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Happy Holidays 2016 Newsletter

As we close this year 2016, it is with a grateful heart that we have been blessed to help so many cats and kittens.

This past summer was a prolific kitten year, it seems like we got calls every day to take kittens born outside, kittens that needed bottle feeding, kittens kittens and more kittens! We did our share, we are fortunate to have a wonderful retired volunteer who is an expert bottle feeder! Thankfully these babies are all adopted. But boy, it sure is a drain on our financial resources. Each kitten gets deworming (twice), FeLV FIV testing, 3 sets of shots, 1 rabies shot, a microchip, spay/neuter surgery - some litters have 5 or 6 kittens each!

Our two little feral colonies grew some this past year, 2 new cats at one, and 6 at the larger one. We make sure to trap them, spay/neuter them, get them shots and they go back to the colony sporting an ear tip (the universal sign that you don't need to trap that one again). No kittens were born this year in either colony. That means our colonies are well managed. They have shelter and fresh food and water every day. TNR really does work!

We also took in some older cats this year, one case in point is Muffy. Take a look at her sweet picture on the other side of this letter. Muffy is 14, front declawed and surrendered by the only mommy she ever knew because that mommy suddenly developed allergies to Muffy. She also had adopted a playful new 2 year old and Muffy, being an older lady, didn't really want to play much. So rather than let her be surrendered to a real shelter (where she wouldn't have much chance and certainly be so stressed out), Muffy became an Angel Cat. Muffy got "Senior" blood work done, a dental (2 teeth removed) and given a clean bill of health. Now she just needs a loving home to hopefully live out her days. She has many years of love left to give.

Many of our older foster cats are nearing that "senior" mark where they all need blood work just to check for any underlying medical issues. We would never adopt out an older cat and not let the new parents know exactly what to expect. We have cats that have been in our Angel Foster Homes for 6 years now. Some came as tiny babies and for some reason missed their "window" as a kitten for adoption. But we are always hopeful. We hope for folks who appreciate the calm demeanor of an older cat, and that hope keeps us going. There are always ongoing vet bills to keep the kits healthy and well fed.

As of this letter, Angel Cat has officially been a non-profit rescue for 8 years! We have helped, provided spay/neuter surgeries, found homes for over 400 or so cats in those 8 years and that is pretty awesome! But we couldn't have done it without your help. We get no government subsidy, but do get to participate in some of the Petco programs such as Tree of Hope and Spring A Pet. The lion share of our funding comes from kind hearted cat lovers like you paying it forward to help the many cats and kittens out there in Orange County that desperately need it. So please, if you can, keep sending those tax deductible donations to us. We are all volunteer all the time and every cent goes right back out to the cats. We've always been pretty fortunate to have enough to do what we need to, but this year has found us actually in some debt. A few of the foster cats had some medical issues (3 had Struvite crystals!) and our vet bills have been exceptionally high lately. We are a 501c3 Non-Profit and all donations are tax deductible. We persevere in spite of being dangerously low on funds because we believe in our mission and love helping cats. We know that everyone reading this feels the same way! So, with a hopeful heart for our future in the New Year, we wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving and a Wonderful Christmas!

Sincerely,

Robin Hule