



ON THE COVER

Bryant

"Just dreaming of a home for the holidays..."



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For more information about *Purrs & Prattlings*, our shelter, how to adopt, how to contribute, upcoming fundraisers, address changes or other corrections, please contact us via the following:

Good Mews Animal Foundation
3805 Robinson Road
Marietta, GA 30068

Phone: 770.499.CATS (2287)
Web site: www.goodmews.org
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VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

Want to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Good Mews? The next scheduled orientations are:

Jan 7 Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Feb 4 Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Mar 4 Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

The meetings last about an hour. To sign up, please call 770.499.2287 and press "4" to leave a message, or email at goodmewsvolunteer@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Adoptions

Help us find good homes for good kitties! Training/job shadowing required. Must be 21+ and commit to one shift per month.

Clean & Feed

If you really want to get to know the cats and don't mind "dirty" work, then this is the area for you! Must commit to bi-weekly shift. Kids 8+ welcome with parent/guardian.

Communications

This committee oversees all promotional materials, fundraising letters, quarterly newsletters, monthly e-newsletters, Kitty Keeper letters, etc. Tasks include writing, editing, and designing.

Community Outreach

Help us promote Good Mews to the community! Volunteers who enjoy teaching, public speaking, and working with the public are encouraged.

Grants

Assist Good Mews in securing crucial funds by researching and/or applying for grants! Strong writing skills required. Must be able to work independently and meet deadlines.

Kitty Buddy

Sometimes kitties need extra socializing before they are adoptable. Kitty Buddies work one-on-one with these cats to give special attention and hands-on care.

Marketing

This committee manages Good Mews' public image, including branding, media relations, social media, advertising, and shelter events.

Medical

Without a staff veterinarian, volunteers help medicate cats twice daily. Training/job shadowing required; must be 21+ and commit to bi-weekly shift. Experience preferred but not required.

Special Events

Do you like planning events or throwing parties? Then this is the committee for you! Volunteers are needed to organize annual fundraisers, assist with logistics, plan new events, and more.

Volunteer

Assistance is needed to help with monthly orientations and to recruit new volunteers for various committees.

Kitty Keeper Candidate

Amy Lee & Tanger

by Leslie Cooper



could not care for us properly. Amy Lee and I both developed glaucoma and vision problems as a result.

Hey, y'all – I'm Tanger, a yellow tabby with a roguish crinkly ear. Don't you worry, the ladies (both two-leggers and four-leggers) seem to like me just fine. Speaking of ladies, my sister Amy Lee and I used to live with one who had over FIFTY cats. As you can imagine, things got out of control and she

Then, one day, some folks came and brought us to this beautiful shelter! Now we always have enough food and our eyes are being taken care of. (But I do not enjoy getting my drops AT ALL.) Best of all, people visit us every day! They care for us, pet us, and say sweet things. We may not have had all the medical care we needed while growing up, but we did receive a lot of affection so we are social kitties and love people.

I'm a pretty chill guy, and I like to sit back and watch the cats and people here. My vision's not 20/20, but it's okay. Sometimes I even get "the crazies" and run around like I'm a skinny little kitten again. That's so much fun! Maybe it'll help me get my svelte figure back...in the meantime, I'll just lay back and let everyone rub my (rather rotund) belly.



Hi, I'm Amy Lee, a petite dilute calico. My eyes used to hurt SO much. I had to have surgery to remove one of them and my vision's not great in the other, but I was very happy to get relief from the constant pain. Sometimes I do get scared because I can't properly see what's going on around me, and I



Giving Thanks

Thank you SO much to everyone who donated to our Strut Your Mutt team! Good Mews finished in 2nd place and earned a \$500 bonus from Best Friends Animal Society. Those bonus dollars put us over the \$19,000 mark – far surpassing last year's total. We could not be more grateful for all the support!



Then, just two months later, we were again blown away by your generosity on "Giving Tuesday" aka Georgia Gives Day. Not only did we pass our \$15,000 fundraising goal in ONE DAY, but we also earned a \$1,000 bonus during our Power Hour!

