



# FieldHaven Feline Rescue ANNUAL REPORT 2008

## **Mission Statement**

*Educating our community on responsible pet ownership while providing safe haven for cats and kittens in transition to new lives in permanent homes.*



## About Us

**F**ounded on July 1, 2003, FieldHaven Feline Rescue remains focused on the rescue of cats and kittens and providing shelter, adoptions, community education and feral cat spay/neuter assistance to our community.

FieldHaven's shelter facility is located on a private horse ranch in rural Lincoln, California. With a volunteer roster approaching 200, a new building in the planning stages and an amazing network of foster homes, FieldHaven has taken its place among the most respected animal welfare organizations in northern California.

### Changing, Growing, Giving Back

Our fifth year of operation was truly a year of new challenges for FieldHaven. Beginning with the notification from Placer County of the need to replace our existing shelter building, FieldHaven's Board, volunteers and community partners set about planning to raise the \$150,000 that would be needed.

Our best laid plans -- and our very first shelter fundraising event -- were re-purposed to raise money for victims - and heroes of Lincoln's Labor Day fire. The FieldHaven family did what they always do - gave of themselves to help their neighbors.

While our own needs were many in 2008, FieldHaven volunteers, staff and Board chose instead to reflect the faith, support and heart that our community has always given us.

Photos by Joy Smith and Tammie Ekkleboom

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### *Officers:*

**Joy Smith, President**  
Healthcare Consultant  
The FieldHaven Group

**Mary Sutton-Garner**  
**Vice President**  
Senior Sales Rep  
Merial, Limited

**Beverly Warner, Treasurer**  
CFO  
LWGC, Inc. General  
Contractors

**Reba Miller, Secretary**  
Retired - Administrator

### *Members:*

**Julie Anderson**  
Vice President Business  
Development, Visan

**Courtney Nunes**  
Education

**Sabina Pellissier**  
Leadership Development  
Director  
Capital Public Radio

*Veterinary Advisor:*  
**Jennifer Ehrlinspiel, DVM**  
Technical Service Veterinarian  
Merial, Limited

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2003

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2005

### *2008 316 Adoptions*

- Voted Best of the Best Non-Profit Organization in Lincoln
- Hosted community fundraiser to benefit firefighters and homeowners affected by the Labor Day Gladding Fire in Lincoln
- Became full-time adoption partner with PetSmart Lincoln and continued part-time partnership with Petco Rocklin.
- Collaborated with rescue organizations in Placer and Sacramento Counties to rehome 150+ feral cats from a Sacramento mobile home park. FieldHaven placed approximately 50 cats from that project.
- 566 cats spayed/neutered through SNAP

### *Projections for 2009*

- Collaboration with UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program for new FieldHaven shelter design
- Fundraising campaign for new FieldHaven shelter
- Implement FieldHaven Volunteer of the Month Program
- Collaborate with other rescue organizations to continue educating the public about animal welfare issues, spay/neuter assistance, etc.
- Project 700+ cats to be spayed/neutered as we continue SNAP for residents of Lincoln and surrounding areas

## Adoption Programs

2008 marked the 5<sup>th</sup> complete year of adoptions for FieldHaven.

With 1,439 adoptions under our belt we naturally feel pretty experienced in this area of shelter operations. But to learn more from our customer base of adopters we developed an Adopter Survey.

An invitation to complete the Adoption Survey was sent via email and snail mail to every adopter with current information in our database. 157 adopters responded, representing 14% of adoptions from 2003-2008.

Here are some things we learned:

- More than 95% of adopters said FieldHaven adoption counselors were very knowledgeable in matching them with the best kitty for them.
- While our matching success rate was high, our adopters did have some valuable feedback for us in helping us to improve our adopter-to-cat match-making skills. We are planning to begin implementing the ASPCA Meet Your Match adoption program in 2009 to further improve our adoption success rate.
- 95% of adopters recommend FieldHaven to their friends.
- FieldHaven's comprehensive medical program greatly minimizes post-adoption medical issues.

