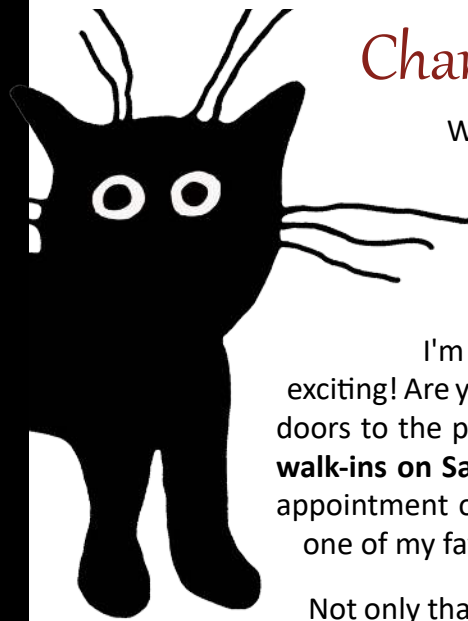


CAT NIPS



Change is the Only Constant

Well friends, I never thought I'd say this, but I kinda miss the rain! What kind of silly cat nonsense is that, right!? I guess thinking about a lot of changes we've been through over the past year or so got me wishing for a change in the weather.

I'm happy to report that some upcoming changes are very exciting! Are you ready for this!? My pals at ASAP decided to open their doors to the public again! You read that right! **ASAP is now open for walk-ins on Saturdays from 1:00pm - 3:00pm.** You can also make an appointment outside of those hours if you're serious about adopting one of my favourite feline friends. Don't forget your masks!

Not only that, but we plan to have **monthly yard sales and adoption events.** I LOVE THOSE. Not only are they super fun, but at each event

we find awesome homes for lots of cats, people get to shop for all sorts of neat things, PLUS we raise money to help even more cats and kittens that come to ASAP! It's a win-win-win if you ask me. Check on our website to find out when the next ones are coming up (hint: August 14th and Sept 11th are next!).

In the meantime, I gotta tell ya about some of these **amazing cats that need homes right meow**, like Jane, featured on page two. She had such a scary time with a motorcycle accident, then traveled all around the world to get to ASAP. But it doesn't stop her from being one of the sweetest girls I know! And Pax, on page six, who's dealing with diabetes and is looking for a patient and understanding family who can help him continue his treatment.



Sweet Jane, in her cozy foster home, after a harrowing journey to ASAP.

Now, you know there's only room for one tom cat on the block, but I'd be willing to share with my buddy Socks if I really had to. Meet him on page seven. He's taken though, because he charmed his way into a forever family! Way to go Socks!

Did you know that ASAP has a really great team of cats that supports its board, staff, and volunteers? It's true! The cat leadership of ASAP is amongst the very best, and we felt like they deserved a little shout out too, along with some of the great people that help ASAP save lives.

I can't wait to start seeing people in person again, safely. Maybe we'll see some rain again soon, too.

Until then, stay shady and cool!

Basil, OUT



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The Plane Ride That Saved Jane

A LIFE SAVED AROUND THE WORLD

ASAP's commitment and mission are first and foremost in support of the cats of Santa Barbara County, but as we have seen time and time again, cats all over the country—and even from the other side of the world—are also in need of our help. With the support of our ASAP community, sometimes an opportunity arises that allows us to save these precious lives, too. Cats like Jane are no less deserving of care and the life-saving support we can provide.

Jane's story is one full of tragedy, survival, and now hope. ASAP supporter and friend, Ed St. George and his son Lucca returned to Turkey to rescue a street dog their family had fallen in love with on another trip two months prior. They discovered that taking cats out of the country was quite a bit easier than dogs, so instead they visited the village animal shelter and asked if they had a few cats that would be suitable for adoption in the USA. A volunteer there immediately thought of Jane.

