



[KittyKind.org](https://kittykind.org)

instagram: [@KittyKindCats](https://www.instagram.com/KittyKindCats)

email: [inquiries@kittykind.org](mailto:inquiries@kittykind.org)

Newsletter, April 2021

It's April – longer days, lighter days, and showers of kittens. In this issue, learn how you can help to raise \$100,000 for KittyKind by detailing all the ways your adopted cat has changed your life! That's you – new adopters, previous adopters, and adopters who have submitted stories previously. Also, in this issue, revisit some of our special-needs cats and follow Albert as he continues his job search. The Wednesday and Thursday volunteers share how they help the cats, and the cats murmur a few comments, too. Please enjoy.

### 2021 Holiday Wishes Love Stories

Yes, it's only April, but that gives you until September 20 to share how your adopted KittyKind cat has changed your life. Did you gain a friend, learn to laugh again, or connect with a loved one during a trying year? KittyKind will be sending you an email with the details. In the meantime, please read some of the moving stories from last year's winners.

<https://holidaywishes.smapply.io/prog/petcolovestories/>

### FEBRUARY 2021 ADOPTIONS:

#### 21 CATS

Caruso, Cedar, Chestnut, Conduit, aka Mouse, Eliza, Elliott, Jaime, Jordan, Juniper, Katie, Kimchi, Koko, Penelope, Prince, Rhonda, Rollie, Scarlett O'Purra, Sequoia, Tres, Vivian, Whiskey Sour

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please share the stories of our special-needs cats with your friends and family to help the cats find a forever home. Encourage interested contacts to apply at [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org).



Left: Scarlett O'Purra and kits.

Top: Conduit Mouse.

## ALBERT: HIS JOB SEARCH CONTINUES!

Despite our misgivings, Albert continues to look for a job so he can support himself. He feels there's been a lack of interest in his adoption application. His latest interview is to be a manager at a grooming salon.

MS. CLIPPER: Good morning, Albert. I'm Ms. Clipper, head of the Speedy Clipping Salon. Please, take a seat.

ALBERT: Your desk is fine.

MS. CLIPPER: Umm, well, all right. So, your resume states you have "superior skills in all colors and textures of fur." That's a niche skill. Where did you study?

ALBERT: Fire Island.

MS. CLIPPER: I don't recall an academy there.

ALBERT: A colony. But the word "academy" is acceptable.

MS. CLIPPER: And your resume says you don't work with clients who have "fleas, ringworm, or mats." Have you really had such clients?

ALBERT: Some poor souls. But we called the vet tech.

MS. CLIPPER: You realize that our clients demand style, with speed.

ALBERT: Style is timeless.

MS. CLIPPER: Some of our clients are traditional, an up-sweep for a wedding or a graduation. That sort of thing.

ALBERT: Bourgeois, but necessary.

MS. CLIPPER: And some are more fashion-forward, ombre highlights, extensions, eyebrow threading.

ALBERT: My claws are skilled.

MS. CLIPPER: Very good. Why don't we start with a trial appointment? Monday, 10 a.m., a Ms. B. Disheveled. Shampoo, cut, blow dry.

ALBERT: You mean your clients are people?

MS. CLIPPER: Yes.

ALBERT: People? Who groom with water? Who, at best, groom once a day?

MS. CLIPPER: Yees. I see the dilemma. You're overqualified.

ALBERT: Thank you.

MS. CLIPPER: We can keep your resume on file.

ALBERT: I think we're finished.

We agree. This interview was a smidgen better than the previous one. However, PLEASE share his adoption application with your friends and family, before his next interview: [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org) Resumes encouraged.



Left: Style is timeless

Top: Albert probably would not be a good waiter



From KittyKind: "Albert is a sweet funny guy who was living with quite a few other cats in a home on Fire Island when a local rescue group was called to come help get some of the cats adopted. He's always ready to get petted and will headbutt your hand to show his happiness. Email [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org) to apply, resumes accepted."

From Greg C., Albert's Current Foster Parent:

"Albert is doing very well. He is now consistently coming on my lap! He loves it and he loves to be near me when I'm working and when I'm decompressing in the evening. He really enjoys watching television, both on the tv and the phone. He has even started to come upstairs every night after I go to sleep and jump on the bed to sleep with me! He is very sweet and loving and is very happy. He has a way of looking at you with a lot of love.