“FieldHaven is a fantastic place. You feel like family as soon as you walk in.”

- 22% of adopters report that being “shy or scared” was the most common post-adoption adjustment issue. Note: This is a fairly typical response for any kitty moving into a new home. FieldHaven provides adopters with guidelines for helping their new family member adjust.

The complete results can be found on FieldHaven's website at [www.FieldHaven.com](http://www.FieldHaven.com)

In September 2008 we became a full-time adoption partner in PetSmart Lincoln, showcasing adoptable cats in the in-store adoption center all week long. Cats and kittens are rotated twice weekly so no animal is left in the adoption center too long and to provide maximum exposure to all adoptables.

With this opportunity we elected to drop our 4 days per month partnership with PetSmart Roseville in an effort to concentrate our adoption efforts in our own community.

We continue to maintain our adoption partner relationship with Petco Rocklin when volunteers are available to staff that location.

We are always striving to increase our market awareness for our adoption program. In 2008 we employed several new methods that appeared to have a positive effect by bringing in more

potential adopters.

*Online Adoption Survey* – While viewing an adoptable kitty online, interested persons can complete an adoption survey right at that time or if they do not see a particular cat that interests them, they can complete a general survey. Completed forms are emailed directly to Adoption Counselors for a timely follow-up.

*Videos of adoptable cats* – We have found that short video clips of adoptable cats increase their exposure and help people to make a “connection” with an individual animal prior to even meeting it.

### 2008 Adoption Stats

- 🐾 316 Adoptions
- 🐾 346 Intakes
- 🐾 29 Courtesy Adoptions
- 🐾 27 Returns

### 2008 Adoptions by Venue

- 🐾 162 FieldHaven
- 🐾 52 PetSmart Roseville
- 🐾 77 PetSmart Lincoln
- 🐾 24 Petco
- 🐾 1 Other

## Health and Well-Being of Shelter Cats

Each cat or kitten that comes to FieldHaven becomes part of the family and their physical and mental health is of the greatest importance. In 2008 FieldHaven provided comprehensive care for over 350 cats and kittens until they were adopted into homes, including several special needs animals. This comprehensive care includes housing, spay/neuter services, veterinary services and a lot of time and love from the dedicated volunteers at FieldHaven.

To maintain the optimum level of each cat's mental and physical health, the volunteers and staff members at FieldHaven adhere to our comprehensive medical protocols. These protocols have been established in a partnership with our shelter veterinarian, Roberta Peterson, DVM, the UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program and several local veterinary clinics. Through these partnerships we are able to continuously update our protocols with the most current and up-to-date information available. In addition, all volunteers and staff are encouraged to attend continuing education presentations focusing on feline shelter medicine whenever possible.

Adult cats at FieldHaven are housed on site, under the care of Shelter manager Jen Paul. Jen is responsible for the day to day care and well being of the adult cats by conducting physical exams every



day to ensure the continued health of the cats and working with Dr. Peterson to provide medical care. Her duties also include overseeing volunteers who come for shelter duty and to socialize cats and screening potential adopters. By providing a safe, clean and loving environment Jen is able to ensure the cats are as happy and healthy as possible while waiting to find their forever homes.

FieldHaven's Foster Care Program houses and cares for the kittens and some of the special needs cats in our program. Foster homes are an integral part of our success as they provide shelter and care for up to two-thirds of the animals in our program. In 2008 FieldHaven hired Penny Dougherty as the part-time foster coordinator. Under Penny's direction the foster program has continued to grow and expand while staying

progressively up-to-date with current medical protocols. The foster program allows FieldHaven to work with other rescues and Placer County Animal Services to help ease over crowding by transferring kittens into our program and provide support for special needs animals.

