

# SOUTH COUNTY CATS

Summer 2011  
Volume 3, Issue 2



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## Kitten Season is in Full Swing

I hope you are all enjoying summer, now that it has finally arrived. July, to us, meant peak kitten season. It is always a challenge for our organization and volunteers to “survive July.” Now, in August, feral and stray kittens are getting older and more visible. Mama cats are pregnant or have had kittens yet again. The shelters are full; cats and kittens are being turned away. There are more kittens than homes. South County Cats recently had nearly 90 kittens in foster care. All of our cats and kittens are fostered in volunteers’ homes. Each of these kittens must find a forever home, and they will, thanks to Petco allowing us to hold weekly adoption events at their Covington store.

Where do these kittens come from? Some of the kittens we take in are through our “Mom and Me” program for people with “oops” litters. We provide a voucher for the mama cat to be spayed and we place her kittens in foster homes where they are cared for until they are big enough for spay/neuter and adoption. As foster home space allows, we also take in kittens born to feral or stray moms, if they can be tamed. Timing is critical. The window of opportunity to best socialize feral kittens is between five and eight weeks old. If they are too old to be tamed, they are trapped-neutered-returned (TNR) to their colony. In every case, the mama cat (and all other household or colony cats) are spayed or neutered. We want to take in every litter but as a small, all-volunteer organization, we have limited resources.

## South County Cats Adoptions

South County Cats kitten and cat adoptions include all of the same treatments most shelters and organizations provide such as:

- Spay or Neuter
- One or more FVRCP vaccinations
- At least 2 treatments for roundworms

- FIV/FeLV test for the mama cat and/or one or more kittens in the litter
- Flea treatment, if needed
- Earmite treatment, if needed
- Microchip and microchip registration
- Certificate for a free vet exam
- 30-45 days free pet care insurance
- Free bag of sample food
- Petco coupons for 50% off food and free litter

The adoption donation helps pay for the kittens’ care and treatments and the spay/neuter of the mama cat and any additional household cats (or TNR of additional feral cats) to stop the uncontrolled breeding that leads to over-population, homelessness and euthanasia.

## CAToberfest 2011!

**Mark your calendars for  
October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1 - 4 pm  
at the Maple Valley  
Community Center**

(same venue as last year - construction of the new roundabout is complete and is quite efficient) We have some interesting information sessions planned, plus some wonderful auction items. Our raffle drawing this year is for a painting of your pet(s). There will be activities for kids, including a drawing contest, and, of course, free refreshments. Find more information on our [website](#).



If you have an item or service you would like to donate to our **CAToberfest** auction please contact our procurement chair Kathy Myers at [kathyjmyers@netzero.net](mailto:kathyjmyers@netzero.net)

We look forward to seeing you at **CAToberfest 2011!**

## Two Grants Awarded to SCC

We are proud to announce that South County Cats received two grants for our Companion Cat Spay/Neuter Voucher Program. The ASPCA awarded funds for approximately 240 cats to be spayed or neutered, and the Handsel Foundation awarded funds for 100 cats for each of three years. Thanks to these grants we are able to serve our mission of saving lives through spay and neuter by offering financial assistance to low income, disabled and senior citizens to spay/neuter their cat(s).

## Major Milestones

South County Cats has reached two major milestones. On **July 24<sup>th</sup>** we celebrated our five year anniversary since becoming a Washington State non-profit organization. In this time we have facilitated over **4,200** spay/neuters. Already this year we have helped over **950** cats, so it looks like we will meet or exceed our record 1,200 spays last year. On a recent Sunday two carloads of cats were transported to the Spay/Neuter Project with over **30** cats! Our dedicated volunteers work so hard at prevention yet the shelters are full. How can this be?

Consider these facts:

- A female kitten can go into heat as young as 4 months old.
- A female cat can have 3 litters in one year.
- One breeding pair of cats can be responsible for nearly 400,000 kittens in 7 years.

