



Founder  
Laura's original  
Coco - RIP



APRIL 27, 2010

NEWSLETTER #13

# Coco's Education Program for Children

## ***Our mission***

***Coco's Cat Rescue is a rescue charity in Playa del Carmen, Mexico focusing on the spaying and neutering of feral cats and the care & rehoming of kittens in need of rescue. We provide free or low-cost spay and neuter surgeries to low income residents, as well as vaccinations and basic animal care. We are also committed to education which encourages responsible pet ownership and challenges negative associations with feral cats and consequent cruelty.***



In Playa del Carmen, public education about animals is sorely lacking. Many local families have little or no knowledge of modern ideas about pet care and this results in substandard medical care, unsuitable foods given to animals, and little attention to their safety and security.

To address these cultural and educational gaps, Coco's has undertaken a schedule of visits to schools with a view to introducing this information to Playa's children. If we give them education on good animal care at an early age, we hope they will not only do things differently when they have pets of their own, but will also bring the knowledge home to their families now.

Our first school was Papalote, a private school where the 42 students are between three and eight years of age. Crecer Juntos is a professional education organization and we took part in their Spring Camp. Roxana Góngora, one of Coco's vets was there, along with Rebecca, Maureen and Laura. The group brought a dog and a cat with them, as these are the most common pets. Our presentation covered these points:

- ✚ How to hold and care for a small animal.
- ✚ That healthy pets need the same things as humans: food, water and shelter.
- ✚ What to give their pets: a long walk every day for dogs; good animal food; bottled water; vaccinations; parasite medicine; heartworm treatment; care and respect.
- ✚ What not to do: no hitting; be gentle with them; don't give dogs bones; don't touch without first asking if it's okay.



After the presentation, the children completed a quiz and each child received an educational coloring exercise, along with a "pet care certificate".

Malix Pek, a local dog charity, and Coco's have been working with the department of education to arrange to visit the government schools every Monday to teach the new generation so the message of good pet care will go even further in Playa. We have now received a list of all the government schools in Playa and permission to bring our program to all the schools.



Malix Pek and Coco's will be alternating weeks so that each monday either Coco's or Malix Pek are visiting the schools.

If you are interested in supporting or being part of this program, please contact us at [info@cocoscatrescue.org](mailto:info@cocoscatrescue.org).

*This is the heartbreaking reality of cultural issues around pets in Playa del Carmen. These nine kittens from two different litters were dumped by the side of the road on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Luckily Cyndi rescued them and they are now safe at Coco's.*



*Sadly, the 10<sup>th</sup> kitten was run over before they were found. Six are about two weeks old and the others about four weeks. All have many parasites and severe eye infections and most of them need bottle feeding every two hours. Coco's Cat Rescue is completely stuffed at this point with 33 kittens and we were so lucky our wonderful foster moms Karen took six kittens and Maureen another three.*



**Your ongoing donations, large and small, are SO important and a little goes a long way! Here are just a few options if you are considering donating to CCR every month:**

**Fluffy Kitty (\$10)**

This will provide a parasite treatment for one kitten every month.

**Meowing Kitty**

(\$25) This will feed **and** de-parasite one kitten every month.

**Purring Kitty**

(\$50) This will pay for cat milk for a newborn kitten for one month **or** spay/neuter two kittens every month.

**Fat Kitty (\$100)**

This will feed and de-parasite, including coccidiosis and flea treatment, **PLUS** spay or neuter a kitten every month.

(figures in U.S.\$)

## And now a word to Playa's business community!

### ViDAS Spay and Neuter Clinic Playa del Carmen July 17, 2010

As many of you know, 25 plus vets and vet techs spend their summer vacation time travelling to Playa del Carmen to volunteer at the ViDAS clinic. They pay their own expenses, including airfare. To assist in defraying these personal expenses, we are asking local Playa businesses to sponsor housing and meals.

For a donation of US\$100, your logo will appear on all promotional materials for the clinic. For a \$100 donation you agree to renew every year, your logo and a link to your website will appear on the ViDAS website as well!

For the past two years, our supporter Liza Piorkowski has donated a house in Playa del Secreto to house the veterinary volunteers. Since one house is not enough space, the vets rent a second house next door. Having them stay together is important, because their evening meals are cooked by Eric, husband of vet Meghann. It helps keep their costs down for food and they enjoy eating together after their long days.

These wonderful vets and techs pay from their own pockets to do such important, valuable work in our community. We hope you'll agree to help.