On behalf of all the Good Mews kitties who will benefit greatly from every dollar raised, THANK YOU!

Yoga with Cats



Yoga with Cats and Reading to Cats are scheduled several times a month. Advanced registration is necessary because attendance is limited. Please check the Good Mews website for exact dates and times.

Reading to Cats



Vaccination and Microchip Clinic



Good Mews will be holding another low-cost vaccination and microchip clinic for cats and dogs on Saturday, March 24, at the shelter.

Individual packages and services are available. Check our website to make an appointment, and for more information.

Purrs & Prattlings is published by Good Mews Animal Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, no-kill, cage-free shelter for cats.

good mews

purrs & prattlings

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INSIDE

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Success Story: Smokey and Monkey

Meowsquerade Ball

RECENT ADOPTION TOTALS

August	45
September	39
October	43
November	29
2017 Total	420

WishList

Some of the items we particularly need:

- 🐾 HP 902 or 902XL Black printer cartridges
- 🐾 HP 902 or 902XL Cyan, Magenta or Yellow printer cartridges
- 🐾 Dasuquin capsules
- 🐾 Paper towels
- 🐾 Scoopable cat litter
- 🐾 Bleach
- 🐾 Feliway Diffuser refills
- 🐾 Copy paper
- 🐾 Classic Fancy Feast (Seafood/Chicken)

From the Shelter Manager

Dear Friends of Good Mews, I cannot say enough about the warm welcome I have received since coming here! Everyone has been great in helping me get acquainted with Good Mews, the greater Atlanta area, and of course each one of our sweet cats and kittens.

As you may know, I have spent the last seven years of my career working solely in animal rescue and welfare. With a degree in Zoology from Kentucky Wesleyan College, I aim to create a better life for all animals. Whether that is on the streets of Kosovo, the mountains of Montana, or right here in Marietta, my mission is to save all the lives I can. That is why I am here. When I saw the opening for the Good Mews Shelter Manager position, I knew this is where I wanted to be. With all of your support, Good Mews saves lives from all



over Georgia and sometimes beyond. I want to be a part of that, with you!

I am beyond excited for this new chapter in my life. Many people have asked about my adjustment from the hectic environment in Kosovo to a slower pace in the South. The Good Mews family has helped this to be an easy transition. Together, I am looking forward to saving more cats, implementing new ideas, and continuing Good

Mews' already long legacy of compassion for our community.

Sincerely,

Brandon Castner

Thank you, vets!

We would like to thank the following veterinarians who have given their assistance to Good Mews:

NAME	LOCATION	PHONE
Dr. Lynn Bahr	---	---
Dr. Agda Barreirinhas	Montrose Animal Hospital	770.977.9000
Dr. Lindsay Boozer	Cobb Veterinary Internal Medicine	678.354.7126
Dr. Jennifer Covington	East Marietta Animal Hospital	770.973.4830
Dr. James Davis	Montrose Animal Hospital	770.977.9000
Dr. Jerry Diaz	East Marietta Animal Hospital	770.973.4830
Dr. David Flier	Veterinary Referral Surgical Practice	770.424.6663
Drs. Flower, Hill-Reilly, & Zelman	Shallowford Animal Hospital	770.926.0926
Dr. Michael Friedlander	Cat Care of Vinings	404.792.0700
Dr. Christina Fugedy	East Marietta Animal Hospital	770.973.4830
Dr. Lori Germon	Pets Premier Mobile Veterinary Clinic	678.800.2260
Dr. Tyler Huhman	Tritt Animal Hospital	770.992.8787
Dr. Judy Johnson	---	---
Dr. Tracey King	Animal Eye Specialists	770.427.3199
Dr. Patricia Lane	---	---
Dr. John Lewis	Lewis Veterinary Services (mobile service)	770.366.3880
Dr. Jeffrey Little	Veterinary Referral Surgical Practice	770.424.6663
Dr. Mary Matthews	Montrose Animal Hospital	770.977.9000
Dr. Angela Mees	Atlanta Veterinary Dental Services	770.552.8777
Dr. Michelle Mills	Mills Animal Hospital	770.903.5995
Dr. Thomas Noone	Veterinary Referral Surgical Practice	770.424.6663
Dr. Jennifer Palmer	Cat Care of Vinings	404.792.0700
Dr. Kelly Qualls	Cedarcrest Animal Hospital	770.544.0580
Dr. Michael S. Ray	The Cat Clinic of Roswell	770.552.7877
Dr. Marcus Smith	Chattahoochee Animal Clinic	770.993.6329
Dr. Kahrma Wagner	Veterinary Referral Surgical Practice	770.424.6663
Dr. Allison Wansky	Allatoona Animal Hospital	678.445.1111
Dr. Keri Webster	Montrose Animal Hospital	770.977.9000
Dr. Baily Cave Wood	Trickum Ridge Animal Hospital	770.516.1111

