

Founder
Laura's original
Coco - RIP



August 2010

Newsletter No. 16

Living-with-cats and/or rescue stories: page 1
2nd Annual Scavenger Hunt: page 2
Breaking news: new Dog Fund: page 4
Adoptable kittens: page 5, 6
Stats for July: page 4



Bringing up a yellow kitten

by Gabriela Lozano

I stand out in my building as an animal lover, because I have two cats and tell the kids not throw stones at the dogs. There are a lot of people moving in and out and I don't know many of my neighbors, so it was a surprise when one knocked on my door on a Saturday morning.

This was different from previous times, as this neighbor wasn't asking for anything for himself. I found myself pulling the door wide open; he came to me because another neighbor knew of a surviving kitten in a situation where the mother cat had killed the rest of the litter. The truth was, that morning I had heard kitten cries two doors down and had been wondering. When the man asked if I could take care of the kitten, I did not hesitate to go meet the little guy. Because the man didn't know much about animal needs, and confirmed he is really never home, I knew I would be the one to take him in.



A one-week old kitten needs full-time attention if he is to make it to one more week. So, there I was, immediately in love with the cutie, and hopeful but insecure as I recalled a past experience, when as a little girl I had tried to help a yellow newborn, just like this one, but had not succeeded.

I then felt very lucky to know Laura from Coco's Cat Rescue, and having heard of her experience and dedication, I did not hesitate to contact her for advice. In an e-mail of just a few lines she clearly explained the basics, which I

followed. With her advice I realized why in the past, as a girl, it had been such a frustrating experience to try to bring up a newborn without mother cat: it's just not that simple, there are a few details you need to know. Love and good intentions are never enough; the know-how that only experience can give is essential to making a difference.

With Laura's directions, taking care of the baby cat has been the most rewarding experience. "Matías" is starting his fourth week looking healthy: his teeth started to sprout, his head a little bigger, tiny ears starting to unfold, soft hair and nice temperament; he has just recently started to clean his own little paws after each meal and to explore his surroundings.



My adult female cat, distant at first, is starting to bond with the baby and sometimes helps me to "bathe" him by licking him all over. I'm sure they will be playing together very soon.

Cats and cat-lovers, we are all very lucky to count with Coco's Cat Rescue; it's amazing how much help they provide, at many levels, never hesitating to share their resources. Laura's dedication and availability when it comes to helping a cat is amazing. This is Matias today, at seven weeks; isn't he growing up healthy and beautiful?

In return, let's help Coco's Cat Rescue ourselves. One of the many ways is by offering a temporary home for a rescued kitten like Matias, it's a delight!

I strongly recommend it, as it brings so much sunshine to your life!

Gabriela Lozano also sent us a photo of her painting of her two adult cats. In her words:

"... both rescued, one is more attached to humans, the other one, the brown one, she is a bit wild, not used to human touch, so I see her coming and going very fast, like in this canvas where you can see her to the right a bit elusive across the painting. I love them very much, but what I like the most is how they love and help each other. Pablito is always protecting Maggie and "speaking" for her, and they are always hugging each other. This is why I did a painting on them; I hope you like it. It's an oil on canvas, 60 x 60 cm, the title: 'Frolic'."



Thanks for your submissions and all you do for cats in need, Gabriela!

Breaking news: Cachito's Emergency Dog Fund

We're not 'dogmatic' when it comes to providing medical care and our on-staff veterinarian, Dr. Edgar, has performed many spay and neuter surgeries on dogs since our clinic opened. As reported in our last newsletter, we are grateful to SPAP for their generous funding of surgeries for dogs. We now have even more supporters to thank: Sherri and Ken

from Dallas! Although they are 'at heart' dog people, we're very grateful for they've done for CCR in the past, which includes sponsorship of Dr. Edgar's salary.

Do you remember Cachito's story from our last newsletter? It described a dog rescue and the care given by Carlos and Laura to a weak and starving stray Carlos had found on the road. As we said then, in the course of our work, we do come across situations where dogs need emergency and medical care. When Sherri and Ken read the story, they were inspired to create a US\$800 emergency fund for Coco's to use for helping dogs. And when that money runs out, they have pledged to send more!

Our primary focus is not changing: spay and neuter of cats and rescue and re-homing of kittens under three months. But since the clinic opened, we have been routinely providing sterilization surgeries for dogs as needed. With the help of Sherri and Ken's funds, we will be able to provide free surgeries for those in need, as well as emergency care for hurt dogs rescued by CCR in the course of our work.

Wow – Ken and Sherri, we can't thank you enough. Now we have a permanent clinic, a fabulous vet in Dr. Edgar, and an emergency fund to help our canine friends. With your help as well as many others, Coco's has come a long way, baby! Anyone wishing to donate funds to the Cachito's Emergency Dog Fund please go to CCR through Paypal, with a note Dog Fund.



Cachito update: As some of us suspected might happen ;-), Cachito totally captured the hearts of both Carlos and Laura. He is now their forever dog and they are his forever family (along with a houseful of cats!)

And now Cachito has inspired an emergency dog fund and it's named after him; how cool!

Cryss's involvement with dogs means a new role:

Cryss has been involved with CCR since the beginning. As well as volunteering endless hours trapping and fostering, she has adopted three cats from Coco's and has now rescued a fourth. Cryss is another "dog person at heart" and she has been involved in the rescue and care of many dogs as well.

