

# Alley Animals

## Editor's Note

Our funding moves in cycles. Because we're such a small organization, the best of times financially means we have enough money to get us through a few months, but every year we skid into a dangerous funding curve in the road and wonder if we're going to survive. Such was the case this past summer. Oh how we needed a strong response to our Fall Raffle. The anxiety of desperation wrapped its tendrils around Alice's mind, and mine too, as we faced uncertainty.

After the Fall Raffle newsletter was mailed, we began to hear from you. Tickets arrived, and touching notes accompanied donations as you gathered around our organization to lift us out of near-extinction. Your response to our call for help shone as a star in the night sky lighting our way forward. You were telling us to return to the streets and alleys because the misery and pain borne by homeless animals matter to you. As always, our way of upholding your support was to load the old alley car and enter the dismal world of unwanted animals, unloved and forgotten except by you.

Your support of our nightly travels through the streets and alleys demonstrates that your compassionate embrace includes the lowliest among us who have no recourse when the winter wind stings clear to the bone and not a morsel of food can be found. Earlier than usual December began shedding its frozen blanket onto the ears and paws of those who seek refuge under a leaning board or discarded appliance, but the hope for warmth will go unanswered, the cold seeping into every crevice bites the creatures who long for relief. You don't witness the terrible effect of winter on the innocent, but you care anyway and in this you rise above the rest.

As the season of giving comes and goes, please don't forget about us. In the dead of winter we'll be in the streets, and we'll continue to need your help. If only motivation fueled our work, carrying us back to the alleys, but this isn't the way of our world. No, not motivation, but rather financial assistance from those who want the needless suffering to end opens the way for us to go on doing what we do.

Though the old car breaks down or tires need to be changed when the temperature is 15°, and our coats and gloves lose their ability to keep us warm, we'll see animals carrying burdens so much worse than ours. Many humans toss these innocent ones out of their minds (and

their homes), but the creatures we see possess a nobleness of spirit matched only by their worthiness of so much better than this world forces on them.

The innocent will feel winter's grasp taking every small relief from them. No droplets of dew to moisten their parched mouths, no soft ground to rest their weary bodies, no warmth anywhere. Yet they press on in the silence of the frigid night, broken only by the distant sound of an old car's engine slowly getting closer, the one familiar sound reassuring them—they are not forgotten.



## Alley Animals, Inc. 2010 Fall Raffle Winners



1st Prize	<b>Doris Richard</b> , Olney, MD
2nd Prize	<b>Charleen Ponton</b> , Overland Park, KS
3rd Prize	<b>Terry Leland</b> , Baltimore, MD
4th Prize	<b>Sandy Mott</b> , East Islip, NY
5th Prize	<b>Tracy Hickman</b> , Catonsville, MD

*Special Thanks to the raffle winners who donated their prize to Alley Animals.*

Since we told you about Alice's diagnosis of stage 4 breast cancers, Alice has received wonderful cards and letters of encouragement from you. She reads all of them, even the brief notes letting her know she's in your thoughts and prayers. Some of you reached out by sharing your own or a loved one's struggle with cancer; such confiding Alice appreciates as a strong bond between fellow travelers on the path known to those who have been affected by cancer.

Every one of your communications touched her. We didn't know how you would take the news of her cancers, we even worried some supporters might turn away from Alley Animals. Boy, were we wrong! Your thoughtfulness brings home the immeasurable depth of your caring spirit. As Alice is fond of saying, "people who care about animals are *just good people*."

**Alley Animals 410-823-0899**

# Alley Animals

## Miss Lemon

### *Part 1 On The Streets* by Alice Arnold

When I was coming out of one of my alleys, I had to make a hard left to get back to the street. The cars were parked bumper to bumper right up to the entrance of the alleys so I had to go slow, and that's when I saw her. She was next to the back tire underneath the last car.

