
Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

JULY 2011

ISSUE 3



Another edition of The Sandbox Gazette has arrived. We will display the calendar of upcoming events, update you about the previous and current feature cats, remind you about the distribution of the newsletter, request your help, list factors to consider before adopting a new cat, list the supply donations by month, provide good news about the Combined Federal Campaign, give you the status of the three-dollar campaign, furnish all the information about the spaghetti dinner and auctions, remind you about the Speedy Rewards Campaign, tell you about an improvement of the parking area, inform you about the past, current, and future fund raisers, and offer some important reminders.

Upcoming Events for The Tenth Life

Three-Dollar Donations	Now
Speedy Rewards	Now
2012 Entertainment Books	Now
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep. 10 th & 11 th
Deadline for Auction Donations	Sep 18 th
Spaghetti Dinner & Auctions	Sep. 25 th
Yellow Springs Street Fair	Oct. 8 th

Feature Cats

One of the white kittens from the January newsletter has been adopted, and Ming from the last newsletter has found a special home. They are both loved and happy.

Tess and Piper, from the last newsletter, have been adopted. They are the black and white, short-hair sisters. Tess has part of her right rear leg missing because of an injury that occurred when she was very young. They have been adopted by a couple who adopted from The

Tenth Life about fifteen years ago. They are being pampered and given lots of love by their new parents. We will miss them, but are so happy for them. They had such a hard life before coming to The Tenth Life. They deserve the best.



Our feature kitties this time are from a litter of six kittens. They are about five months old. The black and white, black short hair, and one gray and white have already been adopted. There are two gray and white (females), and one black (male) that still need homes. Their names are Prada, Gucci, and Archie. They all have medium-length hair. Although they were very ill when they arrived, they are typical, healthy kittens now. They all purr the minute they see you and love to be held. They are wonderful, fun kittens. They love to wrestle with each other and chase the resident cats in their room. They are adorable and would love to have homes of their own. Please call us if you would like to visit these kittens and possibly take one or more home with you. You will have a great time with them. They will love and entertain you for many years.

Newsletter Distribution

We have been asking everyone on the mailing list to tell us how they would like to continue receiving the newsletter – by mail, by internet, or not at all. We still have too many who have not notified us of their choice. We have to assume that they do not read the newsletter and for that reason have not responded. We certainly want to take those people off the mailing list because we are spending funds for printing and mailing that are a

waste of our resources. However, we do not want to eliminate names from the mailing list of people who are interested in our efforts. For those people who want to continue receiving a hard copy by mail, we will gladly accommodate your wishes. It is not a problem to send you a copy by mail. If you have not replied to this request, please do so by calling (937) 376-5550, mailing your reply to our address, or sending an e-mail to jlotsacats@aol.com. This is the first newsletter that we have converted people to the e-mail method. We appreciate your help with the distribution of the newsletter.

A Request for Help

As you all know, one of our holiday fund raisers is an original-design Christmas card. We are looking for someone to design our card for this year. It needs to be an original design that we can use on a holiday card. We have had wonderful designs over the years provided by some great artists. We love having different artists do the art work because of the variety of styles that we can offer our customers. If you are an artist and would like to design the 2011 Christmas card for The Tenth Life, please contact us at (937) 376-5550. We would appreciate your help with this need.

Factors to Consider Before Adopting a Cat

With it being kitten season and so many kittens and cats needing homes, there are many factors to consider before making the decision to add to your family:

(1) Probably, the most important consideration is whether you can afford to add a feline to your family. There are many costs associated with a new pet. These can include the initial costs of spaying/neutering, feline leukemia and AIDs testing, vaccinations, declawing (if desired), parasite treatment, such as for fleas and internal parasites, and any other care needed. These costs can easily reach several hundred dollars. Luckily, there are many low-cost spay/neuter programs in this area that can help reduce some of these costs. In addition to these initial costs, you need to consider the cost of nutritional

food, litter, and future veterinary visits. Cats need to be seen by your veterinarian once a year for an examination and vaccines. Most veterinarians now believe that after the first four or five years of getting annual vaccinations, they only need to be vaccinated about every three years until they are much older when vaccinations are no longer needed. You also must plan for additional veterinary expenses in case your cat becomes ill and needs special care. Many people fail to consider these factors when getting a new pet and are then blindsided by the amount of the expense and cannot afford to keep their pet or take proper care of the pet. Please consider these expenses before making your final decision. If you cannot afford to have a pet and take proper care of it, it is unfair to the pet to take it home.

