



The Scratching Post

August 2023

*Welcome to Whiskers TNR of Warren County's monthly newsletter.
We're on a mission to make a difference, one cat at a time.*

[Visit our website](#)

MEOW MIXER 

Save the date!
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 4TH

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITTING
WHISKERS TNR OF WARREN COUNTY

St James Celebrations
Indianola, IA

Are all you cool cats ready for a party?! We are SO excited to announce our upcoming soiree, Meow Mixer. While we're still putting the finishing touches on the plan for the evening, we can tell you there will be delicious food from Platters with Purpose, and the venue is simply stunning. And, of course, the best part: All proceeds will go toward helping the cats and kittens of Whiskers TNR! Please RSVP at our Facebook page or learn more at our website, and watch for ticket info coming soon!

Three lovely ladies still waiting ...



Charlotte

Have a heart for a shy kitty that want SO badly to be loved? Let us introduce Charlotte, who initially just hid in her kennel at Whiskers, but now has discovered her inner lap cat. "Charlotte is a shy girl but has so much love to give," says her foster mom. In fact, Charlotte even has an adorable habit of licking someone's hand to remind them to pet her! "She would love to have her own dedicated humans to shower with love."

[Learn more](#)



Chianti

When Chianti first arrived at Whiskers, she was as spicy as her vino namesake. But she has aged like fine wine and proven she's meant to be someone's companion. "I am so impressed with the progress that she has made going from scary protective mamma to the sweetheart she is now," says her initial foster dad. It turns out that Chianti had so much love bottled up, just waiting for the right people. Could she serve up her next round for you?

[Learn more](#)



Champion

Champion handles having only three legs like a, well, champ. "Playful, sweet and a little shy" is how her foster mom describes her. She's been known to roll around on the floor, sweetly purring to herself, and plays so hard she often tears the stuffing out of her toys. "I don't know how she does it with only three legs!" But her foster mom also suspects that she's just waiting for the perfect person to truly let her personality shine. Will Champion win big with you?

[Learn more](#)



Kristin Toft: A tender heart who 'doesn't give up'

Growing up, Kristin Toft didn't have a cat or dog. Now, as both a Whiskers adopter and foster, she's making up for lost time.



Her tender approach to the cats and kittens in her care, along with her fierce determination to never give up, made her an easy pick for the latest Whiskers Warrior, our volunteer of the month.

"Thank you, Kristin, for always providing the best for the foster cats in your care," said Corissa Arndt, who founded Whiskers. "You pay attention to the details, and your tenderheartedness shows. The cats are better because of the time and dedication you give them."

And, according to Kristin, she's better because of them. The West Des Moines woman first adopted a pair of farm kittens in 2021, but soon lost one due to a congenital issue. Wanting her surviving kitten to have a buddy, she adopted Tiny from Whiskers.

"I'm so grateful to Corissa and the fosters at Whiskers who took care of this little orphan until he could find a forever home," she said. "I can't imagine life without him."

Kristin was so grateful, in fact, that she quickly decided to pay it forward by becoming a foster herself as well as volunteering in myriad ways, from creating educational flyers to hosting an adorable "cupcakes and kittens" event when people picked up the confections she sold through our Scratch fundraiser.

Even during less-sweet days, "she doesn't give up when things get challenging," Corissa added. For instance, one cat that Kristin fostered, Minerva, arrived quite afraid, even scaling the curtains at one point to perch on the curtain rod! But Kristin patiently gained her trust, and today Minerva is dearly loved in a forever home.

"My goal is to provide the opportunity for other kittens (or cats) and humans to experience the bond I share with Tiny," she said.

When Kristin isn't cat whispering, she can be found tackling home-improvement projects as a "wannabe DIY'er," going to music events or movies with friends, or "finding a good dramedy to binge watch." In her career, she manages marketing campaigns for ITA Group in West Des Moines.

"In my day job, I measure the return on investment (ROI) of marketing campaigns," she explained. "As a Whiskers volunteer, the ROI on my duties as a foster is immeasurable."



Watch our website and Facebook page for more details!

Fellow cat lovers, save these dates!

🐱 Join us for another installment of Caturday at Norwalk Easter Public Library 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 12. This month's theme is "August is for all the cats" and we'll have all the snuggles you can handle!

🐱 And we have yet another chance for you



to meet our many sweet adoptables: meet-and-greets at the Ames Petco as well as their south Des Moines location on Saturday, August 26. Stay tuned for more info!

🐱 Whiskers will hold its fall garage sale on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29-30 at 1719 Cedar St. in Norwalk. As always, every cent earned at this "take what you want, pay what you will" extravaganza will benefit Whiskers cats and kittens. We'd love to start taking your donations Sept. 25!

A Happy Tail: Rosie, 'the heart of our home'

After Leah's family said goodbye to the second of their two senior kitties – their companions of more than 17 years – there was "something missing in our home and our hearts." Then came along Rosie.

After waiting six months to look for a furry new addition, Leah spotted the little tabby kitten at Whiskers. She'd been called Risoni back then – and had clawed back from the brink herself.

"She had a rough start before coming to us, and I'm so glad she made it," said Leah. "Sometimes I feel like she knows how lucky she was to have found her way to Corissa and Dr. Heyer and then to us."

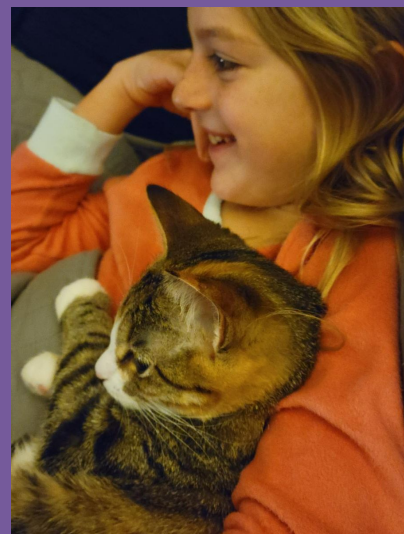
Rosie was an "instant fit" whose hobbies include sitting on Leah's lap while Leah works, snoozing or playing with the kids, getting her belly scratched and being "selectively snuggly." She's a bit of a "naughty pretty kitty," too, who likes to wake her humans at 4:30 a.m. and jump on the counters. But Leah can't help but giggle at her antics.

"She does this funny thing where she leads us to her food bowl so we can pet her while she's eating. I like to think she's offering to share her stash of food with us because she loves us so much."

Leah's advice to others considering adoption? "Consider carefully" because it is a



Thank you, Leah, for sharing an update for this month's Happy Tail adoption success story. Rosie (aka Risoni) is one special kitten, and we're thrilled she found such a special forever home!



commitment – but one that brings “so much love, companionship and laughter. Our Rosie has become the heart of our home. I was worried about a new kitty and if I could ever love another kitty as much as I did our previous two. But your heart just grows to make room.”

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