All of the volunteers and staff at FieldHaven work very diligently to provide the best environment possible for all of the cats and kittens who come to our shelter. This diligence continues to make FieldHaven a success in maintaining the highest quality of care possible for the cats and kittens that come to us while waiting for their new forever homes.

## SNAP - Spay/Neuter Assistance Program

FieldHaven introduced SNAP in early 2005 to assist Lincoln residents with spaying and neutering of feral and stray cats and provide education on the importance of addressing the issue of animal overpopulation. That first year was very successful, with 159 cats spayed/neutered through SNAP. Thanks to the generosity of our funders, each year since we have increased the number of animals put through the program. In 2008, 566 cats were spayed/neutered through SNAP, for a total of 1,386 to date for the program.

### Program Overview and Methodology

FieldHaven provides the funds to spay and neuter cats using the Animal Spay and Neuter Clinic in Auburn. As part of the service, cats receive an FVRCP and Rabies vaccine with additional medical care provided on an as-needed basis. Residents are given assistance with the logistics of getting the target animals into the program with the loan of traps/carriers and cages, and volunteers provide education on trapping and safe handling of the cats.

Volunteers also provide pre-spay/neuter recovery and housing and transportation to the clinic when necessary. The FieldHaven shelter acts as a triage center where cats can be dropped off for transportation and then picked up for recovery.

### Qualifications for SNAP Recipients

There are three categories of cats that come through SNAP: Owned Community Cats, Un-owned (stray) Community Cats, and Feral Cats.

*Owned Community Cats* – There is no income ceiling to utilize SNAP, although we do encourage donations of whatever the recipient can afford. Any reimbursement funds that are received are put back into the SNAP fund.

*Un-owned Community Cats* – These are typically homeless strays that have been rescued by someone in the community. When an un-owned cat is found suitable for adoption (not feral), FieldHaven provides resources and assistance for re-homing the cat after spaying/neutering.

*Feral Cats* – Often our first contact with people who have feral cats on their property is to educate them on their options on how to deal with the “problem”. We set out to educate them on the advantages of TNR (Trap/Neuter/Release). We encourage the release of animals back into their familiar environment, but when this is not possible, we provide education and assistance on how to successfully relocate ferals to a safe area.

### 2008 Funding

In 2008 we received funding from the following Foundations and Trusts:

*Handsel Foundation*

*Build-A-Bear Foundation*

*Placer County Animal Services Trust Fund*

*Berniece Barbour Foundation*

### Results

In 2008 SNAP provided spay/neuter surgery for 566 cats; 301 females and 265 males. Exclusively using the Animal Spay and Neuter Clinic enabled us to keep our cost to a minimum, while still providing the necessary care for each of the cats. Our average per cat cost was unchanged from 2007 at approximately \$36.00.

### Highlights

All of us at FieldHaven are proud of the success of SNAP. Not only are we gaining ground on ending the plight of homeless pets in and around Lincoln, but we are providing services that save taxpayer dollars. Below are several highlights of our 2008 SNAP experience:

- Through a cooperative agreement with Placer County Landfill, when cats and kittens are found abandoned at the facility, FieldHaven will rescue the animals and provide for their care. The facility donates \$35 per cat/kitten rescued to FieldHaven.
- FieldHaven participated in an area-wide rescue operation when Regency Park, a Sacramento mobile home park, was slated to be razed. There were nearly 150 homeless cats on the grounds, many of which were feral. Numerous animal rescue organizations from the greater Sacramento area participated in

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## SNAP (cont.)

the project. FieldHaven re-homed over 50 of the feral cats after spaying and neutering.

- A TNR team comprised of 4-6 volunteers was formed in 2008. This team functions as a community service to help educate people on TNR as an alternative to trap and kill. Team members will provide all levels of assistance including doing all functions of the TNR operation if necessary. The TNR team managed about ten such projects in 2008, involving approximately 75 cats, in addition to projects where they only provided education and guidance to residents.