(2) A second factor to consider is having sufficient time to work with the new pet and help it to acclimate to your home, your family and other pets. At a minimum, you should allow two to four weeks for your new pet to be completely adjusted to its new environment. Some may take even longer to adjust. Please be patient and do not try to rush the adjustment period. You should also make sure that you have time to give individual attention to each pet. Do not add another pet if your time is so limited that you can barely do what is already required of you. Each pet needs its own special one-on-one time with you.

(3) Be aware that each pet needs to have sufficient space in your household to have some private area where he/she can rest comfortably without being bothered by other pets or people. Overcrowding can cause undue stress to pets and can lead to stress for the owners. Animals that are stressed often act out by fighting, clawing, damaging furniture, failing to use the litter box, pulling out their own fur, etc. Do not forget when adding a new cat, it is a good idea to add a new litter box, at least initially and possibly forever.

Please consider all of these factors before adding a new pet to your home. If you add too many for your income, time and space, you may create problems that will be difficult or possibly impossible to correct. There are so many cats that need a great home, but if you cannot properly provide for the cats, you are doing them and

yourself a disservice. If you have questions or need more information about any of these factors, please call us. The Tenth Life's telephone number is at the end of the newsletter.

Monthly Supply Donations

The list of supplies that can be donated by month is shown below. The items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation or if necessary, we can arrange for pickup.

August	Fabric Softener Dryer Sheets
September	Clorox/Lysol Wipes
October	Paper Towels
November	Bleach
December	2012 Cat Calendars

Combined Federal Campaign

We have received notification from the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) that our submission has been approved, and The Tenth Life will be listed in the campaign booklet and will be eligible for contributions. Our five-digit campaign code is **32031**. Please use this code when making your designation to The Tenth Life in the campaign this October. Your donations are tax-deductible, and the entire donation is used directly for the cats, not for salaries (except Dr. Jennie) or wasteful administrative costs. We do suggest that you mark your donation package for an acknowledgement letter from The Tenth Life. This is the only way that we can be sure that The Tenth Life received your donation. Your name will appear on the list provided by CFC to The Tenth Life. We receive our list from CFC about March/April and send letters to the donors by May. If you do not receive a letter from The Tenth Life, you were not on our list, and your donation was sent to the wrong organization. You would need to contact CFC to correct the problem. Please remember The Tenth Life when making your designations for CFC contributions. The cats, as always, are counting on your financial help.

We also want to thank those of you who have been making your CFC donations directly to The Tenth Life for this year since we were not included in the last campaign. So far, we have received about ten thousand dollars through direct CFC donations. By the end of the year, we will have even more, but it is still a significant reduction from the fifty-two thousand dollars that we received through the previous campaign. It has been difficult with this shortage, but we will continue to maintain the cats in the same manner that we have always done. Thanks to everyone who donates through the campaign or directly this year.

2011 Three-Dollar Drive

As always, the supporters of The Tenth Life have been very generous to the three-dollar fund raiser. To date, the cats have received just over ten thousand five hundred dollars through donations to the three-dollar fund. Last year the donations reached over fourteen thousand dollars. We have a ways to go, but we are getting there. If you have not made your donation of three dollars (or more if you prefer), please do so now so that you do not forget to help the cats with this small request. It is amazing how quickly these donations add up to thousands of dollars. We keep the request at this nominal amount so that more supporters can participate with very little impact on their income. We are sending acknowledgement letters for donations of twenty-five dollars or more. If your donation is less than this amount, but you want a letter, simply note that with your donation, and we will gladly do a letter for you. Please remember to send your donation to help the cats.

