
Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

APRIL 2010

ISSUE 2



It is finally Spring and time for another edition of the Sandbox Gazette. In this edition we will alert you to upcoming events on the calendar, provide the status of the previous feature cats and introduce you to the new ones, request your annual three-dollar donation, remind you about the upcoming plant sale, tell you about a wonderful surprise for the cats, introduce a new fund raiser, give the list of supplies that you can donate to help the cats, update you on the web site, inform you about the past, current and future fund raisers, and offer some important reminders.

Calendar of Events

The list of upcoming events for The Tenth Life are shown on the table below for your convenience. We will see you at the events.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Flower Pick-up | May 4 th / 4:30 pm |
| 2011 Entertainment Pre-Sale | Now |
| Yellow Springs Street Fair | June 12 th |
| 2011 Entertainment Books | July/August |
| Beavercreek Popcorn Festival | Sept 11 th & 12 th |

Feature Cats

Only one of the feature cats (Beau) from the last newsletter has been adopted. Beau is in a loving home with five other cats, four of which were adopted from The Tenth Life. He is very happy and very loved. Mango, the other featured cat has not been adopted. She is a spayed, front declawed calico that is about six years old and very sweet. Her picture was in the last newsletter.

Our new feature cats are Cheerio and Asia. They are brother and sister. They were hand-raised by a volunteer and are very sweet. They are about eight months old, neutered/spayed, tested for viruses, fully vaccinated, and microchipped. Cheerio is orange and white and Asia is a tiger/tortie. They are both short-hair. Cheerio is more out-going than Asia. They both get along great with other cats and love to play with everyone. He weighs about ten pounds and she is about seven pounds. We would prefer placing them together as they truly enjoy each other's company. Please come to visit them and give them a loving home for the rest of their lives. The adoption fee is only sixty-five dollars per cat. Please call (937) 376-5550 to visit.



Three-Dollar Donations

It is time to request that your annual three-dollar donation be made. As you know, this easy fund raiser

replaced the annual yard sale that we used to have. It has been very profitable for the cats. The proceeds from this fund raiser have reached thirteen to fourteen thousand dollars for the last four years. The first year we raised about eleven thousand dollars. The way this fund raiser works is that we ask everyone on the mailing list to donate three dollars. With over forty-two hundred addresses on the mailing list, we can raise a huge sum for the cats' care with almost no effort. Many of our fund raisers are extremely labor-intensive, such as the spaghetti dinner and auction and the plant sale. This one is super easy for us. We feel that by asking for only three dollars, we are not putting a burden on our supporters. Our goal is to help the cats and not hurt our supporters financially. Although not everyone on the mailing list participates, the donations have been overwhelming as many donate more than three dollars. We appreciate every penny that we receive through this fund raiser. Your generosity has been wonderful. Please remember that all donations to The Tenth Life are tax-deductible. We will send an acknowledgement letter for all donations over twenty dollars. If you want a letter for a donation that is under twenty dollars, please request one with your donation, and we will gladly send a letter to you for your taxes. We do not feel that donations under twenty dollars are unimportant, but with the magnitude of donations that we receive for this fund raiser (last year over four hundred), we would never complete all the letters if we send one for every donation. Your donations to this fund raiser are very important for the continued operation of The Tenth Life and the care of the cats. Please do not delay, send your donation today so that you do not forget to help the cats. They are counting on you for your continued support. Please send your donation to the post office address on the back of the newsletter. Thank you for your help with this easy, economical fund raiser.

Annual Plant Sale

The flowers are almost here, and we promise that they will be beautiful and healthy. The plants are from Furst the Florist and Garden Center and are always great. We always receive compliments on the plants.

