of these wonderful cats.

SEPTEMBER 2009

CALENDAR:

- 9/12: National Pet Memorial
- 9/20: National Dog Week
- 9/20: National Farm Animal Awareness Week
- 9/22: Elephant Appreciation

Adoptions at the shelter on Saturdays 10AM to 4PM or by appointment (735-6741)

September Is National Chicken Month

CAT LICENSING ...Shirley Cram

This is a serious threat to cats. I am again asking everyone to contact your supervisor by e-mail, phone, or an appointment at his/her office to let them know how you feel about this three-year pilot program they are considering. We have reprinted the e-mail addresses for your convenience:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Salud Carbajal:

scarbajal@sbcbos1.org

Janet Wolf: jwolf@sbcbos2.org

Doreen Farr: dfarr@countyofsb.org

Joni Gray: jgray@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Joe Centeno: jcenteno@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Special thanks to all the volunteers who continue to do all of their regular shifts and come in to cover for all the volunteers on vacation or on sick leave!

We need someone who can recover cat trees with carpet and sisal!

VIVA BOARDING: Our boarding room is small and fills up fast during vacation times. Reserve early: \$8 per cat per day.

NEW RULE: ALL CATS MUST ARRIVE AND LEAVE IN CARRIERS!

FERAL CAT SANCTUARY NEWS

The September work party at the sanctuary is cancelled. We can meet again in October and tackle lots of chores that will need to be done before the winter rains. We always need people who can paint and do construction work as well as people who clean buildings, do gardening, and repair fences. Thank you to all the volunteers who help with these monthly work parties!

IT'S EARLY BUT OPEN HOUSE IS ON THE WAY

VIVA's Open House takes place annually on the first Sunday of December. This year it's on the sixth. We will need "gift quality" items for the raffle and the silent auction. Since we don't have a thrift store anymore, we cannot take used things that people would not want to give others as Christmas presents, etc. If you have items to donate, please bring them to our shelter. Thank you!

VIVA IS "FOR THE BIRDS"!

We have a bird sanctuary in the backyard of Sylvester House. It's enclosed on three sides by lush trees/bushes (the fourth side is the cats' house), and the birds are free to come and go as they choose. There are little sparrows, blue jays, doves, and large crows as regulars. At certain times of the year, black birds with red markings, yellow birds with black, and others visit to eat at six feeders. They drink and bathe in five bird baths. Right now they are eating almost a 20 pound bag of wild bird seed a day.

Three volunteers, all of whom have from one to three regular shifts at the cat shelter and substitute for others when needed, are also taking care of the birds. What we need are seven volunteers to work a mere 30 minutes, one day a week. Also needed are concrete bird baths as the plastic plant saucers are down on the ground every morning. They're just not strong enough. And, of course, we need financial assistance to continue buying bird seed. We'd like to start a Bird Fund to buy seed for the feeders at our shelter and the feeders at Sylvester House. If you can send a check, write Bird Fund on the memo line; if you can volunteer, call!

WOODS ANIMALS WANT IN THE FERAL SANCTUARY

Skunks and other woods animals have been digging under the fence and leaving holes where our cats could get out and coyotes, etc. could get in. They're looking for food! The sanctuary needs broken concrete, delivered, that can be put under the fence when the holes appear. Call Shirley: 736-3995 if you can help. Thanks!

THE HISTORY OF VIVA

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

In 1992 we were evicted from our shelter on G Street. We had 130 cats in residence at that time, and this was devastating to us. We had always thought that our next move would be to a large facility on acreage where we could provide shelter for all animals. We had saved approximately \$35,000 over the years toward purchasing property for this shelter. Because of the eviction notice, we had to move quickly. We found the small house on D Street and a contractor who agreed to build the addition for \$55,000. One of our members, Bruce Stovall, did all the electrical and plumbing work and only charged us for materials. We borrowed the money to purchase the property and then had a long battle with the City of Lompoc to get our building permit. These were tough days for VIVA. The landlord at G Street almost doubled our rent because she wanted us to move, the City would not give us our building permit, and we were making big payments on the property we purchased. We finally got the permit and building began. We moved into this facility a little over 17 years ago. It is without a doubt one of the finest cat shelters one has ever seen. We have a cageless (except for new arrivals, boarders, and temporary special needs cats), no-kill shelter which usually houses 150-200 cats. To be continued in October

A SAD LITTLE GIRL NEED A SPONSOR PARENT

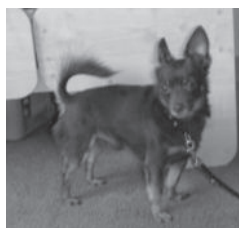
Wendy is a black and grey tabby with a white mask and a pink nose. In 2004, she was living under an apartment building in the 500 block of N. 3rd, along with several other cats. Wendy, a juvenile at the time, was extremely shy for a long time. She became friendly and lived in Room One when she was adopted in March 2005. In August of the same year she was returned as the people "didn't like her personality". After her return, Wendy went into a slump, running from other cats as well as people, not eating, and losing weight. We moved her into Room Four where we thought she might be more comfortable. Although she's only about 5, we are afraid she'll never get a home of her own, so she needs a sponsor. Please call if you can give \$25 a month for Wendy. PS: Jack didn't get a sponsor last month, so he's still available and living in Room Four, too.



OREO, BUNNY, AND MOLLY TU: WELCOME TO THE F.C.S.

These are three young black and white cats. Oreo and Bunny were rescued from the street but were too skittish for adoption. Molly Tu, who came from another place, joined them in their introduction cage. I hoped they would bond and be friends when they were released from the cage; unfortunately, this didn't happen. The good news is that they are all staying in the sanctuary and not trying to find a way out. Oreo and Bunny are waiting for me each morning when I take them canned food. Molly Tu is around, so she is safe, too. These three females would have had litter after litter if the kind people who found them had not spayed them and brought them to the sanctuary. ... Shirley Cram

THREE LITTLE DOGS NEED HOMES Our volunteer in charge of the dog program reports that three "bundles" are available and are awaiting good homes of their own. Call Barb @ 733-3454.



Bruiser (left) is a three-year-old pure bred tiny Chihuahua. He only weighs six pounds. Bruiser is housebroken and is good with all other pets and kids!

Wedo (center) just under a year, is a Chihuahua/Dachund mix. He loves children but is a bit shy, so he needs Tender Loving Care.

Buster Brown (right) is a very sweet but shy little boy who loves to play with other dogs. He's good with kids, too.