

# 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](http://www.goodmews.org) for complete program descriptions and instructions on how to enroll or contribute to these programs.

# 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**
- 🐾 **Yesterday's News cat litter**
- 🐾 **Bleach**
- 🐾 **Feliway Diffuser refills**
- 🐾 **Copy paper**
- 🐾 **Classic Fancy Feast (Seafood/Chicken)**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Good Mews offers an alternative to traditional animal shelters in the Metro Atlanta area by providing a no-kill, cage-free haven for homeless, abused, or abandoned cats until placing them in permanent, loving homes. Good Mews promotes public awareness regarding the value of pets, animal welfare, pet overpopulation, and quality human-animal companionship through education and outreach programs.

## SHELTER DIRECTIONS

Good Mews is located at 3805 Robison Road in Marietta, 1 mile west of Johnson Ferry Road on Roswell Road (Highway 120), behind Rick's Farmers Market.

## ADOPTION HOURS

Shelter adoption hours are Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Sundays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, except the first Sunday of the month.

For more information on adoptions, please call 770.499.2287 or email [adopt@goodmews.org](mailto:adopt@goodmews.org).

RECENT ADOPTION TOTALS	
December	44
January	33
February	34
<b>2018 Total</b>	<b>67</b>

## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

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

Apr 11    Wednesday    7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
 May 6        Sunday            2:00 pm to 3:30 pm  
 June 3       Sunday            2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

The meetings last about ninety minutes. To sign up, please call 770.499.2287 and press "4" to leave a message, or email at [goodmewsvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto: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, printed 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**  
In addition to shelter staff, 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.

# 2017 - A YEAR IN NUMBERS

<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">464</h2> <h3>Cats Adopted</h3> <p>(July was a record-breaking month with 55 adoptions!)</p> <p>228 Adults / 236 Kittens                  26 Bonded Pairs                  12 Kitty Buddies                  6 Kitty Keepers                  27 Seniors                  5 HALO                  9 FIV+</p>	<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">\$223,684</h2> <h3>Medical Expenses</h3> <p>(Food expenses were \$14,213 and litter was \$6,158. That's a lot of eating and scooping!)</p> <h2 style="font-size: 2em;">\$307,000</h2> <h3>Raised towards Complete the Suite</h3> <p>(Only \$193,000 to go!)</p>	<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">458</h2> <h3>Cats Saved</h3> <p>(100 from Animal Control and 15 from Hurricane Irma)</p> <h2 style="font-size: 2em;">\$10,905</h2> <h3>Raised by Yoga with Cats</h3> <p>(All 46 classes were taught for FREE!)</p>
<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">154</h2> <h3>Kitty Keeper Sponsorships</h3> <p>(in 15 states!)</p>	<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">\$36,688</h2> <h3>Raised at the Meowsquerade Ball</h3> <p>(Including \$1,150 for cat masks!)</p>	<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">312</h2> <h3>Cats and dogs microchipped at our low-cost clinics</h3> <h2 style="font-size: 2em;">35,000+</h2> <h3>Volunteer Hours</h3> <p>(We also had 316 people attend new volunteer orientation!)</p>
		<h2 style="font-size: 2em;">\$16,750</h2> <h3>Raised on GA Gives Day</h3> <p>(Thanks to awesome donors just like YOU!)</p>



## 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 Filer	Veterinary Referral Surgical Practice	770.424.6663
Drs. Flower, Hiff-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. Kahra 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. Bailey Cave Wood	Trickum Ridge Animal Hospital	770.516.1111