I could tell right off the bat something was wrong, because she tried to step onto the curb and she fell over. I jumped out of my car and approached her, but just as I got close, another car came up behind my car, which was blocking the way, so I had to move it before the person started blowing their horn and scaring the cat away even if she had trouble walking. (I've seen badly injured and sick cats and dogs flee from humans, no matter how much trouble they have running.) I didn't know exactly what was wrong with this cat, but I knew she needed my help. I wasn't happy about it, but I had to move my car, so I left her there.

I drove around the block because there was no place for me to pull over. I drove so fast that my wheels were squealing, and even then it seemed to take me forever to get back to the place where I saw the cat. This time I parked in the alley off the street and got out of my car with some food. I called to her, hoping she would come to me. The little cat turned to look at me and now I could see what was wrong; someone had put a collar on her and it was wrapped around her leg and neck so that she couldn't stand up straight to walk. As she tried to take a step she fell over again.

Just then I heard people coming. They were talking loudly and I was afraid they would frighten off this poor cat who wouldn't last much longer by herself on the streets. I had to act fast because the people were getting closer and louder, but they were still out of sight when I put the food down as close to her as I could. The little cat was extremely thin and very, very hungry. She tried to eat but fell head first onto the pavement and that's when I grabbed her. It was so quick, she didn't know what happened.

I had her in my arms and ran to the car before the people came around the corner. In the car I sat with her on my lap and felt the bloody raw flesh under her arm and I smelled the infected wound; it takes time for an infection to reach this state, weeks for sure, maybe months. To top it all off, she weighed just about nothing. She looked up at me from my lap and I pet her head slowly until she started to purr.

### *Part 2 The Healing* by Lillian G. Leslie

As soon as Alice brought this brave little kitty to safety, we cut the collar off her which wasn't easy, because it was partly embedded where the skin had started growing over it. Miss Lemon cried out, but she seemed to understand we were not trying to hurt her as we peeled away the hideous collar that would have killed her if she hadn't caught Alice's eye that night.

I called our friend Jeanie who agreed without hesitating to take Miss Lemon into her care, and she whisked the injured kitty off to the vet right away. Our dear Miss Lemon was grossly underweight as well as suffering from a sizable necrotic injury; she wouldn't be out of the woods until she added some pounds and the wound healed. Who knows how many months she'd wandered, lost and alone, gradually unable to balance herself long enough to eat (not that this cat, who had clearly been thrown out, knew how to *find* food in the harsh and deadly streets). It was no small wonder she survived the ordeal of injury on top of abandonment.

So Jeanie and her husband, Geoff, presented Miss Lemon with the softest of beds, the most delicious of foods, and they always had time to give her one more kiss along with her medication. After several weeks, the bones so obvious to the touch when Alice rescued her disappeared beneath a new plush coat and healthy body weight, the monstrous wound encircling her underarm and neck responded well to antibiotics. Miss Lemon rebounded with flying colors.

When Jeanie took in Miss Lemon for spaying, she had no inkling of what was to come. The surgery went as expected, but the sutures became infected causing a dangerously high fever and other serious complications. Jeanie was an emotional wreck, waiting for the vet to call with news of the formerly unwanted animal now so dear to her heart. After all Miss Lemon had been through and all she's overcome, surely her unassailable love of life would assist in conquering this sudden turn of events. And so it did. Intensive medical care coupled with a resilient spirit triumphed. Today only the slimmest scar remains of the massive, decaying flesh wound inflicted by the collar some thoughtless person put on her before tossing her out and, as for the psychological scars of her traumatic ordeals, Miss Lemon is far too busy exploring culinary delights, soft beds, and warm laps to be distracted, even for a moment, by any painful brushes with death from her past.