Spaghetti Dinner and Auctions

Do not forget to mark your calendar for September 25th from 2:00-6:00pm. Our annual spaghetti dinner and auction will again be held at **Routsong Funeral Home** in Kettering at the corner of Stroop Road and Woodman Drive. There will be a delicious spaghetti dinner, with or without meatballs, a side salad bar, garlic bread or breadsticks, dessert, and tea or coffee. Soft drinks will

be available for a seventy-five cent donation. The cost of the dinner is ten dollars. If you prefer, you can have the unlimited salad bar for six dollars with the garlic bread or breadsticks, dessert, and coffee or tea. In addition to a delicious meal, you can enjoy a live auction and table after table of silent auction items for your shopping and bidding pleasure. Bring plenty of money so that you can bid often and bid high. Your dinner and auction items can be paid with cash or check. We cannot accept credit or debit cards. For those of you who love to watch sporting events on Sunday afternoon, there are several televisions located throughout the facility for your viewing pleasure. You can bid on your favorite items and return to the televisions to view your favorite sports event. The dinner and silent auction will begin at 2:00pm. When we begin closing silent auction tables, we will be closing them approximately every fifteen minutes. The live auction will begin at 5:00pm. Please mark your calendar and do not forget this fun-filled event.

If you would like to help on the weekend of the event or with the planning of the event, donate items to the auction or dessert items for the dinner, please contact The Tenth Life. We will need about thirty helpers with this project. On the day of the event, we need servers, table cleaners, auction workers to monitor the tables, bid sheet workers, etc. Auction items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation shown on the back page of this newsletter. We really need the items by September 18th to have time to prepare the bid sheets. Baked goods can be brought to the location on the day of the dinner. We would love to have a nice selection of baked goods for our diners delight. Our bakers have always provided a fantastic selection of baked goods for the dinner. You can always call The Tenth Life if you have questions about the dinner or auction.

Speedy Rewards Campaign

We are continuing to save Speedy Reward points for the cats. If you have points that you are not going to redeem, please visit the Speedway website or call 1-800-

643-1948 and transfer your points to the following card – 404440 098106 in the name of Jerry Kerns. As we do not have a fleet of cars, Speedway would not issue a card to The Tenth Life but only to an individual. Please do not allow your points to go unused, consider transferring them to the card number shown above, and help the cats save their funds. Your help is needed for us to receive gift cards for our purchases of supplies for the cats. We have already obtained three one-hundred dollar cards that we used to purchase some needed supplies.

Parking at The Tenth Life

Our parking space has always been limited, but the severity of the problem really became significant during the recent flower sale. Usually the volunteers and many of the customers park in the yard on each side of the driveway as you enter the property. With all the rain this spring, we had a severe problem with people parking in the yard. Too many people found their cars stuck in the mud. Luckily the volunteers were able to push most of them out without too much of a problem, however, two cars, belonging to volunteers, had to be towed out of the mud. We were so sorry for the inconvenience but nothing could be done at the time. We have decided to have blacktop parking areas added to each side of the drive. The areas will be twenty feet deep and one hundred feet long on the west side of the drive and forty feet long on the east side. This will provide parking for fourteen cars. If the cars are pulled up far enough, it will also allow for cars to pull to one side if they meet someone coming in or going out of the driveway. We intend to have the area dug out and gravel put in for now. The blacktop will be applied later this year after the area has been allowed to settle and compact for a better base for the blacktop. The original estimate was seventy-five hundred dollars for the entire job; however, the contractor has another large job close to The Tenth Life. He can combine the projects and the materials needed and has given us a one thousand dollar savings on the project. He will begin the work this week. We think this will help alleviate parking problems in November for the holiday bazaar and greenery pick-up and in the spring

during the flower sale. This should make parking much better and eliminate the problem.

Past Fund Raisers

The annual plant sale was another huge success. The profit for the cats was over ninety-eight hundred dollars. It was the largest plant sale we have ever had. We sold twenty-six thousand two hundred dollars of annuals, hanging baskets, flowering pots, vegetables, herbs, and perennials. In addition to the plants that were pre-ordered, we sold five thousand dollars of extras. This sale has grown every year to the current level. We thank everyone who made this possible. Our volunteers worked so hard to fill the orders and then recheck them to assure accuracy. This year with all of the rain, we literally checked all of the orders on Tuesday in pouring rain. The orders had to be ready by Tuesday at 4:30pm for our customers to begin picking-up their flowers. It was a challenge, but we made it. It just shows how devoted and hardworking the volunteers are to the needs of the cats. We thank them so much. Of course, we also thank our supporters who purchased their flowers from our annual sale. We are so happy that we can sell such beautiful, healthy plants to our customers. Please remember our flower sale next year and remember to tell all of your family and friends about the sale, and maybe it can be even bigger next year.