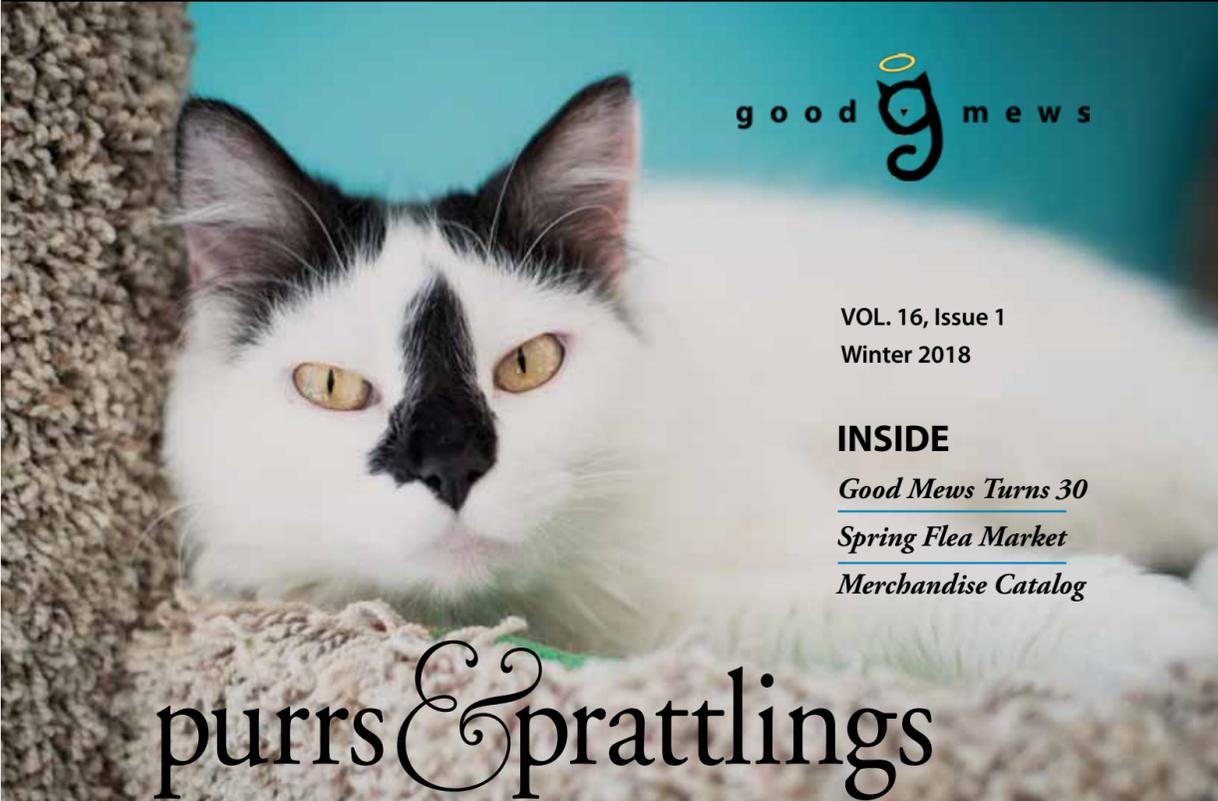
Good Mews benefits from Metro Atlanta veterinarians who graciously donate their time and services to provide quality medical care for our residents. We are always in need of additional vets and vet techs. Contact the Shelter Manager at 770-499-CATS if you can make a little time to help.

# Merchandise Catalog

From tees and towels to bags and bottles, we've got everything you need for spring...and all proceeds benefit our kitties! For more information about **available colors and sizes** and/or to order online, visit [tinyurl.com/shopgm](http://tinyurl.com/shopgm). If paying by check, please complete the enclosed order form.

 <p>Sport-Tek® Ladies Legging (\$40)</p>	 <p>Insulated Cube Cooler (\$24)</p>	 <p>Meowmaste Beach Bag (\$32)</p>
 <p>Cotton Terry Velour Beach Towel (\$26)</p>	 <p>Micropique Sport-Wick® Women's Polo (\$38)</p>	 <p>Perfect Blend® V-Neck Tee (\$26)</p>
 <p>26 oz. Stainless Steel Bottle (\$22)</p>	 <p>Micropique Sport-Wick® Men's Polo (\$38)</p>	 <p>30th Anniversary Tee (\$18)</p>

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good mews

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*Spring Flea Market*  
*Merchandise Catalog*

# purrs & prattlings

# Good Mews Turns 30



by Lori Trahan

We have come a long way in 30 years, from housing cats in the living room of our founder, Gloria Skeen Cornell, to our beautiful 5,700 square foot free-standing facility! If you are on Facebook, hopefully you've been enjoying the "Throwback Thursday" posts and pictures, which will continue all year.

