



October 1, 2017

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Please join us for our annual Holiday Open House, Silent Auction and Boutique Fundraiser. This year's event will take place on Sunday, November 12, between 11am and 4pm, and we hope to see many of you there. Renew friendships, listen to speakers, and have a little lunch while you help support PZF for another year by shopping at our Boutique and Silent Auction and purchasing raffle tickets for a number of special prizes.

The majority of PZF intakes to date in 2017 have been our usual mix of injured or orphaned shelter cats and kittens. Because of the continuing financial support we receive from you, PZF is able to be the "go-to" rescue for the city shelters to take on surgical and medical-needs cats and kittens. Each medical admission incurs at least four-digit costs to treat. We have taken four with fractures likely resulting from car strikes, and two kittens with broken tails needing amputation. All but one were from the City Shelters, and some have remained with us for extended periods of time. A few stray kittens were taken in as a result of our other focus, spay and neuter of community cats. Seven kittens were offspring discovered when adults were trapped. Several other stray kittens came in the early spring; one pulled from the undercarriage of a car late at night by Animal Control.

Of most impact this year, is that 2017 is the target year to reach "No Kill" in Los Angeles City Shelters. This means no shelter cat or dog will be put to death except for medical reasons. The highest shelter kill rate going into 2017 was kittens, particularly neonates, and they became the Rescue Coalition's focus. Our approach was to take as many as we could, and place them in foster homes with volunteers until they were big enough to be fixed and adopted. The problem with this is finding adopters for them all. By August 1, 2017, PZF had taken 40 shelter kittens six weeks old and less, many bottle-feeders, and one with a neurologic handicap. Like a small stream coming to a dam, there doesn't seem to be much water until a lake forms. Once our cages were filled, our foster volunteers continued housing kittens ready for homes, and PZF ceased to be able to take more. We aggressively explore various Internet, print, and social media forums, and utilize off-site and special event adoptions to help find homes. Take a bow for the adopters who tell us that our "friends" in the community have sent them to us. And PLEASE keep spreading the word in all forms of communication you use. You are each part of the rescue team extending our reach. Every time you share about our adoptable felines, you contribute to our success. Special honors and thanks go to one couple (You know who you are!) that has adopted three little girl kittens at different times this year alone.

"Kittens" brings us directly to the PZF Volunteer of the Year, Judi McEachen. Judi can take the smallest lives in her hands with love and confidence, and feed them every two hours with a bottle or even a dropper if need be. The joy in her voice when asked if she can take another singleton or litter of five says it all. That situation arises with little or no notice. Orphaned newborns are not planned, and Judi can scramble at the drop of a hat. PZF once took a thin mom-cat producing little milk with seven starving babies that

needed a bottle. Judi didn't hesitate when faced with that group. Mom had a respiratory infection, and nearly all needed antibiotics and subcutaneous fluids over time. Everyone survived, and volunteers ultimately adopted five of the kittens. Judi fostered five tiny babies rescued from a dumpster, their eyes closed from infection. They also survived: beautiful outgoing cats now, four of which have become her permanent family members due to continuing medical needs. They love to help her raise the kittens that have followed them.

Judi is able to devote her time and home in good part due to her wonderful husband, Bob. Bob feigns reluctance, saying, "Again?" and yet we see him in many of the kitten photos from their home. He is her encouragement in dark times, and a source of humor otherwise. Judi has cheerfully made house calls to people learning bottle-feeding, and given many PZF volunteers lessons in her home. Babies are not all equally adept at taking a bottle, nor are they all strong enough to endure the added challenge of being orphaned. To foster is to lay your heart bare to potential pain with every baby you take. The survival rate of Judi's often-compromised bottle babies is amazing, owing to her intuition and fierce dedication to each one. Her grace and strength in the face of loss is equally admirable. We honor Judi for her skill, bravery and love. Since 2015, Judi has fostered 68 kittens for PZF.

Spay and Neuter remains a targeted staff and financial focus. Evelyn Senior, 2015 Volunteer of the Year, has continued to work many hours weekly assisting low-income communities in sterilizing their street cats. With the help of grant money to stretch our budget, PZF has helped "fix" 1,100 community cats in the first three quarters of 2017. Each one represents a succession of litters of unwanted kittens that has been averted. Every dollar PZF receives from Kroger Charities via Ralphs Rewards cards goes to community spay/neuter, and we ask that you continue this form of your support. Please renew your designation of PZF as your Rewards card charity of choice if you have not as yet, as all charities are removed every August 31st. Instructions are included in this envelope. You will also find instructions for utilizing the Amazon Smile portal for your Amazon.com purchases. This is a similar donor program by Amazon, from which we receive payments relative to subscribers' purchases.

For the tenth year, PZF has received a \$10,000.00 matching gift challenge. We need to receive donations totaling this amount by December 31, 2017, in order to receive the gift. We ask that you help keep our winning streak going.

Thank you for supporting and partnering with PZF to take in the most endangered shelter kittens and cats to help. Visualize the healed adults, the babies that will see a life ahead of them, and the happy faces of the adopters. Know that you are right there with PZF, and that we are accomplishing all of this together.

Sincerely,


Dr. Alice Villalobos, Founder


Leslie Neff, President