... But I very much still see the fight or flight in

his eyes. I do believe Albert needs someone who has patience and an understanding of cats, possibly female? [Albert greets women friends, easily.] He has so much love to give, but he can get reactive when he gets scared."

The Foster Team and Greg can tell you more about Albert. Albert is busy typing his new resume.

"Albert is five years old. He is FIV positive and FeLV negative. Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a lentivirus, like HIV, that affects cats around the world. FIV is only contagious among cats and difficult to transmit. It is also slow acting, so cats generally do not show any symptoms until years after being infected. The amount of time it takes for the virus to make a cat become immune compromised can vary, but once symptomatic, FIV positive cats are more vulnerable to contracting other diseases. However, with the proper care, FIV positive cats can live healthy, happy lives."

## KIWI: SOCIAL WORKER/CAT

KIWI: Male Cat. Three years, seven months old.

VIDEOS: KIWI, RELAXING

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12FgEZhL4zjqzX-T7znSqDn2ggLxOCQROW?usp=sharing>

KITTYKIND: Hello Kiwi. We meet again.

KIWI: One second. I'm swatting a paper clip. Okay. Got it.

KITTYKIND: You're always so busy. Last month you were marketing yourself on Zoom. This month?

KIWI: I formed a support group: FIV LIKE ME. Of course, every cat's unique, but sometimes humans get confused.

KITTYKIND: And what would you like humans to know about FIV cats?

KIWI: Is that a pop-top? I'll be right back. ... Naaw. I should've known better. It's only 3 p.m.

KITTYKIND: Some people fear FIV cats will bring a lot of vet bills.

KIWI: Excuse me. That's the mailperson. I sent away for quotes on pet insurance. Some are quite inexpensive.



KITTYKIND: Thank you. We'll look at these later. Some people fear FIV in cats can be spread through casual contact, such as cats sharing the same food or water bowls, or cats grooming each other, or from a cat sneezing.

KIWI: From what I know, FIV is spread to other cats primarily through deep, penetrating bite wounds. Tell them not to bite me; I won't bite back. Personally, I prefer kisses. <https://www.vet.cornell.edu/departments-centers-and-institutes/cornell-feline-health-center/health-information/feline-health-topics/feline-immunodeficiency-virus-fiv>

KITTYKIND: And some people fear FIV cats can't live alongside other cats safely.

KIWI: Can you stand up, please? You're sitting on my feather toy, and you just dropped my catnip mouse. Who has time for another cat? If you must have another cat, I have links on introducing cats. Preferably mellow dudes.

KITTYKIND: People ask if cats infected with FIV show symptoms immediately.

KIWI: Hmmm? Move over just a bit. Thanks. Just checking my reflection on the monitor. Good. That new brush makes my fur really shine. My teeth are really white today. Here's another link for you:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdsMiZjwdpo>

KITTYKIND: We'd love to meet the other members of your group.

KIWI: Just click: [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org)

KITTYKIND: Maybe we can sit down and talk about this further.

KIWI: Is that the front door? My foster mom's back! Toys, food, kisses, See you.

“Kiwi will be quick to win you over with his big green eyes and his sweet and quirky personality. He loves to run, jump, and play! Despite his bursts of energetic playfulness, he will quickly revert to a calm state. When he isn't folding himself into a loaf, he likes to knead the closest thing he can with his little white mittens (couch, pillow, human, you name it!)

Kiwi is FIV positive and FeLV negative. Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a lentivirus, like HIV, that affects cats around the world. FIV is only contagious among cats and difficult to transmit. It is also slow acting, so cats generally do not show any symptoms until years after being infected. The amount of time it takes for the virus to make a cat become immune compromised can vary, but once symptomatic, FIV positive cats are more vulnerable to contracting other diseases. However, with the proper care, FIV positive cats can live healthy, happy lives.”

BUT ASK KIWI TO EXPLAIN -- IF HE CAN SLOW DOWN.

Email [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org) to apply! Please detail the toys and snacks available.





## TIGRESS AND CINNABUN: DYNAMIC DUO

Tigress, F, 10 yrs old; Cinnabun, M, 11 yrs old

The past year has been exhausting, among other things. If you enjoy an evening in, these quirky, sweet seniors are for you. Or, if you're racing out the door now, ready to catch up with everything, take a breather when you get home with these soulful seniors.

