# **Backdoor Friends Purebred Cat Rescue**

## Rescue

Care

Place





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Harper

TWELVE CATS ADOPTED SINCE<br/>LAST FALL'S NEWSLETTER5 Males7 Females5 Males7 FemalesOf those 12 cats, three were purebreds. The oldest<br/>cat adopted was Sammie who is 5-years-old. The<br/>youngest was 9-months-old Chrissy.





Betsy

Gracie Editor Lucy McGuire

#### COVID-19 AND CAT RESCUE

by Anne Klein

We are frequently asked, "Are you doing cat rescue during COVID-19?" The short answer is 'YES' with quite a few obstacles along the way. It all started, of course, in March when the lock-down began. Many veterinarian clinics/hospitals were closed or severely restricted. Appointments were greatly reduced and faceto-face conversations with the doctors prohibited. Our standard rescue procedure starts with a full medical exam and blood tests for FELK/FIV. For several months, we had to quarantine in-coming cats in the foster homes before appointments were available. Cats that needed immediate care were referred to a local animal emergency hospital which was open but severely strained with the influx of sick or injured animals. One afternoon, I sat in my car with a sick cat for three hours before my cat was transferred to a sterile cardboard carrier and admitted into the hospital. As expected, I waited for a diagnosis in my car and spoke with the veterinarian via phone.

As Spring and Summer flew by we were faced with another dilemma. Can cats catch COVID-19 and can we get the virus from them? As cited in *Cat Watch* at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine newsletter that

is published by the Cornell Feline Health Center at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine, domestic cats can be infected by SARS-CoV-2. However, as of August 2020 only two U.S. domestic cats and one U.S. dog were diagnosed with COVID-19 (all in New York state). According to Bruce Kornreich, DVM, PhD, Director of the Cornell Feline Health Center, there is no evidence that cats can transmit the virus to people, but they can transmit to other cats.

Slowly, restrictions have eased and we are getting back to in-person veterinarian visits and more flexible appointments. So, how many cats have we rescued during the pandemic? Nine cats have come into our care and five have found forever homes. Unfortunately, many stores and businesses have closed during this past year but cats in need keep finding their way to our doorstep. I am so happy that we have stayed healthy and can continue to bring these beautiful animals into our rescue.

### PHIL

#### by Nancy McVícar

The phone rings. It is a staff member at the rescue's veterinary hospital. Someone dropped off three feral

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Adoption and foster applications can be filled out online at http://www.backdoorfriendspurebredcatrescue.org/contact.html. 🏶