Jane had been in a horrible accident in which she'd been hit by a motorcycle. Despite severe head trauma, she had somehow survived the accident with a crushed jaw and split skull. The pain she must have felt is unimaginable! The village veterinarian had done their best to literally wire her back together and thankfully Jane was recovering remarkably well. Despite this, the shelter volunteer in Turkey explained that Jane would have an extremely minimal chance of survival in Turkey. The St. George family knew they had to step in and help this sweet girl.

After a very long taxi ride to Istanbul, a 12-hour plane ride back to California, plus another long car ride to Santa Barbara—with not one single meow nor any messes in her travel carrier—Jane finally arrived in Santa Barbara safely. We now hope that someone will adopt her and give this beautiful cat a safe and loving home. The St. George family helped even further with additional veterinary care for Jane, to help her recover from

her ordeal. Thanks to their support, Jane has a chance that so many other cats don't have, and for that she is thriving. If you are interested in adopting Jane, please fill out an adoption application online at asapcats.org.



Jane is a loving and lovable cat. She's easy to pick up and cuddle. Based on her purrs she enjoys it, too. This might be a good indicator of a future lap cat but right now she's too busy having fun! She adjusted quickly to living in our home including getting along with our cats.

Jane is a friendly girl who is interested in being around us. She even comes running when her name is called because she doesn't want to miss anything going on. She loves to play A LOT! Jane makes the cutest little noises when she's "talking" to you and chirps at the outside birds she loves to watch. Her tail has a mind of its own and never seems to stop moving, giving you an insight into her energy level.

Suzanne
ASAP volunteer and Jane's foster

ASAP Goes to Work

JUST ANOTHER DAY ON THE JOB LEADS TO A LIFE-SAVING RESCUE



The mother cat and her kittens, being safely carried to a foster home where they can grow into lovely adoptable kittens.

Nearly every day ASAP answers a call from someone in the community that finds a cat where they least expect it. When kittens are involved it's crucial that we step in to make sure both the queen (mother cat) and her litter have a safe home where they can grow and thrive.

Recently, ASAP received such a call from a community member who needed help saving some small kittens nested in the middle of an industrial yard amongst forklifts, trucks, and other large mechanical equipment. ASAP made sure that the mother cat was still around taking care of her litter, and sure enough she was! Better yet, the people at the yard were taking care of her. Despite this care it was not the safest nor the most comfortable place for a cat to raise her litter.

When the ASAP team arrived on scene, trapper Gina Sunseri determined that the kittens were around 3 weeks old. At such a young age, their best outcome would require staying with their mother. Not only that, but ASAP wanted the opportunity to spay this young mother so she wouldn't have anymore babies and repeat the same dangerous scenario.

Gina set up a humane trap and caught mom right away. As you can see from the photo below one of the workers from the yard was very happy to be helping with this particular task! They collected the five babies and put them in a carrier, then transferred mom, very carefully, from the trap to the carrier. Now the whole family is all together in a foster home and doing well. Since the mother cat is not social enough for regular indoor life, she will return to the yard where she came from once her kittens are weaned and she is spayed. She has a whole community of people there who care for her and will be sure to keep her safe. The babies are all very happy and social and will be available for adoption! Just another day on the job for ASAP!



We're so grateful to the members of the community who so gleefully assist the ASAP team with trapping vulnerable kittens and queens, and always look out for the best interest of the cats.



Meet the Feline Leadership of ASAP

BEHIND EVERY GREAT ASAP PERSON IS A GREAT ASAP CAT

Our love of cats and belief in our life-saving mission drives everything we do at ASAP. Here are just a few of the cats behind the board, staff, and volunteers that run ASAP.



We have three great ASAP cats in the Clouse household, but the one with the most colorful story is Jazzy, who came to us as part of that memorable transfer from Houston when Hurricane Harvey struck in the fall of 2017. The shelters there were being emptied to make room for the expected influx of furry and fluffy storm victims. Jazzy made the 26-hour road trip among 150 terrified dogs and cats mixed between two specially outfitted busses—all while nursing four kittens. That would seem to be a formula for traumatizing animals, but after her stay in foster and spay surgery, Jazzy was in our shelter only a matter of hours before I met her.