I began volunteering in May of 2000, after learning about the shelter from one of my students. I have many fond memories of the Sandtown location and the people who were (and in many cases continue to be) volunteers. We did some amazing things at Sandtown and have many funny stories – like the time Cheryl Braunroth almost let Boca (the original office cat) escape – thank goodness for a leaky covered walkway! At Johnson Ferry, we were able to help with rescues from Hurricane Katrina and several hoarding cases, which were huge accomplishments.



From top: Sandtown, Johnson Ferry, and current locations

I have sad memories from the shelter too; I think about some of the volunteers who left earth way too young: Janey McIntire, Paul Nichols, Dylan Tyler, and many others whose final days had been spent dedicated to cats. The donation boxes that are in the current shelter were actually the last thing my own dad made before he passed away. I miss these folks every day, but know that they are at the Rainbow Bridge with our beloved former residents like Boca, Fuster, Tricky, Gandalf, Boggart, and more.

When reflecting upon our last 30 years, there are many, many people to whom I am extremely grateful. All of the volunteers, adopters, and donors who have helped keep this dream alive. The current and

former Board and Staff members, who made many friends and many difficult decisions, all in the best interests of the cats. The veterinarians who have so generously donated their time and talent to the shelter. The Foundations who have generously supplied grants over the years. And the list goes on... None of this would be possible without ALL of you!

In particular, I'd like to recognize a few folks with some tidbits that many of you may not know. Sally McDowell, long-time Sunday evening Meds volunteer, was one of the very first volunteers at Good Mews. She actually suggested our organization's name! Christi Fisher believed in the shelter when not many other people did, and she generously sacrificed her time and talent over the years to serve in too many volunteer and staff roles to count. Dr. Melinda Merck was the very first veterinarian to work with the shelter. Shannon Crafton and Lisa Johns were two of the longest-serving Shelter Managers we have had, and Ashley Adams was the longest-term employee as a Feline Care Technician for six years. All of them have moved on to new adventures, but they stay in touch with Good Mews and the friends they made here. Joan Peterson was the longest-serving board member, from the mid 90's until her retirement in 2014. Joan served as Board President during some very trying times for the organization, and she started this very publication. Robbin Yeager's financial recommendations to the board made it possible for Good Mews to purchase the land where our current facility stands. Following this purchase, Karen Redlew oversaw a very successful capital campaign – which hit the one million dollar goal in just 18 months – resulting in the completion of our dream shelter.

I would also like to introduce some new members of the Good Mews family. Cody Stubben was hired as the Executive Director of Good Mews in December. His main focus is development, to ensure that we continue to have the financial security to see Good Mews through the next 30 years. We are excited to announce that Kendra Ledlow was recently promoted from Feline Care Technician to Shelter Manager. She will oversee the rescue of cats from a wide variety of circumstances, and – together with our new Tech, Heather Hart – she will provide the best possible care to all shelter residents.

THANK YOU all again for an amazing 30 year ride. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to be affiliated with Good Mews and the wonderful volunteers, donors, adopters, and supporters.

Sincerely,

Lori Trahan  
Good Mews Board President



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*Purrs & Prattlings* welcomes letters and pictures from readers. All letters and pictures become the property of *Purrs & Prattlings*.

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Executive Director - Cody Stubben  
Shelter Manager - Kendra Ledlow  
Feline Care Technician - Heather Hart

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President - Lori Trahan  
Vice President - Elizabeth Finch  
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Members - Jennifer Martin, Kristen Moody, Sarah Poland, Cynthia Wright, Linda Yu

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](http://www.goodmews.org)  
Email: [info@goodmews.org](mailto:info@goodmews.org)

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## ON THE COVER

Zara

"My name means Princess. Coincidence? I think not!"



# 2018 Good Mews Spring Flea Market

Find great deals on artwork, furniture, home goods, jewelry, electronics, and more... with all proceeds benefitting the cats & kittens of Good Mews!

