



**Founder
Laura's original
Coco - RIP**



AUGUST 1, 2009

NEWSLETTER #4

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 & re-homing 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.

Statistics for Last Month

July 2009

SPAYED/NEUTERED: 18 feral cats (TNR = trapped, neutered, returned)

18 kittens, still at CCR shelter or re-homed and brought back for surgery

19 pet cats neutered for free or donation

TOTAL: 55 CATS STERILIZED IN JULY!

RESCUED: 3 kittens

RE-HOMED: 6 kittens

Urgent needs!!

First need*: This story comes first this month because of its urgency. Two of our rescued kittens, Ratatouille and Lefty, have a forever home waiting for them in Vancouver, British Columbia. What's needed is someone to chaperone them on the flight. If you, or someone you know, could PLEASE help us get them to B.C., contact CCR right away.

Second need*: Rob and Darlene, who both volunteer with the Humane Society in Texas, have offered to take **FOUR** of our kittens to re-home them in Dallas! We now need people to take these kittens to them. All travel expenses for the kittens will be paid by Rob!! Thank you Rob!!!

Anyone flying to or through Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) airport or Dallas Love Field and willing to take a kitten with them, sometime soon?? (By the way, the Coppell Humane Society and Dr. Woods Vet Clinic are two of the organizations Rob and Darlene work with.)

****Contact details are at the bottom of the newsletter.***

PROMISE:

We will help with every detail and make it just as easy as possible on the chaperone (or kitten mule, as we call them!), from supplying kennels and vet certificates of good health, to hands-on assistance at the Cancun Airport. Two or more kittens can go in one kennel, usually under the seat in front of you. Or, depending on the airline, they could safely travel in the hold with the luggage.

Spread the word! Read further to hear about what you could win!!!

Sweet kitties need homes!

Very young kittens are often rescued when their feral moms are trapped for neutering and return. As part of our mission, these kittens are kept at CCR's shelter and are re-homed, often as soon as they are old enough.

The shelter can only hold so many and we continue to trap, neuter and return (TNR) feral adult cats and rescue their kittens. That means some of our older rescued kittens are in desperate need of adoption. Here are some of our adorable 3-4 months old kittens. Each of them deserves and needs your loving home and care! And who doesn't love the sight of two kittens playing?

Donations!

Your donations 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.\$)



Monino, male



Olivia, female



Ninfa, female



Monchichi, female



Henry, male



Lili, female

All our kittens are vaccinated and free of parasites. If they are old enough (as all are here), they are spayed or neutered. Since they are originally from a feral environment, it takes time to completely socialize them and some are timid.

Of the kittens in this feature, there are three who are still shy. Lili and Ninfa are shy at first but friendly with time and patience.

Monino is nervous and shy. He would do well in a home where he could be the only pet, with people who can give him patience, time and understanding.



You want kitten? We bring kitten to you!

Easy kitty delivery – with a BIG bonus

Here's how it works: you want to adopt a kitten but you are in the U.S. or Canada. We've been doing this long enough to know it's quite a simple process to arrange to fly a kitten, especially when we're helping you do it. We'll call you the Home.


You can't come to Playa to pick up your kitten because you're busy and have a life. We understand that. But we want you to have your kitten, well, because that's just the business we're in. So we want to get Kitten to Home.

Here's where it starts to get good. Our friends and fans and families travel back and forth from Playa fairly often. One of them decides they can make their flight arrangements so they can bring Kitten to Home. This person is a wonderful entity called:

A Kitty Mule

The Mule becomes the kitten's chaperone, flies to an airport near you and you take possession of your kitten, all healthy, vaccinated and sometimes already spay/neutered (if they are old enough). You take the kitten home, everyone feels joy, the kitten has a forever home and we're happy too. Sounds good, huh?!

Well, there's more ...