From Carisa K., Foster Parent of Tigress and Cinnabun: "When this pair first came into our home, they were cautious and quiet, spending most of the time snuggled together in hidden spots. It didn't take long for Cinnabun to warm up to his new environment, coming out regularly to enjoy mealtime and seafood treats. We noticed that Tigress followed Cinnabun's lead but stayed out for briefer periods of time.

One evening after most of the family had gone to bed, one of us went into the living room to find Cinnabun and Tigress partying together, batting around legos and climbing on the furniture (they had thought we were all asleep!). Week to week they have revealed more about their personalities. They have a funny banter when together relaxing, Tigress exploring in a perimeter within a foot or two of Cinnabun, chirping at him or grooming him, with Cinnabun stretched out napping. They both enjoy drinking from human cups and mugs, fresh cool water preferred!

Cinnabun has particular interest in mealtime, trotting like a miniature horse alongside his primary human

caretaker glancing up with excited expectation about the upcoming meal choice (favorites include tuna, whitefish, salmon, and shrimp), and he really digs in! Tigress is quiet and stealthy, gently lapping up water and preferring the crunch of dry food. What hasn't changed over time is their connection to each other--they are rarely apart!"

If you were a dessert, what would you be?

CINNABUN: Key Lime Pie (a little cinnamon spice in the crust, super sweet)

TIGRESS: glazed raised donut--classic, simple

What is your favorite school subject?

CINNABUN: Litter-ature

TIGRESS: American Hiss-tory

What is your favorite show?

CINNABUN: Fur-iends

TIGRESS: Wheel of Fur-tune.

It's Friday night...what are your plans?

Cinnabun: Listening to meow-sic

TIGRESS: Doing something furr-miliar

### Cinnabun's Joke of the Day:

What is a cat's favorite car to drive?

Answer: A Fur-rari

Sweeten your mellow.

Tap [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org)



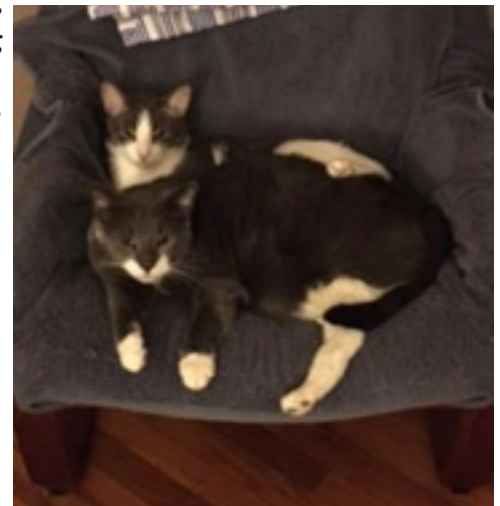
## INSIDE KITTYKIND: SOME OF THE WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY VOLUNTEERS

### **From: Olivia D., Wednesday a.m., Feeding/Cleaning Team**

"I have had cats throughout my life. I love them and care about all living creatures. I started volunteering with Kitty Kind as soon as I retired from my social work career in the summer of 2014. I feel that taking care of cats gives me great purpose. It gives me so much joy to make a cat comfortable and content or to help a fearful cat become more relaxed and able to enjoy being pet. I'm sure that my two cats, Miss Mittens and Spot, don't mind sharing me with Kitty Kind cats. It has been a pleasure to work with other caring volunteers and with our wonderful cat care manager. I am grateful for the contributions of our adoption, medical and other teams who help to make Kitty Kind an organization that I am proud to be part of.



Above: Spot;  
Left: Miss Mittens;  
Right: Liam and  
Oliver



### **From: Jeanne S., Wednesday a.m., Feeding/Cleaning Team Volunteer since March 2009.**

"I lived in Chelsea for many years but only occasionally shopped at the Petco store. It was only after I moved to Queens that, one day, I stopped into the store again and this time saw the tables set up in front of the cages where volunteers were measuring out the food. I asked what they were doing and, on the spot, asked how I could join them.

I started as a feeder/cleaner in March 2009 on the Friday PM shift and along the way did several other things for the adoption group, including answering phone and email inquiries and training new volunteers. Many years and many cats later, cleaning and feeding is still my favorite because it involves hands-on contact with the cats, which is helpful in keeping them socialized. It's so rewarding to know that I can help in some small way to send these cats to loving homes.

I'm so proud to be part of the KittyKind group and of the hard work the volunteers do to save so many cats. It's truly amazing how many cats have found their forever homes through KittyKind.

Since the pandemic I'm now on the Wednesday AM shift and there are fewer cats to care for but hopefully soon we can get back to full occupancy so we can save more cats.

