

STAR PROGRAM JULY 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

WOW!!! The picnic on July 19 was FUN. The Siskiyou Blues Society played for about three hours and there was food and drink aplenty. Although most of you did not attend (where WERE you?) enough folks showed up to make it a successful, enjoyable event. Below are a few pictures of the day. If you have any pictures of cats you've adopted from Star, please mail them to 1012 N. Old Stage Rd. Mt. Shasta, CA. 96067. That was the part of the picnic I looked forward to the most and only eight of the adoptee's pictures showed up. Please send pictures of "the babies." Page two of the newsletter is a copy of the article that appeared in the Mt. Shasta Herald on 7-23-08.



Star's newsletter is extra long this month as June 30 is the end of our fiscal year. July is the month when tax forms need to be filled out and sent in. All records are gone over for statistics and everyone gets an annual financial report. The month's newsletter and monthly information is also due.

Please take the time to at least glance at the information. I find it helpful in setting goals for the new year ahead and to reflect on the "over-all health" of the Program. Changes to forms and procedures are also implemented in July.

I also turn another year older each July!!

When I think back on this year, I'm basically very pleased. Star's first year was rough! Doing the Yard Sales every Saturday was hard on me physically. Learning new forms and filling out the 501 (c) (3) paperwork cost me some brain cells. Finding Board Members who cared about feral cats and were willing to work tirelessly for them was difficult. Star has been truly blessed because everything that needed to be done, was and people that needed to "come forward" did. Star's Board of Directors has been an outstanding group of women, dedicated to helping feral cats. Without their efforts and dedication, Star would have folded. Current and former Board Members have been faced with many "personal trials" of their own and have not wavered in their support of Star. Star's past President came out of a well deserved retirement from animal welfare work to help get Star off the ground. She realized how needed this Program is and was willing to put time and energy into it. Our current President feeds the colonies and is constantly on the look out for new programs and foundations that can help Star, while maintaining two jobs! Our past Secretary secured Star's foundation of proper paperwork, forms, registrations, by-laws, minutes, etc. all the while her health was failing. Finally, after the amputation of her leg, she realized that she had to turn the reigns over to our current Secretary. Our current Secretary does all the usual Secretary jobs and works every clinic of twenty or more cats and works a regular job!!! What energy, what love, what a blessing. Thank you, thank you.

All of you deserve a huge Thank You also! Without your financial support, Star would have closed down last year. Knowing there are people in this community that care about the feral cats and can afford to "put their money

where their mouth is", allows Star to help more cats each year.

THANK YOU !!!

**STAR PROGRAM
JULY 2008 FINANCIAL REPORT**

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance forward	262.10
Deposits	406.00
Expenses paid by B. Lovelace	270.19
Expenses	- 982.54
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	\$ - 44.25

DOELGER TRUST GRANT

Balance forward	\$ 5.00
Deposits	0.00
Expenses	0.00
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	\$ 5.00

HANDSEL FOUNDATION GRANT

Balance forward	\$ 366.00
Deposits	5.00
Expenses	- 366.00
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	\$ 5.00

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Lovelace
Treasurer, Star Program

Look Out!!! The sky is falling! In bookkeeping you show all deposits made during the month and all expenses for that month. The Vet bills for July arrive for payment in August and are paid in August, but posted to July. Star is still in the black, but not by much!! The grant money is now gone, so all bills will come out of the general checking, until another grant is hopefully received. I know Star is always begging for money, so why should this month be any different? I paid all the picnic expenses so the cats wouldn't have to "do without" so I could eat watermelon and cake!

STAR PROGRAM
YEAR END
JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

INCOME (listed largest to smallest amount)

Individual donations to the Program	\$ 6,456.00
The Thelma Doelger Trust for Animals (Grant)	5,000.00
The Handsel Foundation (Grant)	4,000.00
Letter asking for donations (Fundraiser)	1,445.00
Gift from another 501 (c) (3) organization (S.N.I.P. for Spay/Neuter)	1,000.00
Yard Sales (Fundraiser)	863.00
Adoption Fees	500.00
Shelter/House Program	270.00
Memorials	50.00
Donation Jars at various events	46.00
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	\$ 19,630.00

EXPENSES (listed most expensive to least expensive)

Spent on Spay/Neuter	\$ 9,248.00
Medical Services	3,278.00
Food for Colonies	3,636.00
Credit Card Payments (for Computer & Traps)	1,241.00
Office Supplies	914.00
Mileage Reimbursement	412.00
Miscellaneous	230.00
Fundraising Expenses	220.00
Postage	195.00
Litter	121.00
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Total Expenses	\$ 19,495.00

TOTAL INCOME	\$ 19,630.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	- <u>19,495.00</u>
	\$ 135.00

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lovelace
Treasurer

**STAR PROGRAM
YEAR END STATISTICS
JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008**

Total number of feral cats spayed or neutered: 217

Males: 86 Females: 131

My favorite statistic is the one that will not happen. How many kittens would have been born in one year to just the 131 females that were altered? **1,048** is the answer! That is based on each female having four kittens in the Spring and four kittens in the Fall. This is not including the fact that one half of the kittens born to these 131 females would probably be females and the litter born in the Spring would be old enough to produce a litter of four by the time they reached eight months old! It is so overwhelming. Star is SO HAPPY to have two years in on making the lives of these cats better.