They are so much nicer and healthier than those offered at the discount stores and garden centers. Last year we sold over twenty-six thousand dollars of plants. Our pre-orders are a little behind last year's, but we would like to think that the sale of extras will bring us to equal or greater than the 2009 sale. We will have packs of annuals, perennials, flowering pots, patio pots, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, and catnip. The plants will be available for pick-up beginning at 4:30pm on Tuesday, May 4th at The Tenth Life. Starting on Wednesday night, you can pick-up the plants from 5:00-8:00pm every week night. The times for Saturday and Sunday are 10:30am-5:00pm and 12:30-5:00pm respectively. These are the only hours during which you can pick-up the plants. During these hours, we will be available to find your order and help you load your plants into your vehicle. Unfortunately, we will not be available other times unless you make special arrangements with us for pick-up. During the day, we will be making deliveries, and only our veterinarian and her helper will be at The Tenth Life. They do not know which order is yours. If you come during other hours and try to find your order by yourself, you may take someone else's order or part of two orders. We must beg you to adhere to these hours for everyone's convenience and safety. As always, we have ordered several thousands of dollars of extras. We try to have extras of every variety and color. If you come to purchase extras and do not see what you want, please ask us, and we can probably get more to satisfy your needs. We return to Furst every year for more plants. Furst is always wonderful to work with and very accommodating. The sale will continue until all of the flowers have been sold. You will be sorry if you miss this chance to have the most gorgeous, healthiest plants available. We promise that you will have the most beautiful flowers in your neighborhood. We will see you at the flower sale. Thank you for supporting this fund raiser.

Wonderful Surprise

In March, we took a load of aluminum to the recycling center. There was a sign on the counter that said that whoever received ticket number one hundred

thousand, would receive a prize of one hundred dollars. The worker at the counter told us that there were still about two hundred tickets to go before reaching the magic number. He said that it would probably be the next morning. We decided to take a load of copper that we had for recycling. When we arrived, there was not the usual line waiting to unload. We were surprised. There was one truck in front of us. Although the weather was cool and we had the windows of the truck up, we thought we heard the counter workers tell the person in front of us that he had ticket ninety-nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine. When one of the workers saw our truck, he began smiling and walking toward us. He told us that we would have the winning ticket. He also said that the person in front of us had made three trips that morning trying to get the important ticket. We made one trip and got the winning ticket and the one hundred dollars for the cats. Talk about being in the right place at the right time. For once, we were, and the cats were the winners. The workers there were so happy that we had won the money, and it would go for a good cause and be used wisely. It really made our day and all of the volunteers were very happy when they read the sign that we put on the bulletin board at The Tenth Life. We were all so happy to have even more financial help for the cats.

New Fund Raiser

We have been contacted by several of our supporters about Speedy Rewards. These are reward points offered by Speedway stations for purchases of gasoline or merchandise in the store. Their suggestion was for The Tenth Life to obtain a Speedy Rewards card that our supporters could transfer points from their Speedy Rewards card to The Tenth Life card. We could then use the rewards to obtain gift cards for businesses, such as Lowe's for the purchase of materials and supplies that we use at The Tenth Life. We recently purchased mops and refills at Lowe's because of having a special coupon. In addition, we could obtain gasoline gift cards for the purchase of fuel for the lawn mower or snow blower. We contacted Enro Marketing, the parent company of Speedway Gas Stations about applying for a card for The Tenth Life for this purpose. We were

told that the only way that we could obtain a card in The Tenth Life name was if The Tenth Life had a fleet of vehicles. As this is not the case, the only way we could get a card for this use, was in a person's name and use it only for The Tenth Life. We have applied for a card and do not have a number yet. Once we have a number, we will inform you in the next newsletter or you can call us, and we can provide the number to you immediately. We will be able to tell you the proper way to transfer points to this card if you would like to help The Tenth Life in this manner.

Monthly Supply Donations

The list of monthly supplies that can be donated are listed below. Your help with these supplies saves the funds in the general operating account for other uses. We appreciate your help with these supplies.

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| May | Small Paper Plates |
| June | Clorox/Lysol Wipes |
| July | Small Paper Plates |
| August | Paper Towels |
| September | Fabric Softener Dryer Sheets |
| October | Clorox/Lysol Wipes |
| November | Paper Towels |
| December | 2011Cat Calendars |

Web Site Update

As we have previously told you, our web site, **thetenthlife.org** is up and running and a few more improvements have already been made. Unfortunately, we still do not have pictures of adoptable cats showing on the site. We are currently working to show cats with their pertinent information to improve adoptions. Hopefully, we can accomplish this by the time we do another newsletter. We have had many nice compliments on our site and have made people more aware of The Tenth Life. Our intent is to continue to improve and expand the site. If you have not visited the site, please do so and give us your comments or suggestions.

Past Fund Raisers

We have received the Dorothy Lane Markets 2009 contribution based on your purchases. The cats received six hundred and forty-five dollars for the general operating fund. We thank you for supporting this program and helping the cats with your purchases. Please remember to register for 2010 at the service desk of the market to have your purchases help the cats of The Tenth Life.