## Partnering With Our Community

From very early on we realized that no organization is an island. To have any impact we must all work together. To that end FieldHaven's philosophy has always been to work as a team with the community and with other organizations.

In 2008 FieldHaven participated in several collaborative efforts. The largest of these was unquestionably the Regency Park project.

Regency Park, a mobile home park in a not-so-pleasant area of Sacramento, was scheduled to be leveled. The demolition crew was booked and the residents were told to vacate. But no one thought about the nearly 150 cats that lived there until an animal-rescuer in the area found out about it. That person put out a plea to the greater Sacramento area to find a solution.

The plea was answered by the founders of Sisters Animal Sanctuary in Elk Grove. Over the next 2 weeks they coordinated the efforts to trap, spay/neuter and re-home all 147 cats, of which about 90% were feral.



FieldHaven volunteers stepped up to the plate to help with every phase of the project including braving the drug-infested trailer park by night to set and monitor traps. Through our strong network of animal lovers from Sacramento to Reno FieldHaven was successful in re-homing over 50 feral cats.

In much smaller, but no less important, collaborations, FieldHaven partners with Friends of Placer County Animal Services to share the adoption center at Petco in Rocklin and we also worked with Placer County Animal Services to transfer to FieldHaven, when space permits, overflow cats and those cats that have issues that will limit their adoption prospects at the shelter. We thoroughly enjoy the learning experience that sharing and partnering with other organizations gives us. FieldHaven's participation in the

Placer County Animal Services Advisory Committee grants us the opportunity to meet with representatives from many of the animal welfare groups in our county each month.

A community-based event that FieldHaven hosted this year had little to do with cats. On Labor Day a fire erupted in rural Lincoln that spread quickly due to extremely hot, dry weather and high winds. The Gladding Fire destroyed several homes and barns and threatened many others. The FieldHaven volunteer force was called in when one of our own volunteers had to evacuate their considerable number of animals as the fire crept into their back yard. A few phone calls brought the volunteers to help triage the transport and placement of the animals. At one point FieldHaven was also threatened by the fire but, thankfully, due to the extraordinary efforts of the fire crews, we were kept safe.

After the fire all of us at FieldHaven felt compelled to help those who were less fortunate. We also wanted to honor the firefighters who worked endless hours for several days until the fire was completely out. We had been planning our own fundraiser when we changed course and re-organized the fundraiser to benefit the firefighters and the families who lost their homes. This is the type of community spirit that characterizes FieldHaven. Reach out to the community and they will reach back.

## VoluntHERE

Why do they do it? What drives them? Why FieldHaven?

America is full of volunteers -- and volunteer opportunities. From homelessness to education, in neighborhoods and through the internet, if you have the time, there is a cause that can use your help.

But for 200 special people, FieldHaven has become so much more than that. And their talent, expertise, time, heart and courage combine to create a team like no other.

This year our FieldHaven team was honored as "Best of the Best Non-Profit" by the readers of the Lincoln News Messenger. And here's why:

### **Volunteers Without Borders**

In early February FieldHaven was notified that a mobile home park in Sacramento was scheduled for demolition and that 100-plus stray cats living there were certain to be ambushed when the bulldozers arrived. Though way outside of our traditional service area, FieldHaven volunteers were unfazed by the daunting task and answered the urgent call for help. Responding on a moment's notice FieldHaven volunteers jumped in to help with trapping, transporting spay/neuter, veterinary care and recovery and finally transporting to new homes as far away as Reno. In the end nearly 150 cats were saved through the combined efforts of FieldHaven and other local rescue groups.



### **Disaster Response**

In September, the so-called Labor Day Gladding Fire brought FieldHaven volunteers out by the dozens. Our people worked alongside police, fire and county shelter staffs to evacuate, care for and reunite neighbors and their cats. Even as the fire eventually threatened FieldHaven's own facility, volunteers continued to transport cats to safety.