Did I mention we have a litter of **nine** kittens in foster care?



## Scotty is our Poster Child!



Scotty was our first “special needs” kitty of the year (and hopefully the last!) He came to us early in kitten season with severe upper respiratory infection (URI) symptoms. But nothing slowed Scotty

down - he was always batting at someone’s head for attention from his cage and when he was well enough to integrate with his foster family’s cats he instantly won everybody over - human, feline and canine! Visitors would ask “Where’s Scotty?” While his “kitty cold” quickly cleared up, his eyes continued to weep. After many visits to Northwest Animal Eye Specialists, Scotty’s eyes finally improved and he was ready for adoption. Mud Bay in Maple Valley invited us to the grand opening of their new store and Scotty was the STAR! He was quickly adopted to a home with a matching dog - a golden retriever. His new family reports, “*Scotty has been a wonderful addition to our family. He LOVES our 3 year old golden retriever, and they play like 2 dogs. Scotty follows him around and insists on drinking out of his water bowl.*”

## South County Cats Events

We have had a busy summer with many community events including PetPalooza, Woofstock, and Catapalooza. We have dates scheduled in September at the Renton & Maple Valley Markets Farmers, to name a few.

These events give us the opportunity to get out into the community to educate people about Trap-Neuter-Return of feral cats and the importance of spay and neuter of companion cats. Every event seems to yield a trap-neuter-return site and several voucher applications for our Companion Cat Spay/Neuter Voucher Program.

Please visit our website to see our Calendar of Events and don’t forget to check our Facebook page to keep up what’s going on with South County Cats.

## Goodbye Lexi Lu

South County Cats, and its' founder/director Sally, lost their canine mascot and friend earlier this month. If you ever visited Sally's you met her beautiful Weimaraner, Lexi Lu. Lexi was a regular attendee at meetings and many of our events and was Sally's constant companion and resident cat trainer. She was sadly diagnosed with advanced stage cancer that quickly took her life. We'll all miss Lexi Lu.



## How You Can Help!

**Let people know about our services** - We provide year-round financial assistance for limited income, disabled and senior citizens to have their companion cats spayed or neutered. Our *preferred provider* is [Coalition Humane](#) in Tacoma, but we also partner with several local veterinarians. In addition, we help with Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) of feral cats in south King County.

**Donations** – We can always use non-clumping cat litter, kitten food, cat toys, bleach and more. Please see the [wish list](#) on our website. Of course, monetary donations are always appreciated and can be sent to our mailing address (at right) or via the [PayPal link](#) on our website.

**Ink Jet Cartridges** – Used ink jet cartridges are recycled at local office supply stores, which gives us valuable credit for printing services. Gather up yours, collect more from your friends and family, and e-mail us to arrange a pickup or dropoff.

**Volunteer** – We can always use more volunteers. A complete list of [volunteer activities](#) can be found on our website.

There are many ways [you can help](#) our efforts to **save lives through spay and neuter**.

Please visit our beautiful website made possible by the many hours donated by our volunteer Lynn. [www.southcountycats.petfinder.org](http://www.southcountycats.petfinder.org)

Also, visit our [Facebook](#) page.

### South County Cats Spay/Neuter Assistance Organization

*Saving lives through spay and neuter*  
**Over 4,200 cats altered since 2006!**

South County Cats is an all-volunteer,  
IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
Tax ID # 20-5278961

Tax-deductible donations may be sent  
to our mailing address:

South County Cats  
26828 Maple Valley-Black Diamond RD SE #160  
Maple Valley, WA 98038

web: [www.southcountycats.petfinder.org](http://www.southcountycats.petfinder.org)  
e-mail: [southcountycats@comcast.net](mailto:southcountycats@comcast.net)

Thank you for your support of  
*South County Cats.*

We are a small organization  
making a BIG difference.

*Saving lives  
through  
spay and neuter...*

**Over 950 spay/neuters facilitated this year!**  
**Over 4,200 spay/neuters since 2006!**