Good Mews benefits from Metro Atlanta veterinarians who graciously donate their time and services to provide quality medical care for our residents. We are always in need of additional vets and vet techs. Contact the Shelter Manager at 770-499-CATS if you can make a little time to help.

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE

Memorials/Honorariums

Honor a pet, friend, or family member

This is a great way to recognize that special person or animal in your life! Recipients and donors are listed in each issue of the Good Mews newsletter, and an acknowledgment card can be mailed if requested.

Volunteering

Give of your time

Good Mews relies on volunteer support for a variety of functions such as fundraising, adoptions, medical care, community outreach, and shifts for the upkeep of our shelter cats. Volunteers must attend an orientation meeting to determine their area of interest and time they are able to dedicate.

Kitty Keeper

Give long distance love to a cat in need

Kitty Keeper cats are overlooked because of age, personality, or medical issues; many have been waiting years for their forever home. For a monthly donation of \$20 or more, you can "keep" a special kitty who will send letters and photos!

HALO (Home at Last)

Provide ongoing medical care

HALO cats are typically overlooked because of age, medical conditions, or behavioral issues – the most common reasons for euthanasia at traditional shelters. This program pays for ongoing medical care even after adoption!

CATmitment Program

Opening your heart and our doors

The best way to sustain operations and ensure growth is to have a predictable income! Help our kitties on an ongoing basis with a recurring monthly donation of any amount. Funds help care for all residents, as well as shelter upkeep.

Honor My Vet

Give thanks for your other family doctor

For a donation of \$25 or more, you can recognize your chosen veterinarian. We'll send a letter acknowledging your gift, as well as a certificate suitable for framing. We'll even make a certificate for your favorite pet sitter too!

Amazon Wish List

Shop from the convenience of your couch

Purchase items from our Amazon Wish List and have them shipped directly to Good Mews. It's a convenient option for you to help the kitties. Don't forget to use Amazon Smile and select Good Mews as your designated charity!

Commemorative Brick

Leave a permanent impression

Recognize an important friend, family member, or feline by purchasing a brick for the walkway in front of our shelter! Good Mews has partnered with Bricks 'R Us to provide commemorative bricks starting at \$100.

Visit the "Giving to GM" section at www.goodmews.org for complete program descriptions and instructions on how to enroll or contribute to these programs.

Meowsquerade Recap

by Sarah Poland

Thank you to everyone who attended the Good Mews Meowsquerade Ball at beautiful Le Fais Do-Do on Saturday, November 11th! We had a wonderful time raising money for the kitties while dining on delicious treats from Dogwood Catering, and desserts from Nothing Bundt Cakes and Hudson Grille. The bars were stocked with beverages from our generous sponsors, Red Hare Brewery and Republic National Distributing Company, and guests were entertained by a fantastic dueling pianos show. Luckily, everyone took a break from singing along to Don't Stop Believin' to bid on an array of auction items donated by generous supporters.