### **Fabulous Fosters**

What can truly be said to describe the dedication necessary to take these wonderful cats in to your home, love them, feed them, care for them, and then give them up? It takes strength and character that is well above and beyond the call of duty, and FieldHaven is blessed with an incredible number of these amazing people. They extend our reach beyond our shelter walls and remind us about the joy of doing what's right even when it's hard.

### **Adoption Angels**

A permanent home is the final successful outcome of all we are dedicated to at FieldHaven. These dedicated people trade their precious time with family and friends to staff the adoption

locations. That we are grateful goes without saying. They are the face of FieldHaven to this community and they make us proud.

### **SNAP To It**

FieldHaven's 2008 Spay/Neuter final tally - 566 cats. Incredible. But only part of the story. Trapping, surgery, recovery, foster, health care, love, finding safe havens and homes. These are the exhaustive and rewarding and frustrating and fulfilling jobs behind the numbers. And each challenge is met by a FieldHaven volunteer. Again, simply incredible.

It is ultimately a very personal choice to spend your "free time" doing something to make your community -- and your world--- a better place. Those who choose FieldHaven honor us in ways that cannot truly be described. The joys and sorrows of working with these wonderful cats somehow combine to produce a feeling of accomplishment like no other.

So at the end of the day, that's the answer. It's who they are. It's what drives them. It's FieldHaven.

## 2008 – A Year of Giving Back

Tasked by Placer County with replacing our shelter building, the volunteers, staff and Board of FieldHaven hit the ground running in the spring. Pulling together the bones of a wonderful open-air fundraising event to be held at FieldHaven, the planning was ahead of schedule, and it looked like we were on track for a great kick-off to our brand new Shelter Fund.

But during one of those planning sessions, we started to wonder if this community, still reeling from a devastating fire, wouldn't be better served by using the heart and soul of FieldHaven to help those who had lost so much before we began fundraising for our new building.

Having lost their home, most of their belongings and sadly some of their animals to the Labor Day 2008 fire, Helen and Harley Hutchinson became our inspiration -- just as Helen and her huge heart had been the very inspiration for FieldHaven back in 2003.

With that, FieldHaven's Board voted to re-purpose our "Kick Off To A New Shelter" event and instead give any money we could raise to a fund for fire victims. Having seen first hand the heroism and bravery of the firefighters that saved FieldHaven that day, there was no question but that we would also need to thank them as well.

The result was a particularly warm



Girl Scouts Made Cat Beds

and wonderful gathering of nearly 200 people with donations of nearly \$3,500 to split equally between the Victims' Fund and the Firefighters' Fund.

Firefighting equipment, great food, beverages, raffle items, friends and family all combined to make this a true, old-fashioned barn-burner of an evening.

FieldHaven volunteers solicited contributions from local businesses, cooked food for the pot-luck dinner, ran the raffle, gave tours of the shelter and introduced many neighbors to FieldHaven for the first time.

It didn't matter that we were setting ourselves back quite a ways from our Shelter Fund goal. Knowing that our neighbors, friends and our amazing first responders needed our help, FieldHaven proudly chose our community first.

### Forming Partnerships -- Building Trust

In 2008 FieldHaven continued as an active participant in the Used Book Co-Operative (UBC) and again earned money from three activities: donating books to the UBC, providing volunteer labor to the UBC and selling used books the UBC provides. This year we

earned over \$6,100 from books from our affiliation with the UBC. We are proud of our participation in the UBC and hope to continue this successful partnership as long as they will have us.

FieldHaven is proud of the growing list of community and national sponsors who are choosing to help us. These special companies and organizations represent our online collaborations with those who believe in what FieldHaven stands for: *Art for Critters*, *OxyFresh*, *RocketLife*, *PetCo*, *Louiseware*, *Nugget Markets*, *Horse.com*, *Amazon*, *Café Press*.

This growing list of partners helps make it possible for FieldHaven to continue to grow and meet the needs of our community.