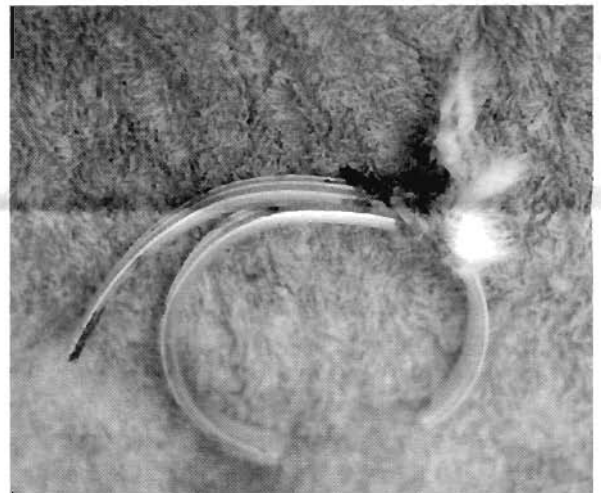
*Throughout decades of working in the alleys, we've witnessed far too many cats suffering from deadly, infected wounds caused by collars, which should not be put on cats who aren't supervised when outdoors. Of course, we strongly believe the only safe place for cats is strictly indoors.*

# Alley Animals

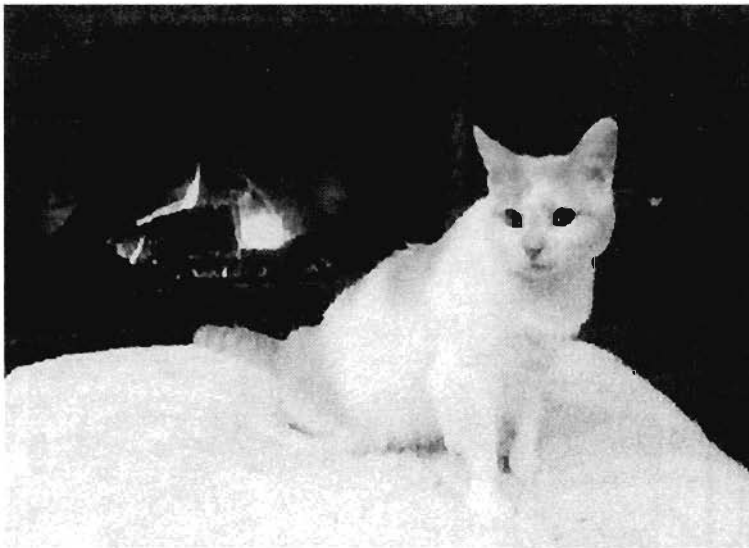
## Miss Lemon



*These photographs documenting Miss Lemon's first hours after being taken off the streets don't do justice to the severity of either her malnourished condition or of the horrid wound underneath her arm stretching all the way around the back of her neck. And photographs can't convey the putrid odor of rotting flesh which clung to this innocent victim of human thoughtlessness.*



*This is the collar we extracted from Miss Lemon's body, with bloodied hide and fur still attached.*



*Many months after Alice carried Miss Lemon out of the alley, out of harm's way, she warms herself by the fire and no longer fights through the starvation and injury that very nearly stole her life.*

You have no way of knowing how humbled and pleased I was when a number of you responded to my Brindle Boy Addendum by taking the time to write notes expressing your complete understanding of our efforts to take him off the streets, and why we weren't successful. You sent memorials for our dear boy, and the way you rallied around us in

the face of criticism by one former supporter was nothing short of marvelous. Demonstrating an elevated understanding of the difficulty of our work, you shared our sorrow at Brindle Boy's loss, and I could never find words powerful enough to tell you what this means to me.

*Lillian G. Leslie*

# Alley Animals

## The Dumpster Kittens

By Demetria Patras

Two little 5 week old kittens were thrown in a dumpster. The call I received was from a passerby who reported he heard them crying from inside the dumpster. The dumpster was located behind a church/daycare facility, well hidden from the general public. The passerby was the postal delivery person who was making his rounds and could hear the desperate cries from a block away.

When I checked out the dumpster, it was very deep. I could hardly reach inside to the bottom where the two little ones were screaming and trying to reach my outstretched arm. They wanted very much to be rescued from the metal box. The wind was blowing hard and all the loose parts of the dumpster were making tremendous, loud bangs. I could barely reach the babies to pull them out.