On April 23rd, we had our Easter pie and bake sale. We sold seventy-six pies for a profit of two hundred and fifty-six dollars. The bake sale produced profits of six hundred and two dollars. The pies and baked goods were absolutely delicious. We thank our bakers who donated all of the fantastic baked goods and our great supporters who purchased their Easter dinner dessert from the Tenth Life. Our next pie sale will be for Thanksgiving.

The Tenth Life again participated in the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 11th. The weather was perfect, and the crowd was huge. We sold our merchandise to cat lovers and enjoyed people's stories about their special cats. The cats made almost nine hundred dollars from sales and donations. The next Street Fair is October 8th.

Current Fund Raisers

The 2012 Entertainment books will be available on August 8th. We will have books for Dayton, Columbus, and Cincinnati. The books sell for thirty dollars and are loaded with coupons for almost anything you might purchase. There are coupons for La Comedia, dinners, fast food, movies, dry cleaning, sporting events, etc. The use of one coupon can easily pay for the entire book. They also make excellent gifts. If you would like to have a book mailed to you, we can ship one to you for an additional three dollars for shipping. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer a free current-year book this year as Entertainment did not have leftover books to give us to distribute to our customers. We are very sorry for this, but we did try to obtain leftover books for our wonderful supporters.

Of course, we always have the apparel for The Tenth Life. We have t-shirts (short and long sleeve), sweatshirts, and tote bags. The t-shirts are fifteen dollars for the short-sleeve ones and twenty dollars for the long-sleeve ones. Sweatshirts and tote bags are twenty-five dollars. We have some new colors. The short-sleeve t-shirts come in navy, bright red, stonewashed blue and green, heather brown, gray, cardinal, pebble, pine, light blue, khaki, pink, spruce, and deep forest. Long-sleeve t-shirts are available in bright red, stonewashed blue and green and natural. The sweatshirts are available in navy, pine, gold, bright red, forest green, gray, burgundy, pink, light blue, and brown. The tote bags are gray. All have The Tenth Life logo embroidered on the front. The t-shirt logo is on the left chest, and the rest are across the front. With your purchase, you can help support the cats financially and with your advertisement of The Tenth Life. We can even ship any of these items to you. Postage is three dollars for the sweatshirts and totes and two dollars for the t-shirts. Everyone who has the sweatshirts and t-shirts loves them. Many people have insisted on having one of each color.

The Kroger gift cards are still available in twenty-five, fifty, and one hundred dollar denominations. **You purchase the card from The Tenth Life**, use the funds loaded on it to make your purchases, and then reload the card with more funds for future uses. Every time you

load your card, Kroger gives four percent of that amount to The Tenth Life cats. You can pay for your reloads with cash, credit card, debit card or check. This is an easy, no-cost-to-you way of providing funds to the cats, and all you have to do is purchase your groceries with this card. It is not a credit card, but a gift card. If you shop at Kroger and do not have one of these cards, please consider coming to The Tenth Life to purchase one or simply send us a check for the desired denomination; and we will send the card directly to you. It could not be any easier, and the cats receive about five hundred dollars each month.

The furry beds and catnip toys are available for your cat's pleasure. The beds sell for ten dollars and are machine washable. They come in a variety of colors and are so soft. They measure approximately twelve by fourteen inches. We have the full selection of catnip toys – mice, pillows (fabric and crocheted), fish (fabric and crocheted), balls (crocheted), and mats. The mice are five dollars; the pillows and balls are two dollars; the fish are three dollars; and the mats are ten dollars. We can also ship the toys to you for a small charge of one or two dollars for shipping depending on the number that you buy.

We still have a few of the cookbooks that sell for twelve dollars. There are three hundred and fifty delicious recipes in a hardback book. If you want one shipped to you the postage is only three dollars. You may want one for yourself and some as gifts.