Total number of Adoptions: 44

Five of the kittens trapped this year would not tame and were altered and released back to their colony. Three of them are at a colony that Star maintains and feeds every day and they are all strong, shiny, happy and at a good weight. They won't come anywhere near people, but "lurk" close enough that you can take a good look at them. The other two were released back to a private home (where they were trapped) that has the garage door opened at all times. The latest report on them were that they sleep in the garage and eat in the garage, but spend most of their time outside where they love it!! They hide from their caretaker.

Total number of Feral, Stray, or Abandoned cats helped: 258

(this number includes the 217 spayed/neutered cats)

Star was instrumental in saving a number of tame, abandoned cats this year. Most of these cats needed surgery, or medical attention. Without Star's help they probably would have died. If they lived, their life would have been one of misery and hunger, as they were going to be "let outside" to figure it out on their own. You just can't do that to a domesticated cat!!

Total number of feral cats euthanized/died: 1

Teddy, an abandoned, tame, 15 year old cat died of "natural causes" three days after being rescued. He died at the Siskiyou Humane Society, in Kim Latos's arms. He had been rescued from under a building with his two companions, Terry and Tot. Like him, his two friends had terrible dental problems, which were corrected through extractions and antibiotics and it's felt that Teddy was just "too far gone" with infection by the time we got to him. His friends were adopted. Teddy would have found a home also, as he was a large Maine Coon and as handsome and loving of a friend as you'd ever meet. We can't save them all, but we can remember them.

Location and number of feral cats spayed/neutered

Castella	8	Mt. Shasta	71
Dunsmuir	6	Montague	7
Etna	12	Sawyers Bar	1
Fort Jones	6	Tenant	5
McCloud	16	Weed	85

Veterinary Hospitals Used and number altered at each

Mt. Shasta Animal Hospital	124
Purr-Angels Clinic by Dr. Novy	72
Black Butte Veterinary Hospital	2
Scott Valley Veterinary Hospital	<u>19</u>
	217

Some of the kittens Star has for adoption. Call 926-6388.

In the middle is Bootsie. A neutered 5 month old male. Current on shots. The kitten on the left and right don't have names! Both are males, Un-neutered and have only had one shot. They also are 5 months old.



COMPARISON OF 2006-2007 TO 2007-2008

	2006-2007	2007-2008	Total
Spayed/Neutered	192	217	409
Adopted	58	44	102
Helped in some way	209	258	467
Euthanized/died	11	1	12
Income	\$ 16,398.00	\$ 19,630.00	
Expenses	\$ 20,246.00	\$ 19,495.00	

COMMENTS ABOUT COMPARISON

1. Spayed/Neutered. Twenty five more cats were altered this year. The Board of Directors set a goal of three hundred alters for 2008-2009.
2. Adopted. Fourteen fewer cats were adopted this year. I see it as a reflection of the fact spaying and neutering was going on last year, so there were fewer kittens available! Every kitten that Star has tamed, or came in contact with that needs a home has been placed!
3. Helped in some way. Star was able to help forty-nine more cats this year.
4. Euthanized/died. In 2006-2007, there were six injured ferals (hit by cars, or torn up by other animal) that had to be released from their suffering. There was no hope of recovery, even with surgery. There were five kittens from two different litters of ferals being tamed that got infectious peritonitis and died in my arms, or my husbands, within 24 hours of becoming sick. Last year was so upsetting with these losses, that Star almost took itself out of business!! After many talks with others in this "line of work", decided to hang in there. Thank goodness in 2007-2008 only one cat was lost. Almost all the kittens had an upper respiratory infection, but it cleared up with treatment and none of them had any deadly diseases!!
5. Income. In 2006-2007, Star did not receive any grant money. Star did not have it's 501 (c) (3) clearance yet, therefore could not even apply. It was up to you, the general public, to keep Star going and you did!!! In 2007-2008 Star received \$9,000.00 total in grant money and that helped tremendously.
6. Expenses. The first year Star had to charge over \$4,000.00 on the credit card. Twenty new traps and a new computer system were purchased. This is why income to expenses were so out of whack that year. In 2007-2008, all the equipment needed to function was here, so just had to watch that Star did not spend more than it had. Not an easy thing, but did it!!