On March 27th, we had our spaghetti dinner and auction. We held the event at the Routsong Funeral Home on Stroop Road in Kettering. It was a huge success. Some people questioned our having it at a funeral home, but the owners were so gracious to allow us to use their facility which is absolutely gorgeous. Once it was decorated for our event, everyone commented about the beauty of the surroundings and that it looked like a beautiful dining facility. It was breathtaking. We were told by many of the guests that it was the nicest dinner and auction that we have had because of the lovely facility. We thank the Routsong family and staff for allowing us to borrow their exquisite facility for a day. The dinner was delicious and the auctions were very profitable for the cats. Many people told us that the spaghetti was the best they had ever tasted. We thank Belmont Catering for the delicious dinner, Glawe Awning for supplying the tables and chairs, Morgan Linens for the lovely tablecloths and napkins, and all of the businesses and individuals who contributed auction items. Most importantly, we thank the volunteers who made the evening possible. The chairwomen of the dinner committee – Nancy Gentry and Ann Clutter worked very hard to make the dinner a success, and we sincerely thank them. We thank all of the volunteers who sold tickets, stocked the salad bar, served the dinner, monitored the desserts, served beverages, and cleared tables to make room for more diners for their hours of devoted work to help the cats. On the auction side of the event, we thank Penny Massie and Ron and Sue Hanson for all of their months of selfless work requesting donations for the auctions. In addition, we thank all of the volunteers who helped set-up the auction tables and monitored the tables throughout the

evening. There were nearly four hundred and twenty items in the silent auction and another fifteen items in the live auction. Our auctioneer, Dan Finchum with the help of his wife, Julie, made the live auction a fun event for the bidders and a very profitable event for the cats. In addition, we thank the volunteers who came in early Saturday morning and late Saturday evening to help us set-up and tear-down the tables and chairs for the dinner and auction. Finally, we thank everyone who attended the dinner and auction for helping to make the night so much fun and so helpful for the cats. The profits from the dinner and auction were eleven thousand eight hundred dollars. What a great, fun-filled way to help the cats!! We were thrilled with the evening and hope everyone had a fantastic time. Thanks to everyone involved for making this a special evening. It was an extraordinary evening for everyone involved.

The next weekend was our annual Easter pie and bake sale. We sold sixty-two pies from Mehaffies Pie Peddler for a profit of nearly two hundred dollars. In addition, we sold all of the baked goods for a profit of six hundred and seventy-two dollars. We had about twenty varieties of cookies, candy, and cupcakes for our shoppers, and they were all delicious. We thank our wonderful bakers who contributed the baked goods and our wonderful supporters who purchased these delicious confections for their Easter dinners.

We had two very profitable weekends for the cats and they truly appreciate everyone's help. Without everyone working together, we could not help the number of cats that pass through the doors of The Tenth Life. You are appreciated.

Current Fund Raisers

Please do not forget the plant sale beginning on May 4th starting at 4:30pm. You will be disappointed if you miss the opportunity to purchase these beautiful plants. If you have any questions about the plant sale, please call us.

We still have a nice supply of the Pet Hair Magnets for removing pet hair from all types of fabric. The

price is ten dollars. They work really well for getting pet hair off your clothes, furniture, carpeting (especially steps), etc. They look very much like a small squeegee and really work wonders. You will be surprised at how much hair you remove from your furniture. The Pet Hair magnets will be available at The Tenth Life and at the Yellow Springs Street Fair in June and October and the Beavercreek Popcorn Festival in September. If you would like, we can also mail one to you for an extra two dollars for postage. Everyone with pets is always looking for a way to remove pet hair from furniture, drapes, carpeting or clothing, and these really do work very well.