Why would anyone throw such precious little ones into a garbage bin? *This had to be done by a person.* A mother cat would never have placed her kittens in a contraption that was emptied periodically. Mother cats and

dogs hide their young in places with little or no activity, especially from giant trucks moving about.

People do this kind of thing to kittens and puppies (and other small animals) all the time, but at least these two found a happy ending. We placed them in a foster home and were adopted into a loving family.



## Forever by Alice Arnold

This is Forever, yes that's what I call her, she's been around for a very long time but I can't get near her. No matter how many methods we've tried, we've still not been able to take Forever off the streets. She's had so many litters of puppies that I'm not sure how many there have been. And here's the thing; when she gives birth, I *never* see the puppies and she never brings them to me as other nursing mothers do, who trust me not to harm their young ones. Over the years I've come across nursing mothers who won't come near me themselves, but who teach their puppies to approach me without fear. It's as if they're saying to me, "Please take care of my babies, they're better off with you than here in the streets."

Every time Forever is nursing I look for her hiding place, but I've never been able to locate it. Street mothers take good care of their babies, and hiding them from people is the best way to keep them safe. I worry about what happened to all the puppies: litter after litter, and not one have I seen.

In the alleys I have to look all over for Forever, and then she'll come to eat if I can track her down. I never know where she's going to be. Last night I saw her and when I put out the food for her I noticed she's pregnant again. I can only hope one night soon she'll let me touch her, or at least she'll finally bring me her puppies. Until that time I'll go on looking for her, feeding her when I can find her, and trying to let her know I'm her friend.



**Please Consider** remembering Alley Animals in your Will. Animals on the streets will go on suffering, and if you have been blessed in this life we hope you will consider sharing your blessings with the least fortunate among us.

## Wish List

Cat Food (dry & canned)	Bleach
Dog Food (dry & canned)	Paper Towels
Large plastic trash bags	Unscented laundry soap

We gratefully appreciate donations in response to our Wish List

If you have items to donate call Dick at 410-823-3319

# Alley Animals

## Memorials

### In Loving Memory Of:

The precious dog who died in the crate. *Sandy Miller*  
*Bobbie LaSov*  
*Barbara Ziegler*

**Brindle Boy** and all he taught us. *Bobbie LaSov*  
*Barbara Ziegler*

**Brindle Boy** and all innocent creatures like himself.  
*Doris Richard*  
*Susan Herndon*  
*Jane R. Lang*

Brave **Brindle Boy**, whose story is forever in my heart—and prayers. *Alma McChesney*

Our friend, **Kathy Moran**. *Susan Hyman*  
*Sharon Allen*

My aunt, **Helen Miller**. *Mary Ellen Younkins*

**Olivia, Gremlin, and Rascal**. *Margaret Detwiler*

**Gidget**. *Brian & Jo-Ann White*

My Dad, **Richard Gunn**. *Debra Gunn*

Judith's loyal friend, **Joe Bonner**. *Dawn Griest*

**Doris Lowner**. *Joan M. Goeringer*

**Dorothy White Wicker**. *Kathy, Phil & Lacey Brauer*

**Lily**, the dearly loved Rottweiler of Linda, David, Will, Peter, Leigh, and George.  
*Kathy & Roger Novak*

Our dear friends, **Chupi, Mary, Miguel, and Megan**, who were such special friends through the years and who will always be with us.  
*Michael & Colleen Rogal*

**Benny**, our much-missed kitty.  
*Richard & Sandra Hobbs*

**Foxy Hoffman**, we miss her so much.  
*Carolyn Hoffman*

Lynn Witter's beloved **Yoda**.  
*Howard & Sharon Miller*

**Maggie and Shayna**. *Beverly Wilson*

**Mario and Layla**. *Sarah Kaplan*

**Nancy Morningstar**, who reached out to all 4-legged creatures in kindness and concern. She has joined Susie, Spotty, Tara, Brownie, and Yogi over the Rainbow Bridge.  
*Tami Morningstar*

My beloved **Jacks**, who died on 9/23/2010. You gave me the best 16 years ever!  
*Love, Mom*  
*(Darlene Krawczyk)*