Our volunteer is continuing to make cat trees. We have already sold several this year. They are sturdily constructed, with a heavy, large base and are reasonably priced. You can choose the color of carpeting that you want so that it will match the color scheme of your home. We have a catalog of the styles that are available at The Tenth Life. They are available in a variety of heights. We purchase them from our volunteer, add thirty dollars for profit for the cats here and provide your cats with a beautiful piece of furniture that will provide them with comfort and enjoyment for years. They are fully carpeted unless you want sisal on the posts for your cat's clawing pleasure. There is an additional charge for the sisal. You can visit The Tenth Life during our hours of

operation to see the catalog. The cats and their owners have been thrilled with the trees.

Future Fund Raisers

September 10th and 11th are the dates for the Beaver Creek Popcorn Festival. The hours are 9:00am-8:00pm on Saturday and 11:00am-6:00pm on Sunday. We will have a booth and will be in our normal location which is near the entrance to McDonalds on Dayton Xenia Road. We will have all of our great selection of merchandise for your shopping needs. Please look for our booth. We look forward to seeing you there.

On September 25th, do not forget the spaghetti dinner and auctions at Routsong Funeral Home from 2:00-6:00pm. Bring your money and your friends and have a great day.

In the next newsletter, we will offer the order blank for Thanksgiving and Christmas pie sales. The pies will sell for nine dollars and are available in several delicious flavors – apple, peach, cherry, Dutch apple, pecan, blueberry, chocolate crème, coconut crème, and lemon meringue (Christmas only). These pies are from Mehaffies Pie Peddler and are known for their delicious flavor. Please remember these pies from The Tenth Life and help the cats.

Also in the next newsletter, will be the order blank for the holiday greenery (including wreaths and roping) and plants. We do not yet have a price list, but we hope that the prices will remain the same. The greenery comes from a wholesaler, and the plants come from Furst who is known for quality. Both the greenery and the plants add such a festive touch to your holiday decorating. Do not miss the opportunity to purchase these holiday touches from The Tenth Life.

On November 26th and December 17th, we will have our annual holiday bazaars. We will have our catnip toys and dried catnip, collectibles, The Tenth Life apparel, novelty t-shirts and sweatshirts, our original-design Christmas cards, cookbooks, cat books, Entertainment books, etc. The sales will be from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

The holiday bake sale will also be on December 17th during the same time as the bazaar. We will have a huge selection of baked goods for your holiday entertaining. Last year we had over fifty varieties of candy, cakes, and cookies. You do not have to bake a thing and can still have a huge selection of delicious desserts for all of your holiday meals.

In December, we have done the pictures with Santa at Complete Petmart for several years. With the sale of Complete Petmart to Petco, we do not know if they will offer this program to us. If they do the pictures with Santa, we will definitely participate. Our volunteers who play Santa and the helpers really enjoy this event because of the interaction with the pets and their owners. We will inform you when we know more.

Reminders

Please continue saving aluminum, pennies, Fresh Step Paw Points, printer ink cartridges, and coupons for The Tenth Life. The aluminum can be any type of aluminum from drink and pet food cans to spouting and siding. A magnet will not stick to aluminum, but will to other metals. The pennies can be wrapped or not wrapped. The Fresh Step Paw Points code can be found on the bag

or box or in the pail of litter. The code is usually twelve characters and is not the lot number. Simply cut off the top layer of the bag with the code and send it to us. Please save any printer ink cartridges for us to recycle and earn rewards. We also appreciate your saving coupons for cat food, Fresh Step litter, paper towels, facial tissue, and toilet paper. The aluminum, pennies, and ink cartridges can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. If you cannot transport the aluminum, we can arrange for pick-up. The Paw Points and the coupons can be sent to The Tenth Life's post office box. Your contributions of any, or all, of these items helps so much and does not require a huge expenditure of your time or effort.

Hours of operation:

4:30-7:30pm weeknights

10:30am-5:00pm on Saturdays

12:30-5:00pm on Sundays

The Tenth Life address:

The Tenth Life

P.O. Box 178

Alpha, Ohio 45301-0178

Phone Number:

(937) 376-5550

Website

thetenthlife.org



THE TENTH LIFE

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