I had walked past and as an afterthought bent down to see what was in a bottom cage, when out comes a gray-striped paw to tap me on the nose. Turns out she was the most social, confident cat I ever met in a shelter setting—a true Texas personality!

Charlie Clouse
Board Secretary

I've had pets—mainly cats and dogs, but also everything from hermit crabs to chickens—my whole life. Currently we have two ASAP cats, Bailey and Que, a bearded dragon, Toothless, and most recently a boxer puppy named Penny. Bailey came into my life almost 17 years ago when I had just moved out of my parents' house and my cat at the time had passed away. I went to ASAP. When I looked in Bailey's cage she looked at me, stretched, got up, and came to the front of the cage. I liked her, but because of how recently my cat had passed away, I didn't know if I should "pull the trigger", so I went home. I thought about her constantly and was worried I'd miss out if I couldn't make a decision quickly. I knew any cat I adopted would graduate college with me, move multiple times, get married with me, and play with my kids one day. I went back the next day and adopted her.

Bailey has done all those things with me. She gracefully gave up her alpha-queen spot when our blended family of cats was at 6 cats at one time, and has fostered hundreds of kittens with me. She's our sweet old lady cat—deaf and a little skinny, but still so loving. She tolerates the kids and puppy surprisingly well, and I could not imagine my life without my black and white side-kick.

Kaitlyn Bathel
Board Member, and former ASAP President



An animal lover from day one, it's been a rare moment in my life when I haven't had a cat, or five, in my home. Over the past 28 years, all of my cats have come from ASAP—whether adopted or fostered, I have loved them all. None quite like my beautiful boy Jack who was the most charming soulmate ever.

He was also the only one of my cats who liked our many foster kittens. He always wanted to meet them, give them a lick on the face, then give them a little smack on the head to remind them who's in charge.

Gina Sunseri (right)
Foster Program Director / Community Cats Liaison



Binkie is our silver lining cat. Fostered from ASAP the day after shut-down, adopted within 24 hours! She has been my shining light through COVID and a cancer diagnosis and treatment. Binkie is a perfect example of why I volunteer for our amazing organization – another chance for belonging and bringing joy and love.

Helene Segal (left)
Board Vice President



Rifle was adopted about ten years ago from ASAP and he came into my life two years ago. Rifle is the only cat in our home and he prefers to keep it that way so he can keep bossing around our dogs. I'm pretty sure he secretly loves them because he always somehow ends up sleeping next to them. Fun Fact: He has an evil twin tabby who lives in our neighborhood that we call Muscle Tabby (because Rifle is the "chonk" tabby). He is a grumpy cat but on rare occasions he comes up for pets and is very sweet even if it's for food.

Amy Escobar (right)
Administrative Specialist



Paximillion Montague, the Gentleman

THE RIGHT TREATMENT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE FOR PAX

Pax, a lovable senior cat with diabetes, came to ASAP in early May after his owner moved out of the country and was unable to bring him along. His owner's roommate couldn't provide the treatment he needed for his medical concerns, so they turned to ASAP for help. Thankfully, one of our amazing fosters, Suzanne, had experience with diabetic cats and agreed to take him in.

Pax's diabetes was exacerbated by his weight and bad teeth. First, ASAP sent him to Cat and Bird Clinic where six teeth were pulled. Then Suzanne put him on a special diabetic diet. His weight dropped and his insulin dosage was cut in half as a result!

Now called Paximillion Montague, he is a true gentleman and loves people. He wants nothing more than to sit next to you on the couch and hang out. In exchange for being the only cat in your life, he will be a loyal companion and other than diabetes, he is now in great health. Suzanne explains that giving him his insulin injection twice a day is not difficult at all since he's so focused on eating that he barely notices! If you're interested in adopting Paximillion, please visit our website to fill out an adoption application.