My cat, **Ghandi**, who died May 2010 at age 19.  
*Laura Ost*

Our dear aunt, **Mabel Burk**.  
*Barbara & Diane Ziegler*

**Fiducci, Baron, Girlie, Perdie, Rocky, Emily, and Brownie**—all special dogs in my lifetime that have gone to the Rainbow Bridge.  
*Theresa Chonoski*

**Lora Kincade**, with love. *Shelly McCullin*  
*Robert Kincade*

**Bug**, the sweet and wonderful cat of Marcia, Ed, & Tam Livengood.  
*Love, Rita & Ray Flygar*

**Motley, Lorey, and Pico**, my Rainbow Bridge animals.  
*Jeri Maupin*

**Winky**, beloved companion of the Cooper Family.  
*John & Maggie Miner*

**Shadow**, a classic black cat-boy who arrived as a stray on our deck in the winter of 1993 and captured our hearts. Over the bridge on 5/18/2010, of an embolism. Too fast, too soon. Greatly missed. Only your best buddy Jesse is left now.....

**Bippy**, born in a neighbor's window well in August 1992. We rescued your mom, Rosita and six babies. All to good homes, but every time someone came to adopt, Bippy would hide. We were so glad she did—a wonderful long-haired tortoiseshell feline who kept us all in line! Passed on 9/4/2010 in our arms.

**Mr. Hiss**, a feral friend who succumbed to the three blizzards last winter. A meal every night, but alas, an injury and then no return. I shoveled paths and never stopped calling..... *Wendy South, Calvin & Forest*

Our "special needs" kitty, **Hannah**, who passed away October 26, 2010, ill no more.  
*Megan & Mario De Baglivo*

**Madelon Decker**, mom and grandmom. Your love for us and all animals was your gift to us from GOD. We still miss you.  
*Patricia Decker*

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# Alley Animals

## In Loving Memory Of: *(continued from page 5)*

Our beloved cat, **Ruthie**, who took it upon herself to supervise me whenever I sorted the coupons I send to Alley Animals. We lost her October 23, 2010 due to complications from her thyroid disease and the medication. Our house is not the same and our other cat, Amber, is lost. Both Ruthie and Amber have to be the sweetest cats we have ever met. *Denise Gatti*

My **Dad**, whom we lost to Leukemia a few months ago. Our love of animals started with him. He always helped homeless animals no matter what, even though he drove my Mom crazy sometimes. I can't count the number of rescued animals, from an owl, other birds, cats, dogs, bunnies, a skunk, many squirrels, and 9 opossum babies after their mother was killed.

I miss him everyday so much. I'll see you in heaven, Dad. You're always in my heart! *Tammylee Dickson*

**Mrs. K.**, a very much loved feral rescue.

*Millicent Dunn*

Our dear, late friend, **Leah Baran**. Her home was always a welcome refuge to many of God's cats, dogs, and horses. For this she will always be remembered and loved. She was taken from all of us much too soon.

*Lynn & Norman Stevenson*

**Foxy**, a kitty who belonged to Ray, a dear friend of mine who passed away earlier this year. I took in Ray's cats, and Foxy died the 10th of November. Foxy was a sweetheart, as they all are, and I miss him very much.

*Jean I. Hirsch*

**Cleocatra, Isis, and Tiffany**: my beautiful cats, spend Christmas in Heaven peacefully. You are missed dearly and always loved. Love, Momcat. *Ana A. Garcia*

**Sammy**, who died of cancer earlier this fall.

*Julie Nyce Walker*

**Rascal**, my rabbit. He was 10 years old when I had to put him to sleep in mid-October, 2010. He was amazing and he taught me so much about "prey" animals—he had the *bravest* soul I've ever encountered.

*Starr Rockhill*

Our beloved "stray" cat, **Hermies**.

*Marvin Feuerberg & Sylvia Rosenfield*

My two very long-lived and much-loved cats. **Oliver** who died 1 week after his 20th birthday, and **Duchess** who died 1 month before her 21st birthday.