Here are the needs your \$100 donation will help to cover:

- ✚ Rental for a second house in Playa del Secreto.
- ✚ Two evening meals for 30 to give Eric a break from cooking every day. As an alternative to donating cash, the evening meals could be in the form of meals cooked and delivered to Playa del Secreto.
- ✚ We will be using ViDAS board member Sherry Stevens' Paypal account for this fundraiser. Please send your donation via Paypal to:

[info@travelrm.com](mailto:info@travelrm.com)

---

**The ViDAS 2010 Clinic in Playa del Carmen will be held from July 17-22, 2010. The location is the school Jose España Cruz in the Colosio on Calle 104, between Av 10 and 15. Intake is between 9 am and 12 noon daily.**

**We need:**

- ✚ Lunches, snacks, drinks and water for each day of the clinic.

- ✚ Volunteers to put up and pass out fliers around town.
- ✚ Another urgent need is for old towels and blankets.
- ✚ Drivers are needed to do airport pick ups and drop offs and also transport people who live far away with their animals to and from surgery.
- ✚ Volunteers to help at the clinic in recovery or reception.
- ✚ Volunteers with large vehicles which will fit big dog crates to transport animals to and from Puerto Morelos

If you would like to volunteer or help with any of the things from the list above please contact Laura at [info@cocoscatrescue.org](mailto:info@cocoscatrescue.org)

---

## Money-free ways to help Coco's!

Two of our finest team members are Rob and Jeri Sulzmen from Dallas, Texas. In Dallas, Rob and Jeri have adopted out many kittens from Coco's. At this moment, we are looking for kitten kaddies (mules) to take four kittens for adoption there. Rob and Jeri will not only find homes for the kittens, they are also paying for their transportation.

- ✚ Coco's does it all at the Playa end. We'll take you and the kittens, in carriers, to the airport, get the kittens checked in and all the paperwork and fees are paid. Your job is simply to chaperone them and then hand them over at DFW.
- ✚ We also need people to mule various supplies from the U.S. and Canada. Rob and other people have donated items we need. If you can help in this way, we can get the supplies to you.
- ✚ We also need two traps brought down, as Beth and Scott did recently. They are quite large, but if you can bring one or both, we will pay for them and have them delivered to your home.
- ✚ If anyone plans to drive down to Playa from Canada or the U.S., we have a number of needed larger items for transport as well.



**If you can help with any of these needs,  
please contact us at  
[info@cocoscatrescue.org](mailto:info@cocoscatrescue.org)**



Two cats can live as cheaply as one,  
and their owner will have twice the fun.



## More sweet kittens are available for adoption!

Is your new pet in this group? Have a good look and when you can see a kitten or two in your home, just get in touch with us and we'll bring you and your new pet(s) together. Cross border adoptions are easy to arrange, so if you're in the U.S. or Canada, you too can choose a Coco's kitten!

**Never forget, two or three kittens playing and living together are even happier than one! And sooooo darn cute too ...**

**WEEKLY KITTEN  
CUDDLE DAY  
EVERY FRIDAY  
FROM 2 - 4 P.M.!**

*Please send an  
email to*

*info@  
cocoscatrescue.org*

*and we will send  
you a map and  
directions on how  
to get here. Taxis  
from town cost 30  
pesos and it's easy  
to find. Then taxis  
pass by all the  
time so it's easy to  
get back to town.*

**THE KITTENS  
WOULD ADORE  
YOUR LOVE AND  
ATTENTION!**

**EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME!**



**Delila, female seven weeks**



**Mum, adult cat**



**Bug, female eight weeks**



**Dias, male eight weeks**

**Coco's Stats for  
March 2010**

5 pet cats  
sterilized free or  
with donation for  
people with low  
income

4 feral TNR

9 kittens adopted

14 kittens rescued

(NOTE: smaller #s in  
March as many vets  
were remodeling)



**Emiliano, male seven weeks**



**Emma, female three months**



**Pacino, male three months**



**Larry, Curly and Meow – two males, one female, four weeks**

Contact Laura at [info@cocoscatrescue.org](mailto:info@cocoscatrescue.org) when you're ready to bring one, two or three of these darlings home!

---

**Remember Roxie's story?** You can find Laura's description of her rescue and medical issues at In the Roo:

[Laura's story of Roxie at In The Roo](#)



**Another update:** Roxie made a remarkable recovery from all her health problems. Next thing we knew, she was adopted!!!

She's with a wonderful family in Minnesota and their other new adoptee Carmen (aka Princess). This family is

involved in last chance rescue and have a lot of knowledge of cat care and health issues. Roxie and Carmen could not have found a better home!

**Contact info for Coco's Cat Rescue:**

Cell phone: 984 120 0572 (From N. America, dial: 011 52 1 984 120 0572)

E-mail [info@cocoscatrescue.org](mailto:info@cocoscatrescue.org)

Information regarding our financials, municipal and tax status is available upon request



Newsletters will be published one or two times a month, except December. We love to get stories and information from our readers, so please send to:

[thepagesmx@hotmail.com](mailto:thepagesmx@hotmail.com)

Submissions welcome; cat humour, rescues and life-with-a-cat stories will be featured whenever available!