Here's where it gets even better – **for the Mule**. He or she gets a great prize for muling a kitten to the U.S. or Canada. No, let me rephrase that:

The Kitty Mule gets A FREAKIN' AWESOME REWARD!!!

The Kitty Mule gets not one, not two, but **three** nights of their choice at the seriously gorgeous Playacar home of Maureen and Joe, two of our most amazing volunteers. Any season, any nights, except of course when they are in residence. Hey folks, that could include Christmas and New Year's! In Maureen's words, "the dates ... most likely Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Easter, July & August. Christmas week & New Years are available too".

FREE LUXURY HOUSING IN PLAYACAR!!! You can view the house at this site:
[Joe and Mo's Playacar Paradise!](#)

In the meantime, here's teaser of what Casa Manantial looks like:

Full contact details for Coco's Cat Rescue, plus contact information for contribution to the newsletter are available at the bottom on the last page.

In addition, any enquiries about our charitable and municipal status will be personally answered on request.

Maureen and Joe, we're all a little choked up here. You give so much to animals all the time, with your love, your kindness, your time, and all the effort you put into making arrangements to unite animals and their forever homes. For these cats (and dogs too!), you are making the difference between love and no love, home and no home.

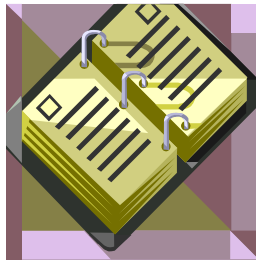
Offering your own home as an incentive in this way is no less than extraordinarily generous!



You are our official
"Coco's Cat Rescue Angels"!!!

- love from all of us at CCR

Next job: create a Mule Calendar – kittens out, supplies in



As well as mules to fly kittens out of Playa, we need mules to bring supplies and equipment to Playa, as a number of our supporters have written saying they have crucial supplies to send. So we need to keep track of our friends, fans, and family, who are willing to chaperone kittens to their forever homes, AND we need people willing to receive and transport equipment and supplies from Canada and the U.S. (Customs have been satisfied with our special letter explaining why someone is bringing in supplies.) In the same way I produce this newsletter, it can be done on your computer at home, with coordination from CCR by email and phone.

Once the calendar is available and remains updated, CCR can refer to it when they have a kitten that is wanted in Canada or the U.S., as well as putting mules and supporters in touch to get supplies here.

Is there anyone who can take on this important task? Please respond to Laura, using the contact information at the bottom of the newsletter!

- thanks a million! Caroline

Playa goes to Miami ...

A very sweet story is told in this recent letter to our founder, Laura:

Dear Laura,

My husband and I purchased a vacation home in Playa del Carmen three years ago. My daughters and I were recently on vacation there and we took daily walks during which we fed as many cats as we could find. One day, my oldest daughter, Melina, spotted a kitten on a rock in the nearby woods, so we went over to give him some food. As he reached for it, the can of food fell, but instead of jumping down, he just looked at the fallen can sadly and stayed where he was.

Just then a dog came along and, since the kitten was scared, Melina picked him up, while Gianna, Mariella, Anneliese and I distracted the dog. We had seen him before and Gianna had named him "Charlie". As we followed Melina home, Charlie followed us, but at the house some scraps satisfied him and he went on his way.

Melina was still carrying the kitten and we decided we'd give him a good feed and the next morning, take him across the road to an apartment house where we had seen people leaving food for a group of homeless cats. We put some food down in the kitchen and put the kitten next to it. He couldn't walk! He couldn't even stand! There was something seriously wrong with one of his legs.

I didn't know what to do. It was Friday night and we were leaving for the states Monday morning. I had no idea if there were any shelters in Playa and I knew we couldn't just leave him the way he was. We were desperate, but thank goodness we had a laptop in the house. We scanned the internet for help and immediately found Coco's Cat Rescue.



When we e-mailed you and Maureen, it was wonderful how quickly you responded. The bottom line was, if I could get the kitten to Dr. Diego, you would take care of everything.