The sale of Entertainment books is nearly over. We only have a few of the Dayton books left for sale. The books allow you to enjoy a special event or dinner at a fraction of the cost. The books sell for thirty dollars and are loaded with coupons that will save you hundreds of dollars with the use of a few of them. If you attend LaComedia and use the coupon from the book you will pay for the book two times with just the one coupon. In addition, you have all the rest of the coupons in the book to use. What makes this year's book even better is that there are gift cards on the front of the book that total fifteen dollars. There is one card for five dollars off any purchase (no minimum purchase required) from Steak and Shake, TGIFriday's, and Gordon Food Service. The current books do not expire until next November; therefore, there is plenty of time to recover your investment. The books are available from The Tenth Life, several of our volunteers, at the retail locations listed below or by mail for an additional three dollars for postage. The businesses selling books for The Tenth Life are as follows: Complete Petmarts at Lofino's Plaza in Beavercreek and on Far Hills in Oakwood, Dayton South Veterinary Clinic on Wilmington Pike in Kettering, Beavercreek Cleaners on Indian Ripple Road in Beavercreek, Fine Cleaners on Fairfield Road in Beavercreek, and The Corner Copy Shop on Dayton-Xenia Road in Beavercreek. Please visit these businesses to purchase an Entertainment book and possibly make a purchase from the business as a thank-you for helping The Tenth Life. You do not want to miss having one of the books and saving money on all types of entertainment, dinners, sporting events,

services, travel, etc. Do not forget that your purchase will also help the cats of The Tenth Life. The cats earn seven dollars and fifty cents from each book sold. We usually sell three hundred books and earn nearly twenty-two hundred dollars.

The Tenth Life apparel, tote bags, and cookbooks, catnip toys, and Kroger cards are always available at The Tenth Life, by mail, at the Yellow Springs Street Fair in June and October, and at the Beavercreek Popcorn Festival in September.

The apparel includes sweatshirts and long and short-sleeve t-shirts. The sweatshirts are twenty-five dollars and are available in gray, light blue, maroon, bright red, gold, navy, brown (light and dark), forest green, pink, and pine green. The long-sleeve t-shirts are available in bright red, pine green, medium blue, and ecru and sell for twenty dollars. The short-sleeve t-shirts come in navy, bright red, stonewashed blue and green, heather blue and green, gray, cardinal, pebble, pine, light blue and deep forest and sell for fifteen dollars. They all have The Tenth Life logo embroidered on the front. The Tenth Life tote bags are gray with the logo embroidered in black and are twenty-five dollars. They have many pockets inside for storage. All of these are available by mail for an additional two dollars for the t-shirts or three dollars for the sweatshirts and tote bags.

The Tenth Life cookbooks are twelve dollars and have been selling very well. The cookbook has a hard cover and is loaded with three hundred and fifty delicious recipes. Why not purchase one when you visit The Tenth Life or we can send one to you for an additional three dollars for shipping. You will love the cookbook.

Our catnip toys continue to sell well. We have crocheted balls (\$2.00), crocheted pillows (\$2.00), crocheted fish (\$3.00), and mats (\$10.00). They are all handmade by volunteers and only fresh catnip is used. They are durable even for cats with claws and can be washed (refreshed) when they become well-used. Your cats will love them. They will not want any other toys once they have played with these. We can ship toys to you for one or two dollars depending on the number of

toys ordered. You will make your cat(s) very happy and those at The Tenth Life as well.

Although we have written several times about the Kroger gift cards, there always seems to be confusion about how they work. The Kroger gift cards are an excellent way to support the cats without an extra outlay of your funds. They are available in twenty-five, fifty, and one hundred dollar denominations. You simply **purchase the card from The Tenth Life** and use it like cash until the amount is used. You then reload the card at the Kroger store and use it again. You can reload the card (cash, check, debit card or credit card) for any amount that you choose and as many times as you choose. The Tenth Life receives four percent of the value of the reloads for all the cards that we have sold. This currently equates to three to four hundred dollars per month. Kroger donates this amount, it costs you nothing. You simply buy your groceries, use the card that you purchased from The Tenth Life, and the cats are richer. It is a win, win situation. We can send a card to you, loaded with any of the amounts listed above, and you can start using it immediately. There is no additional charge for postage. Please order your card today, and begin making money for the cats by simply purchasing your groceries or Kroger gasoline. Having the card is also safer than carrying cash for your shopping.

Future Fund Raisers

We plan to participate in the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 12th assuming that we have a spot. Our normal spot is on Route 68 on the left side of the street before you reach the Speedway gas station on the right. This is always a good festival for The Tenth Life and very profitable. We will have our regular merchandise plus some new items. We will see you there. Please stop by our booth, say hello, and make a purchase.