*Pam Wallace*

**Ambee**, with tears in my eyes and pain in my heart. A little over 20 years ago you and Sissy came into my life and joined your "momma", Cassie Ann. What a glorious day that was. You had all your family, and it was a blessing to watch the three of you interact as a team, eating, sleeping, and playing together.

You were always a lover boy, wanting to be held, hugged, and kissed. We read, did the laundry, dusted, and washed dishes together. If I was there, you were there.

Cassie Ann left us five years ago, that was a milestone in your life. When Sissy went over The Rainbow Bridge, it took you a long time to get over it, and you and I became even more inseparable. It was just Ambee, Laz, and me. One day I turned around, you were 20 years old, still doing your thing and bringing me so much joy.

God looked down, it was time for you to join your family over The Rainbow Bridge. We had 20 years of wonderful blessings and I will have you in my heart forever. Like all my other babies, we will never be apart, you have left your pawprints in my heart. You will always be by my Sweetness and Light. We love you and miss you. 'til we meet again. *Mom (Marlene) & Laz*

Beautiful and special **Samantha** who was loved and treasured every day of her life by Tim and Barbara Abel. She helped her brother Buddy and his best friend Boo Boo find a loving home. She is missed as she goes about her angel kitty duties now. *Claire Billings*

## In Honor Of:

**John & Shirley Rice's** cats.

*Jerry G. Rice*

My niece and her husband, **Autumn and Adam Terry**. Both are vets and operate a veterinary hospital in Calloway, MD. They have adopted numerous stray dogs and cats over the years and provided them with excellent homes and medical care. They are truly good people and the animals and world are very, very lucky to have them. *Sandy Graham & canine companion, Betsy*

**John and Lisa Cozzolino**, for caring for the feral cats in Owings Mills. All that you do is amazing.

*Barbara Cozzolino*

My 90th birthday!

*Aileen H. Dannenberg*

**Alice and Lillian**. God Bless both of you.

*JoAnn & Joe Lamp*

Our wonderful dog, **Trevor**, who continues to show us what true courage and love is all about. *Bobbie LaSov*

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# Alley Animals

## In Honor Of: (continued from Page 6)

**Pogo**, my new best friend, a 14 year old keeshond.

*James R. Burnett*

**Alice Arnold** and **Alley Animals'** entire dedicated staff; they merit our admiration and deep respect.

*Einar Raysor  
Doris Richard*

**Alice Arnold** and **Lillian Leslie**.

*Barbara Ziegler*

**Alice Arnold**, and in appreciation of all she and your organization do for neglected and abused animals.

*Lonnie McNew*

**Alice** and **Lillian** for the challenging work they do and the constant sacrifices they make to help the animals who have no one else.

*Lierra Lenhard  
Enid Feinberg*

**Alice**, in her life & her work.

*Marlene Pedder  
Ambee & Laz*

Our feral cat, **Shadow** and her kittens—**Tater**, **Tipper**, **Misty**, and **Snowflake**—who have moved in with us and **Talker**, **Holly**, **Jackpot**, and **Gussie**.

*Marlene Pedder*

All the animals, and **Alice**, God Bless Her!

*Ed & Nancy Foltz*

My 4 cats and 1 Beagle, all strays and wonderful!

*Nadine Lord*

My brother's birthday. My brother, who daily feeds "his" squirrels and birds almonds and walnuts, and whose dog has never known the word "want." All animals deserve no less.

*Bonnie Bozylinski*

**Daniel**, my husband, who loves all animals.

And for **Midnight**, my black cat who is also a best friend.

*Carolyn Hoffman*

For **Alley Animals angels**, who work and give so tirelessly and fully.

*Sandra K. Warfield*

My sister, **Debby**, who just found out she's a match for a good friend of hers who needs a kidney transplant soon. She will be driving from her home in Maryland to Pittsburgh for a series of tests required before the surgery (scheduled for April, if not sooner) to donate one of her own kidneys.

