



Happy Hearts Feline Rescue

Giving cats and kittens a second chance for a forever loving home.

Spring 2015

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2014 Statistics:

Intakes: 106

Adoptions: 64

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A Happy Ending for Smokey Joe!

It all started when Dawn and Geraldine were taking a walk one Friday morning and saw a broken-up cat carrier in the field next to a main road in Saline. They knew it was unusual and had to investigate. Upon peeking into the crate, a beautiful gray kitten came out to greet them. On a review of the situation, it was obvious the crate had been thrown from a vehicle. Who would do such a cruel thing! How the kitten survived without injury is a miracle! Dawn and Geraldine named the kitten "Smokey Joe" and contacted Happy Hearts Feline Rescue. We happily took Smokey Joe into the shelter.

Smokey Joe spent several months at Happy Hearts. He was listed for adoption on Pet Finder and our website. In December, we received a from Sean, to come meet Smokey Joe. Smokey Joe must have been having a bad day and Morris, an orange tabby, "auditioned" better than Smokey Joe. When Sean made the request to adopt Morris, it was evident that his heart was really with Smokey Joe, we suggested that he take Smokey Joe for a two-week trial.



Upon delivery to Sean, Smokey Joe made himself right at home, being a typical cat and checking out the new digs! After only a few hours, Smokey Joe's true personality came out and Sean quickly made the decision that Smokey Joe was the right cat for him!

What a wonderful outcome for Smokey Joe, thanks to the efforts of Dawn, Geraldine and Happy Hearts, and a special thanks to Sean for giving Smokey a forever loving home!

One can never understand why people think "dumping" an animal is an acceptable thing to do. It's not only cruel, it's illegal! Thank goodness Smokey Joe got a second chance; so many animals don't...



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Things you might have to explain to People Who don't have Cats!

-  **Cats are Smart!** Cats know their names! They know the names of other cats in the household too! They can be taught discipline and tricks and the meaning of "NO!"
-  **Cats are loving...** contrary to myths and stereotypes, cats can be very affectionate! Cats get very attached to their owners and families: greeting them at the door, rubbing their legs, purring, cuddling, sitting and lying on you.
-  **Cats bring gifts!** Maybe not exactly what you wanted, but they share their "hunt" by bringing it to you. By doing this, they are showing the same love and affection they might share towards their kittens. Even an indoor cat might share its toy or other things and graciously place them in your shoe.
-  **Cats can talk!** Expressing their feelings by vocalizing in different ways: hissing, purring, growling and variations in their "meows". A long-drawn-out meow says "I want that" or "Pay attention to me!" A meow with a question mark might mean it is asking you to do something. A little chirp means "Pay attention to me!"

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So you found a litter of kittens...

When you find a litter of kittens your, immediate response might be to scoop them up.

It's not unusual for mama kitty to leave her kindle to search for food, but the vast majority of the time mama returns in plenty of time to feed them. Keep in mind that the best chance for survival is to leave the kittens with their mother. But, should you decide to take the kittens in, be prepared to devote a huge amount of time to care for the little ones, and you need to know what you are doing!



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Neonatal kittens need to be bottle-fed every two hours. They also need to be fed "kitten replacement milk" (purchased in pet stores) as their little systems cannot tolerate cow's milk. Not only do they need to be fed, they need help in elimination, too! If you gently stroke their little bottoms, they will poo and pee.



Here are some tips on what to do if you find a litter of kittens outdoors:

1. First of all - don't panic. Observe and leave the kittens alone - make sure they have been abandoned before you take action. You'll often find that their mother is simply out looking for food or for a good place to move them.

2. Contact a local animal shelter, such as Happy Hearts Feline Rescue, to help determine if mother comes back in a normal time frame or if the kittens will need to be bottle-fed. Ask the shelter if they will take the kittens, if she doesn't return or will they help train you to care for these little ones.

3. Though it may go against your instincts, don't immediately scoop kittens up and take them to the shelter. If the mother does not come back within one day, the kittens may have been abandoned or harm may have fallen to mama kitty.

Finally, once mama weans her little ones, the best thing to do is trap her and the kittens and have them spayed or neutered!

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Barn Homes Needed!

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue is searching for good barn homes for cats! If you know of a dairy farm, horse farm or ANY farm that has a warm hay mound and will feed the cats daily, please let us know. Any cat(s) going to a new barn home comes with a bag of dry cat food! Call Jeanne at 734-545-2906 or Teri at 517-795-5629.

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Other Ways to Help!



bissell.com/partnersforpets

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue is proud to be a Partner for Pets! BISSELL and LostPetUSA.net have teamed up to help organizations like ours raise money and now you can help too! When you purchase pet products on Bissell, a portion of your purchase will be donated to our organization.

It's simple. Shop pet products on www.bissell.com, enter the code **ADOPT** at checkout, \$ then select our organization! Learn more at www.bissell.com/partnersforpets.



Need Cat Litter? Buy Fresh Step!

If you buy Fresh Step Cat Litter, designate those Paw Points for Happy Hearts! Fresh Step will send Happy Hearts FREE Litter for its Shelter!

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue is still collecting shoes for recycling. This is an easy way to help us! Just collect old shoes: from your friends, neighbors, relatives and your own closet! We get \$0.50 for each pound of shoes! Call 734-545-2906 for details.

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Adoption Opportunities

If you think money can't buy happiness, you haven't paid an adoption fee!
Happy Hearts Adoption Fee is only \$60!



Meet Shirley Temple! Shirley was abandoned by her owner when he moved to Arizona and left her on his doorstep in the dead of winter. Her sweet personality has shone through her strife and she is a very loving and affectionate young cat, wanting nothing more than to relax in her bed (like she is doing here) and have her tummy rubbed occasionally. She gets along well with other cats and with children who know how to treat animals. Shirley is spayed, vaccinated and tested negative for feline leukemia.

Eva - The Diva! Isn't she beautiful. Playful and full of energy too! Estimated at 10 months old, she has been spayed, vaccinated, Feline Leuk tested and vaccinated. She gets along well with other cats and with children who know how to treat animals.



His soft, gentle coloring and blue eyes describe his personality exactly. Neutered male, estimated to be three years old, Honey Bear loves attention, but patiently waits for his turn. Honey Bear has been vaccinated, Feline Leuk tested and vaccinated as well. He is "good to go" to his new forever loving home!

To see more of our adorable and adoptable felines,
visit us on Petfinder.com www.petfinder.com/shelters/MI951.html
or Happy Hearts' website: www.happyheartsfeline rescue.org



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I love the work Happy Hearts is doing and want to help!

Enclosed is my donation for \$_____



Name: _____

Address: _____



Please mail your donation to:

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue

PO Box 909

Saline, MI 48176

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We can also use:

Canned Cat Food

Litter (Scoopable and Non-Scoopable)

Laundry Detergent & Bleach

Paper Towels & Garbage Bags

Call for delivery or pickup

734-545-2906