562 Wylie Road Suite 24 (Marietta Commercial Plaza)

Opening Day: Friday, March 22

Weekends Through May 20

Saturdays (9:00-5:00)

Sundays (12:00-5:00)

Donations accepted on site March 10 - May 13  
(Saturdays 10:00-4:00 and Sundays 12:00-4:00)

For more information, including which donated items we are accepting, visit [www.goodmews.org](http://www.goodmews.org).



## 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 Sunday, March 25, at the shelter.

Individual packages and services are available.

Check our website to make an appointment, and for more info.

**secondlife** save money. save a pet's life.

Please join us in thanking **Second Life** for their ongoing support of Good Mews!

Second Life is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2011. They operate two community-focused resale stores in metro Atlanta, raising much-needed funds to benefit animal rescues and spay/neuter programs. Second Life has awarded several grants to Good Mews over the years, and we are truly grateful for their generous contributions!

To learn more about Second Life, including the location of their thrift stores, visit [secondlifeatlanta.org](http://secondlifeatlanta.org).

## Sassy

by Bridget Szuminsky



Hi y'all! Sassy here. True to my name, I'm a feisty southern belle with a stare that'll pierce right through you...I mean, just look at these eyes! My spicy attitude comes from my days living outside in a feral colony as a teeny kitten. There were SO many cats, but no people in sight! My first interaction with humans was being trapped in a cage

## Kitty Keeper Candidate

and taken to a foster home where I knew no one. THAT was an ordeal...and a pretty scary one. The whole thing made me a bit skeptical toward people.

Now I'm settling into Good Mews where there are lots of other kitties AND humans. I'm still trying to figure these people out...sometimes they roll out mats and mimic our daily stretching routine, or sit on blankets and tell us random stories. Who does that?!? Even so, all my new cat friends say I have to find this amazing thing called a forever home where a human will love on me, keep my belly full, and give me a nice sunny spot to nap in.

I'm not a mean kitty, but I do need a little bit of patience and time before I'll warm up to someone new. To help get better at trusting people, I'm keeping friends up-to-date with all the social happenings here. From yodeling concerts and yoga classes, to the latest gossip about who's been dipping into the 'nip, you can hear all about it in my quarterly Kitty Keeper letters. Sign up at [tinyurl.com/kkenroll](http://tinyurl.com/kkenroll) to get all the SASSY scoop!



Sassy crouched in a cubby testing out her famous stare on a passerby.

## Success Story

Alice by Sandra Song

Alice came to Good Mews in August 2010 along with five other cats; their owner was relocating out of state and could not take them. Alice was barely a year old at the time, but it took nearly SIX years for her to find a forever home.

Alice was ill at ease in new surroundings, and acted very shy and nervous. She was leery of people in general and refused to be touched. When attempts were made to show her affection, she would rebuke the kindness with a hefty swat. Unfortunately, these traits did not make Alice an attractive prospect for those visiting Good Mews in hopes of finding a new cat. One by one, her former family members were adopted, but still Alice remained.

True to the mission of Good Mews, the staff and volunteers continued to care for Alice, resolved that she would be a valued resident of the shelter until the day might come when she would find a family of her own. It literally took years for Alice to finally trust the people around her, and to ultimately accept their affection.



Surya Boonphadung and Becky Sacher are cat lovers, and enjoyed periodic visits to Good Mews. They noticed that Alice seemed to isolate herself, and did not respond to their attempts to engage her. Surya said, "She just seemed to want to do her own thing and hang out on a cat tree." However, after a few more visits, Alice must have decided they were okay and she jumped on Surya's lap! At that moment, he and Becky felt that Alice was meant to be theirs and they decided to adopt her, adding to their five-cat household. Alice was back to being part of a large feline family after six long years.

Surya and Becky wanted to ensure the best transition possible and they dedicated their guest



Above: Alice at Good Mews with a brand new lion cut

Below: Alice posing for a photo at her new home



One thing that hasn't changed from her time at Good Mews – Alice still loves showing off her lion cut. We can't blame her; she looks good with her fancy 'do and we all know it!