Also my brother **Rog**, who rescued my companion and best friend **Betsy** from a puppy mill in North Carolina where she lived in a wire-bottomed cage for the first year of her life. Whenever **Rog** visits me, **Betsy** goes nuts and won't leave his side. When he gave her to me four years ago, she weighed only 6½ pounds and was going to be "put to sleep" because she was too small to breed. Today she is 10 pounds and well loved.

*Sandy Graham*

Our dear friend, **Dawn Griest**, on her birthday and in appreciation of her love and caring for all the animals.

*Judith, Sona, & Rory Ehle*

*(Continued on Page 8)*

*We Cannot Save The World But  
We can Save Them From the World*

I want to help. Enclosed is my donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . Check here if you wish an acknowledgment.

Please fill in below if name and address are incorrect on mailing label.

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Please make checks payable to Alley Animals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 27487 Towson, MD 21285-7487

Contributions are tax deductible under Section 501 (c) (3) of IRC.  
Our web site: <http://www.alleyanimals.org>  
Our email address: [info@alleyanimals.org](mailto:info@alleyanimals.org)

## Did You Know You Can Donate Through Our Website??

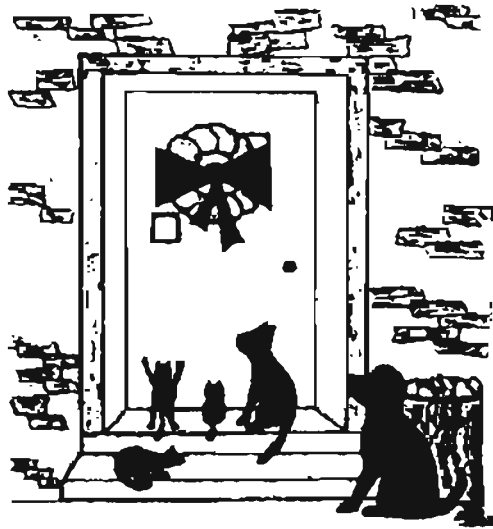
Just go to [alleyanimals.org](http://alleyanimals.org) and click on our "Make A Donation" button to donate via Paypal. It's safe, secure and easy, and you don't need a Paypal account to donate.

# Alley Animals, Inc.

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## Alley Animals

### In Honor Of: *(continued from page 7)*

**Susan L.**, who waited patiently on the hottest day of the year for a lost and dehydrated dog to come out of a cornfield and be rescued. All ended well. *Sally Roby*

The 80th birthday of my Aunt, **Nancy Lee Kern**, of Princeton, NJ. She was born and raised in Baltimore and is a lifelong animal lover and animal rights advocate. One of the causes she has felt especially passionate about is helping the feral cat population in her area..

*Lynn McPherson*

Our two **Goldens** who turned 13 on October 15th.

*Carol & Mark Ayres*

My beloved daughter, **Ingrid**, a miracle to behold. Twenty years ago doctors told her she had only three or four more years to live, yet today she is still here.

Recently she escaped another possible medical catastrophe, and everyday she makes the conscious decision to be happy, to live in the Now. Not only do I see in Ingrid the triumph of "mind over matter," but my dear Ingrid's survival has deepened my belief that miracles do happen.

*Einar Raysor*

My **Dad**, and my niece, **Mary** (caregiver par excellence), who not only welcomed me but also Alice, for a memorable Thanksgiving replete with good food, good company, and blessings too many to count. *Lilly*

**Clinton Adams**, musician & cat lover.

*Pam Wallace*

**Carolyn J. McElroy**, a former law partner of mine who lived in Potomac and has subsequently moved to New Mexico.

Quite some time ago she adopted one of your rescues.

*Thomas Antone*

As this newsletter nears completion, we've already received some beautiful Christmas cards, holiday messages, and well-wishes for a new year that will see less suffering by animals on the streets. Thank you for manifesting the true spirit of this season by remembering the homeless and hurting.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and please, take care and be safe as you shine the light of your compassion on others.