Well, your prompt response and obvious compassion were a godsend. Even though we were only with that kitten for one night, we all fell in love with him. He must have been in terrible pain, but he took all the pets and kisses without so much as a hiss or a swat. He wanted the attention and purred loudly as he looked up at us with his piercing yellow eyes. We named him Playa.

As we returned home to Miami a few days later, I was sure we had left him in capable hands. But we still felt like something was missing when we arrived in the U.S. We couldn't stop thinking about Playa. So much so, one day when passing a vet's office that had a bunch of kittens, hoping to fill the void, I walked in and adopted Figaro!

Soon afterwards I checked my emails and, as promised, Maureen kept me informed of Playa's progress. He indeed had a broken leg, but at that young age, two weeks later he was much better. She also told me it would be easy to adopt him and someone might even be able to bring him over for us.

"No pressure" of course; she just mentioned it because I had asked the vet if it was possible. I suspect Maureen knew we were hooked and Playa had us in his spell. I spoke to my husband Thomas about Playa and all he had been through while

maintaining such a sweet personality. Sure enough, Thomas wanted him too.

I ran to email Maureen and Laura and almost immediately the arrangement was made that Maureen would bring Playa to us. So now, here we are counting down the days until we get Playa and meet Maureen. We are so excited!

What a wonderful service you guys are providing. Not just saving the cats, educating the public, spaying animals, caring for them and getting them much-needed medical attention, but you have created a society of caring like-minded people, and reach out to them with emails and newsletters that make us all feel as we are part of something really important because we are. All I can say is thank you and thank you will never seem like it's enough.

We will always keep in touch and volunteer every time we visit our second home in Playa. Hope to meet you all soon,

Elizabeth Molinare and family, Miami, Florida



Top photo is Playa when he was being treated for the broken leg by Dr. Diego (Playa Pets on Av 30, about 4 doors south of Calle 38). Bottom photo is recent. Playa's on his way to Miami very soon – the story continues in our next edition.



There's a big surprise coming!

Do you like to dance under the stars? On the beach? With music from the best DJ ever in Playa?

How about contests with great prizes? No, don't like contests? Maybe yes?

You like delicious drinks and food? How about supporting the kitties of Playa del Carmen?



Oh yeah, *now* we hit it, that'll get you out there! More in the next issue ... much more. Keep Friday, November 27th free!



THURSDAYS ARE COCO'S DAYS AT THE PERRERA!

Remember Thursdays at the perrera (Playa's local pound) from last month's issue? Well, Coco's Thursdays have been happening, folks, with up to TEN cats sterilized each week! We'll have more news and some amazing photos in our next newsletter.

In the meantime, please keep in mind the surgeries do cost money and,

aside from our fundraisers, we have no source of funds except for YOUR donations. Here are the details again:

- ✚ The surgery itself is free to Coco's.
- ✚ The supplies such as anesthetic, sutures, antibiotics, etc. have to be paid for.
- ✚ The cost per surgery is \$200-300 pesos, depending on the amount of supplies needed.
- ✚ It's a small amount when you consider the huge benefit, not only to the health and future welfare of the animal, but to the community as a whole.

IF YOU WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A SURGERY OR A WHOLE THURSDAY, please go to our contact information at the bottom of the page and click on our website to reach the donation link. Include a note to direct your donation to Thursday surgeries. If you want to support a special date, let us know.

For some it may be easiest to donate in dollars, but any currency will be gratefully received!

- ✚ To sponsor one animal, donate US\$20.
- ✚ To sponsor a whole day, please donate the equivalent of US\$200.

Anything you can send is appreciated more than we can say! Please include a note to designate Coco's Perrera Day surgeries.



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

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



Newsletters will be published at the beginning of every month. If you have a story or information you'd like to share, please send it to: thepagesmx@hotmail.com Submissions welcome; cat humour, rescues and life-with-a-cat stories will be featured every month!