You can help by going to [www.fieldhaven.com](http://www.fieldhaven.com) and clicking on any of the companies listed on our Shopping page. Your purchase from them will result in a contribution to FieldHaven. It's truly that easy.

We are working on adding to this list so please remember to check [FieldHaven.com](http://FieldHaven.com) first whenever you shop the web.

## How You Can Help

### Building Blocks

In 2008 Placer County notified FieldHaven of the need to replace our existing shelter structure within 2 years. FieldHaven's Board, staff and volunteers have sprung into action and we are hard at work on the design, implementation and fundraising required to accomplish this goal by the end of 2009. Please consider a generous donation to our building fund by:

- Attending one of our scheduled fundraising events in 2009
- Co-sponsoring or selling tickets to *Classics, Cats & Cabernet* – FieldHaven's signature fundraising event. Check our website for more details on this fun event
- Considering a contribution of \$5,000 or more and let us name a room in the new shelter after you or someone you love

### Membership Program

Join FieldHaven as a member of our monthly giving program. Members are the lifeblood of FieldHaven. Your contributions make a direct impact in the lives of Lincoln's unwanted and needy stray and feral cats every day. Monthly gifts are easily made via credit card or electronic funds transfer. The amount is up to you. Contributions are secure and your information is never shared with anyone. Call us or visit our website for more information.

### Sponsorship Program

Sponsor the care of a special needs cat with a monthly pledge. You will receive a monthly letter about

your sponsored cat and other happenings at FieldHaven. This is a perfect gift for the pet lover in your life.

### Workplace Campaigns

Many companies will match your contributions, doubling or even tripling your gift of support to FieldHaven. To request a matching gift from your employer, ask for a matching gift form from your Human Resources Department, fill it out, and send it to us – we will take care of the rest.

### Leave a Gift to FieldHaven in Your Will or Living Trust

By including FieldHaven in your will or in a living trust, you create a powerful legacy that will protect stray and feral cats for years to come. FieldHaven has information you may request to discuss this procedure with your attorney.

### Gifts of Appreciated Stock

Giving stocks and bonds to help FieldHaven fund programs can dramatically reduce your tax bill while helping us to improve the lives of stray and feral cats. Visit our website for more information on how to give a stock gift.

### Tribute and Memorial Gifts

Honor a special person or animal companion by making a Tribute Gift to FieldHaven in his or her name to. Your honoree will be notified of your contribution with a personal card from FieldHaven and will receive a subscription to our newsletter for one year. With a Memorial Gift, we will send a sympathy card to the person you designate, noting that a special gift was made in remembrance. If you want to make a more lasting and

public gesture, gifts larger than \$500 entitle you to an engraved Memorial or Tribute Plaque honoring your loved one. All memorial gifts are highlighted in our newsletters and our Annual Report each year.

### Host a Third Party Fundraiser

Many companies allow you to designate a favorite charity to receive a donation based on your referring someone to their business, or marketing their products, such as in-home-party sales.

### Weddings, Birthdays and Other Special Occasions

You can suggest that guests give to your favorite charity instead of buying presents for that special occasion.

### Cars For Cats

We can turn your old, unwanted automobile, boat or RV into new opportunities for the cats you love. Vehicles in any condition can go a long way toward helping care for the cats at FieldHaven. Check our website [www.fieldhaven.com](http://www.fieldhaven.com) to see how easy it is to donate your vehicle.

### Join the Foster Program

If you have the heart, the time, the space in your life – sign up for our Foster Program. Visit our website and fill out the application.

### Sponsor a Sanctuary Cat

FieldHaven has a few permanent residents – shelter kitties that we call 'sanctuary' cats. You can choose to directly sponsor one of these amazing cats. See our website for photos and stories about these wonderful cats.