Many an attendee donned a custom cat mask, handmade by Ruth Turner. Seeing the uncanny likeness of beloved kitties like Patriot, Amy Lee, Tanger, and Gonzo reminded everyone what the night was really about. Speaking of cherished cats, three lucky bidders also went home with masks in honor of Bay Bay, Buddy, and Tricky, who will forever live in our hearts.



Once again, there was a 50/50 raffle which gave everyone the chance to try their luck while also donating to the kitties. This year's raffle winner was generous enough to donate his winnings back to Good Mews! Then, after a special presentation by \$25 President, Lori Trahan, about Operation: Complete the Suite, our amazing attendees pledged \$7,260 towards the Surgical Suite which, in the future, will benefit both Good Mews AND the surrounding community in the form of low-cost spay and neuter services.

The evening's emcee was none other than Mr. Kendra Ledlow, aka Justin. A case of custom-labeled Meowsquerade wine kicked off the Live Auction, followed by an incredible quilt handmade by volunteer Pam Cobb and an original "Pete the Cat" painting by James Dean. Thanks to the McCamish Group, one lucky attendee scored a package for Georgia Tech basketball and, after an intense bidding war, last year's winner of the African Safari decided they couldn't pass up another trip! One of the most popular items, a trip to the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama, was donated by none other than Good Mews founder, Gloria Skeen Cornell! Gloria was kind enough to make the trip to Atlanta for the Meowsquerade Ball and she truly made it a special night for all.

This event could not have been a success without our co-chairs, Ruth Turner and Sarah Poland, and our hardworking volunteers: Barb Bertke, Julie Escarcega, Chris and Jim Graubard, Fred Hatch, Lamar Hardigree, Peggy Hellen, Michelle Kirkham, Kendra and Justin Ledlow, Jessica and Bill Manning, Jennifer Martin, Carole Morgan, Heather Pynne, Celia Quillian, Brenda Rhodes, Eileen Roller, Jessica Temple, Jasmine Tindell, Karyn Trahan, Lori Trahan, Melissa Wardlaw, Cynthia Wright, and Robbin Yeager – plus many others who helped in advance. A big thank you also goes out to Sharon Molnar Schleif for again preparing delicious sweet treats for the guests.



All of the volunteers, attendees, and sponsors made this a wonderful night to remember – resulting in over \$35,00 raised. On behalf of everyone who was involved in the planning of the Meowsquerade Ball, as well as the kitties who benefited from your incredible generosity, THANK YOU!