When Cryss comes across a dog in need of help, she cares for it until able to find it a home. She even built a special place in her garden for rescue dogs. Who better to administer the Cachito Dog Emergency Fund? Thank you for everything you do, Cryss! You have touched so many lives so positively!



Coco's Stats for July 2010

<i>Total animals spayed/neutered</i>	104
<i>Pet cats</i>	35
<i>Feral cats (TNR)</i>	36
<i>Coco's kittens</i>	17
<i>Dogs</i>	16
<i>Kittens rescued</i>	20
<i>Kittens re-homed</i>	14

Coco's 2nd Annual Scavenger Hunt Friday, November 26, 2010



Want to have some fun for a good cause? Then Coco's Cat Rescue needs you! Our Scavenger Hunt last year was a blast and was a big success as a fundraiser too. This year the Scavenger Hunt will be followed by a raffle and disco.

Maybe locate something simple but hard to find; dance on a bar to retrieve an item on the list; anything goes and you should be ready for anything!

We need teams of two Hunters each and there will be prizes for the winners and the team that raises the most money in sponsorship. The winning team will be the team that earns the most points, as each item is worth a different amount. The scavenger hunt will be timed for one hour. A tie breaker will apply if it's a draw.

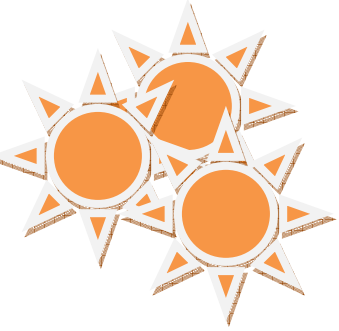
Hunters, please sign up now and get your sponsor form to start raising money.

To enter you'll need a minimum of \$500 pesos donation per team. Sponsorship forms will be provided to help you arrange your team's sponsors. And you must have a digital camera to provide proof of finding the scavenger items.

NOTE to Playa businesses: WE NEED RAFFLE PRIZES AND SCAVENGER HUNT ITEMS!! If you wish to participate, please contact us at info@cocoscatrescue.org to arrange to donate prizes.

Follow up: A SUMMER STORY

Here's Summer in her new home with the Doyle family.



Also in the photo are Olive, Annie, Tequila and Bonnie, all adopted from Coco's Cat Rescue!
Thanks for all you do, Doyle Family!

AN URGENT NEED!

Carl and Brenda come to Playa each summer from their home in Chicago. Each year, they sponsor two kittens and this year it was Peca and Precious's turn. While they were here, their daughter visited and fell in love with Peca and Precious and has decided to adopt them both! We need to get these two kittens to their new home in Chicago; please email us at info@coco'scatrescue.org if you can chaperone them to their new home.



Coco's Sweet Kittens Ready for Adoption!

Remember, cross-border adoptions are quite easy to arrange, so if you're in the U.S. or Canada and want one or two of these enchanting wee kittens, please get in touch and we'll arrange it as soon as we can!

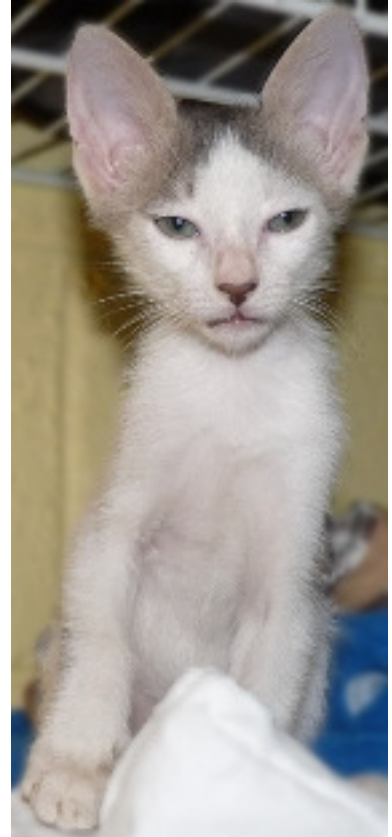
Our mission

We are a non-profit organization with a no kill policy, dedicated to reducing and controlling the cat population in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. We achieve this via our TNR (trap, spay/neuter and return) program for feral cats, and our rescue, treat, spay/neuter, and tame program for kittens under three months. We aim to find a permanent loving home for all the rescued kittens in our care.

We are also committed to education which encourages responsible pet ownership and challenges negative associations with feral cats and consequent cruelty. We provide free or low cost spay/neuter surgeries and basic pet care to those on a low income. Our long term mission is to greatly increase the number of animals that we are able to assist and expand our model to embrace other local areas in need of our services.



Bogarta, female, 3 months



Bubble, male, 3 months



Gizmo, male 3 months



Blue, female, 2 months



Barka, female, 6 weeks

Please contact Coco's when you're ready to adopt a kitten or two and give them a forever home; information below!

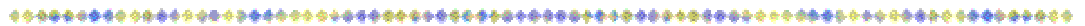


Contact info for Coco's Cat Rescue:

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 once or twice a month (except December).
If you have a story or information you'd like to share, please send it to
Caroline Page, Editor at: thepagesmx@hotmail.com**

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