Little Foot's Big Adventure

ASAP works hard to determine the best adoption outcome for each cat, often deciding, based on a cat's social nature, if that's family life through regular adoption or working life in our Working Cats Program. Sometimes though, whether it was a cat we placed or not, they will let us know they're ready to retire from life as a working cat.

Changes in a cat's living environment can be a difficult adjustment even in the best of times, and for a shy cat like Little Foot, it can be extra challenging. When she was let out into her new home, Little Foot hid in a drain pipe, sheltering herself from the big and scary (to her) new world she found herself in! Originally part of our Working Cats program, Little Foot made it clear that she didn't want the job and would prefer to be a loving, indoor family cat.

As it turned out, Little Foot is a very social and sweet cat. She was unable to show it beforehand, but now she is in a cozy and safe home, living her best life.

The Sweet Retirement Life of Socks

SOCKS DECIDES WORKING LIFE ISN'T ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE



Our Working Cats Program is crucial to providing a home for cats that would be otherwise seen as unadoptable. For many cats, this is their best chance at life, but eventually some decide it's not the life they want after all.

After months living as a community cat and then entering ASAP's Working Cat program, Socks decided he would prefer the cozy family life to that of a working cat, and we listened and obeyed! Back at the shelter, Socks quickly became a favorite with staff and volunteers, and now lives a well deserved life of luxury with his new family.

In his foster home, with dedicated patience from his foster mom, Melody, Socks learned

to trust again and stopped gobbling down his food as if he will never see another bite. He became very curious and demanding of attention, always needing to know what was going on, waiting at the doorway while his mom was outside, or greeting guests. Eventually, he started to become more independent, finally allowing his foster to have some space as he went off around the house to entertain himself.

Socks certainly enjoyed being in a house with plenty of places to run, hide, nap, and look out the window. Melody reported that he event tolerated being held and loved to nap on their lap at the end of the day. "He even became accustomed to brushing! He has full reign of the house and hasn't tried to run out the door to outside. He hasn't shown any fear of usual sounds like an ice maker or hair dryer. He absolutely LOVES head and shoulder massages!"

Thankstoalittlebitoftimeandhelp,Socksrecentlyfound his forever home! His story may seem straightforward and simple compared to many others we tell, and in a way it is. But it represents so many stories that happen at ASAP every day. What is an otherwise simple change of scenery, represents the hard work and dedication of a team of patient and understanding staff, volunteers, and foster families that prioritize the unique needs of every individual cat. To Socks, all that matters is that he now has the chance at happiness in a home that is better suited for the kind of life he wants to lead.

Not every first home for a cat is their forever home, and that's ok. That's part of why we're here—to switch gears, take notes, read the signs, and not only to save lives, but to nourish them too.





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info@asapcats.org
www.asapcats.org

 Facebook.com/asapcats

 Instagram.com/asapcats

ASAP Reopens for Saturday Walk-ins!

It's true! **ASAP is now open for walk-ins on Saturdays from 1pm-3pm.** ASAP's usual services are still modified as directed below, but we remain always available to help however we can! Please note that walk-in hours include capacity limits within the shelter, and masks are required.

ADOPTABLE CATS & KITTENS

Appointments are available outside of walk-in hours for serious adopters only. To view our adoptable cats and make an appointment, visit our website at **www.asapcats.org** and fill out an adoption application.

DONATIONS

Please leave donated items on the front porch or shop online and have them shipped! Our wishlist is available on our website. Financial donations can be made online or mailed to **ASAP Cats, PO Box 357, Goleta, CA 93116**

LOST CATS

Please report your lost cat online at **www.asapcats.org**. All incoming strays are cross-referenced with these reports for possible matches. You are also welcome to call to inquire if a cat matching yours has come in.

STRAYS & OWNER TURN-INS

Owner surrender and stray cat intakes are by appointment only. Please call to schedule.



ASAP - Animal Shelter Assistance Program

Shelter location: 5473 Overpass Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111
ASAP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization ■ Federal Tax ID: 77-0283500