Thank You to Our Meowsquerade Donors

Ace Adventure Resort	Camp Kitty	Hall's Floral Design School	Linda Freeman Neal	Southern Bistro
Alliance Theatre	Carla Russell	HealthQuest Chiropractic Center	Lizard Thicket	Southern Charm Pet Care
AMC Theatres	Carol Baril	Hepper	Lori Pulen	Southwest Airlines
Andrea Cartier	Caron Olson	Heritage Fine Jewelry	Louise Pardue	Spectrum Brands
Ace Adventure Resort	Cason Photography	High Museum of Art	Lynn Lommer	Tellus Science Museum
Alliance Theatre	Cat Care of Vinings	Hollywood Feed	M L Riedling	The Atlanta History Center
AMC Theatres	Cat Clinic of Roswell	Inga's Skin and Body Care Salon	Margaret McCamish	The Cat Doctor
Andrea Cartier	Cats Rule	Inman Park Pet Works	Margaret Ramsay	The Cat's Meow
Andretti Indoor Karting and Games	Center for Puppetry Arts	Intrigue Salon	Medieval Times	The Cook's Warehouse
Ann Finley Jewelry	Cherie MacGeorge	Irene Wall	Meowijuana Catnip Company	The Fisher Family
Ann Heatherington	Cindi Soto	James Graubard	Michele Bautsch	The Gifted Ferret
Anne Tripp	CityDog Market	Jane Elliott	Molly Speir	The Varsity Inc.
Ashe Johnson	Claire Dlott	Judith Yevick	Mount Bethel UMC	Three-13 Salon
Atlanta Movie Tours	Cobb Theatres	Julia Woodman	Museum of Design Atlanta	Tim O'Neil
Atlanta Rocks!	Coe Steinwart	Jumpstreet Indoor Trampoline Park	Nantahala Outdoor Center	Top Dogs Pet Boutique
Aurora Theatre	Deby Stone	Karen O'Neal	North Georgia Canopy Tours	Topgolf
Aurora Theatre	Dezi & Roo	Katherie & Larry E Kincer	Pam Cobb	Total Wine & More
Barb Murphy	DJ McPherson	Kathryn S. Seabolt, PC	Pam McAloney	Tower Beer, Wine and Spirits
Barking Hound Village	Doctors Foster and Smith	Kathy Matthews	Park Pet Supply	Tritt Animal Hospital
Barking Up The Right Tree, Inc.	Elite Island Resorts	Katie Graham	Paws Whiskers & Claws	Verde Taqueria
Beth Douglas	Elizabeth Finch	Kendra Ditto	RC Tees	Victory Designs
Bissell Partners for Pets	Fernbank Museum	Kendra Kline	Roswell Ghost Tour	Walt Disney World
Blue Heron Glass Art	Fifth Group Restaurants	KitNip	Ruth Turner	Wet Whiskers
Booth Western Art Museum	Frankie's Italian Restaurant	Kristy Clear	Ruth's Chris Steak House	Wild Animal Safari
Brandon Castner	Georgia Aquarium	Lauren Vickers	Salon Dorm	Zany Pet Shop
Buckhead Life Restaurant Group	Georgia Swarm	Lil Bub	Sarah Poland	Zoo Atlanta
	Gloria Cornell		Sassy Paws Pet Boutique	Zulu Nyala
	Grand Hotel Marriott Resort			
	Grandma Lucy's			

Success Story

Monkey & Smokey

by Ashe Johnson

When a pair of kitties have become best friends – perhaps from growing up together or simply living in the same home – and are subsequently reliant on each other's company, they are designated a "bonded pair" and must be adopted together. Sometimes it can take bonded pairs a little longer to find their forever homes. When both cats are older adults, that makes it harder still. And, when the two are incredibly shy and fearful of their surroundings, it is downright difficult.

Such was the case with Monkey and Smokey, a pair of eight-year-old girls who came to us together after their owner could no longer keep them. Monkey

was a very pretty girl with her white and orange coat and bright yellow-gold eyes, while Smokey was dark and striking with her long tortie coat and pale green-gold eyes. These eyes were often big round moon-pies of fear; the girls were very overwhelmed and confused by their new environment.

Monkey and Smokey had their own room at Good Mews, but they were even too scared to eat and had to go into foster care for a while to regain their strength. Once they came back to the shelter, dedicated Kitty Buddies worked one-on-one to help the girls adjust. Other volunteers would also visit with them regularly, trying to coax them out of their shells. It was a labor of love, to say the least!

Finally, after several months, Monkey and Smokey were given a second chance at a forever home when Betsy Astin, an experienced cat parent, decided to take a chance on this reserved pair. With a little patience and a lot of love, these two beauties have come to trust in their new human mom. Betsy spends a lot of time bonding with the girls, and enjoys watching them do flips and leaps while chasing their favorite toy – Da Bird. This playtime ritual is a daily reminder of just how far these shy cats have come.

Betsy says "Smokey's personality has blossomed and Monkey, the shy



The kitties in their new home.

of the two, is now letting me pet her – on her own terms, of course! They love their daily brushings and playtimes, and watching them cavort is a joy. A favorite pastime is sitting on windowsills and by the sliding glass door, watching the squirrels and birds and the leaves fall. An abundance of gentle care, a quiet, consistent environment, and soft touch have been successful in encouraging them to come out of their shells. Thanks to Good Mews, I am looking forward to many fun, happy years with my two beautiful girls!"

Monkey and Smokey's happy ending is a reminder to all of us that there is a perfect match out there for everyone, and that taking a chance on a shy or scared kitty can be a wonderfully rewarding experience.



Smokey and Monkey curled protectively together at Good Mews.