In the July/August timeframe, we will receive the 2011 Entertainment books for Dayton, Columbus, and Cincinnati. They will again be filled with money-saving coupons for almost everything that you purchase. We have confirmed the prices for the 2011 books. The

Dayton books remain at \$30, Columbus and Cincinnati both increased from \$20 to \$25. All the 2011 books will have \$5 cards on the front of the books as Dayton had for 2010. They have now informed us that they will offer the free 2010 book with the purchase of the 2011 book as we have done in the past two years sales. We will have the free 2010 Dayton, Columbus, and Cincinnati books available on a first-come, first-served basis. We will be receiving the free 2010 books very soon and will begin pre-selling the 2011 books immediately. You can call us if you have any questions about the 2011 books. The phone number is at the end of this newsletter.

On September 11th and 12th Beavercreek will again have their Popcorn Festival. We have already applied to participate in the festival. Our spot for the last several years has been in front of Lee's Chicken on Dayton Xenia Road. However, with the construction of the expanded Kroger store, we are not sure where our spot will be. We hope we have approximately the same space, but we will not know until very close to the date of the festival. If they do move us, you can always check at the information booth to find our location. We promise to have a nice selection of cat-related items for your shopping convenience. See you there. It is really a fun festival.

In the fall we will again offer the holiday greenery and plants. The order blank and information will be in the next newsletter. The suppliers will be the same so you know the quality will be fantastic. Please look for more information in the next newsletter.

Reminders

In previous newsletters, we have addressed the importance of feeding your cat a high-quality diet. We have not discussed the need to avoid feeding your cats people food. Feeding people food is never a good idea for several reasons. People food is not a balanced diet for your cat. It can cause your cat to gain too much weight which can be detrimental to your cat's health and well-being. Feeding people food encourages bad behavior, such as begging at the table, stealing your

food, and jumping on counters. Without a proper diet, cats could develop health problems and have a poor coat. Please feed a high quality diet with low magnesium and not people food.

Please continue to spread the word about the need for spaying and neutering. Kitten season has already started, and the calls are coming in for help placing kittens. If everyone encourages pet owners to spay or neuter their cats and dogs, maybe we can see even a slight improvement in the situation. Offering information about low-cost spay/neuter programs in the area can often help to increase the number of pets who are spayed/ neutered. There are many programs in this area for low-cost spaying and neutering. If you need information on these programs, you can call us and we will give you more information. If you can offer financial help to someone you know who cannot afford to have their pet spayed or neutered, please consider doing so. We can only help to reduce this problem if we all work every day to make more people aware of the problem and the solution. Please do your part and spread the word and help in any other way that you can. The cats and dogs are counting on all of us to help them.

Please continue saving pennies, aluminum, Fresh Step Paw Points and coupons. The pennies can be wrapped or unwrapped. We appreciate them either way. The aluminum can be pet food cans, soft drink cans, spouting, siding or any other type of aluminum. A magnet will not stick to aluminum. By saving aluminum for The Tenth Life, you are helping the cats and the environment. The Fresh Step Paw Points can be found on the back of the bag at the bottom right corner, on the box or in the pail of litter. The code is usually twelve characters and is not the lot number. Sometimes they are very hard to read. If you simply cut that part of the top layer of the bag or box and send it to us, we will determine the code and use it to obtain coupons for the purchase of the litter that we use at The Tenth Life. Saving these Paw Points saves the cats thousands of dollars a year on our litter purchases. We also appreciate your saving coupons for cat food, Fresh Step litter, paper towels, facial tissue, and toilet paper. These coupons are used to save funds when we purchase

supplies for the cats' and the volunteers' use at The Tenth Life. The aluminum and pennies can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation shown below. If you cannot transport the aluminum, we can arrange for pick-up. Please call us to make these arrangements. The Paw Points and the coupons can be sent to the post office box shown on the back of this newsletter. You have been very helpful with these requests.

We continue to recycle used ink cartridges through Staples with our Rewards card. They give us \$3 per cartridge (up to 20 per month) of store credits. This allows us to buy equipment and supplies without an expenditure of general operating funds. Please save your old cartridges and send them to us at P.O. Box 178, Alpha, Ohio 45301-0178, bring them to us or call us, and we will try to arrange pick-up from your home or business. We have already received several ink cartridges for recycling. This is another great way to help the cats without an additional expenditure of your funds.

Hours of operation:

4:30-7:30pm weeknights
10:30am-5:00pm on Saturdays
12:30-5:00pm on Sundays

Phone Number:

(937) 376-5550

Web Address:

thetenthlife.org



THE TENTH LIFE

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