## Financial Statement

### Income

Adoption Fees	\$27,750
Donations/Fundraisers	\$96,995
Grants	\$15,000
Other	\$1,709
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$141,454</b>

### Expenses

Animal Expenses	\$57,134
Business Expenses	\$4,110
Outreach/Education/ Marketing	\$11,918
Miscellaneous	\$1,099
Staff	\$28,003
Occupancy Expenses	\$4,553
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$106,817</b>

This is a partial, unaudited presentation of the financial statements of FieldHaven Feline Rescue. The entire financial statements are available upon request.



“We cannot tell you how much we are enjoying our little teen (cat) - she is a bundle of joy and has really settled into her new home, new family, including grandchildren who come to visit.

The home is her castle. Everything you told us regarding her personality was on target. She loves to be cuddled - as soon as you sit down she wants to be held or just lay beside you. Her expressions are just precious and her ocean blue eyes just melt your heart.

We are so appreciative that we found you all and for making the adoption a wonderful experience.

Take care and thanks for the wonderful work you do.”



“I wanted to let you know how much your spay and neuter program has helped me. I am a senior on a fixed income so your assistance has helped me to take care of a feral kitten that came to my house. He has become a member of my household and a real pleasure.”

## Sir Elton John

Elton found his Yellow-Brick Road to a forever home with the help of the staff at Lake County Animal Care and Control and volunteers at FieldHaven Feline Rescue.

Faced with the grim reality of euthanizing many healthy, adoptable animals each day, Lake County Animal Care and Control staff work diligently to network with shelters and rescues in surrounding counties where there is not such an abundance of homeless pets. By working with these groups and transferring pets to them LCACC has been able to save many loving animals from euthanasia.

In June 2007 Elton was scheduled for euthanasia the next day when a volunteer from FieldHaven asked LCACC staff to select 2 cats to transfer to FieldHaven's shelter in Placer County. Elton was on the "E-List" simply because there were too many cats and not enough homes. No other reason.

While at FieldHaven, Elton was chosen as a model for Art for Critters' "Home for the Holidays" art campaign. The brainchild of several artists to raise funds and awareness of homeless pets, especially during the holiday season, participating artists created art of Elton and offered it for sale on eBay with a portion of the proceeds benefitting FieldHaven.

In March 2008 Elton found his forever home with Mikayla (age 12) and Savannah (age 5).

### Mikayla wrote this letter to FieldHaven after adopting Elton:

*"When we first got to FieldHaven my sister and I thought all the cats were cute but when we met Elton my mom turned to me and said "He's the one." and I nodded my head in agreement. When we brought Elton home he could barely fit in the box/cage. When we let him out he searched around for a hiding place. He found the space in between the two computers. He stayed there for a while but eventually he found out he didn't fit to well in there either.*

*When Elton had adapted to his new surroundings he found some spots that are his favorites. He likes the cool tile by the fireplace, the window viewing the backyard, in his carrier, and his little cushion at the front window. Elton's two favorite things to do are sleeping and playing. His favorite toys are his little toy mouse and his feather toy.*

*Here are some funny reasons why we love Elton:*

*Bubbles!!*

*We bought Elton one of those non electric, automatic feeders, so when Elton drinks he makes bubbles in the container. When Elton sees the bubbles he sticks his paws in the water, thinking he could reach inside and get the bubbles.*

*Wake up!!*

*Every morning my mom comes in to wake me up and Elton comes with her. Once she "woke me up" Elton sits down and meows like crazy until I get up. Then once I've pet him I walk down the hallway to get breakfast, and the whole way there he follows me and bites my legs! (not too hard though)*

*Thump!!*

*Our neighbor has a male cat that Elton loves to play with. They both sit at the window (Elton is inside and the other cat is outside) and bang up against it. The other cat hisses, and Elton sneaks up from the side so the other cat doesn't see him, and than he pounces! It's better than T.V.!*

*Thank you for rescuing Elton, he's the best!!!!!!*

*Sincerely,*

*The proud owners of Elton John*



FieldHaven Feline Rescue  
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