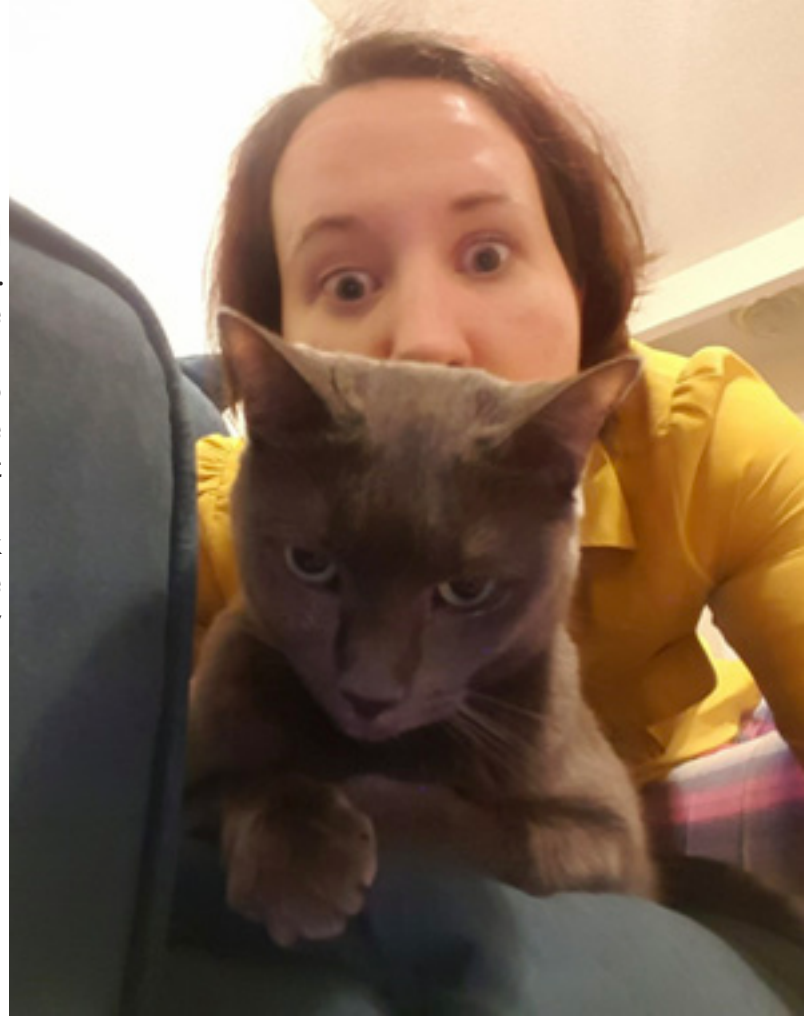
I share my home now with four cats (all street rescues) and feed several neighborhood ferals. It looks like cats will always be a part of my life"



**From Kim M.,  
Wednesday Health-Maintenance Team**

"I'm a PhD student and health psychology researcher, and I've been volunteering at Kitty Kind for about 5 years now. I first joined Kitty Kind looking for a way to help all of the stray cats that I saw around the city, and I picked the medical team to extend my passion for human healthcare to the health of our furry friends! While getting kitties to take medicine can be challenging, I've learned so much about cat behavior and finding ways to build trust and comfort with them. The greatest reward to me is seeing a cat go from sick and miserable one week to happy and healthy the next time I see them! That, and playing with kittens always warms my heart :)"

*A selfie starring Fish, my sweet and sassy 7-year-old rescue girl*



**From Gianmarco H.,  
Wednesday Health-Care Team**

"I started volunteering in September 2020. I started volunteering because I needed experience with animals for veterinary school. I also have always loved helping animals in



need, and I intend on helping them as much as I can. Kitty Kind was the perfect place to begin my official journey to vet school.

I love being able to work with animals who need it. The cats all have their own unique personality, and it is always weirdly a happy occasion when I see they are no longer at the shelter.

I had the issue of getting used to handling the cats in fear of hurting them or messing up. The best thing was to just review the method and try it. That's the best way to do it.

If you have a love for animals and want to directly help their quality of life, then this is the place for you. These cats do not have anyone and are looking for a home. Until they find their place, we are the ones who give them the love and care they need. So, come help make an impact on a life."

*My cat Mira Jane and one of my 3 dogs Chiqui.*

### From Mary C., Thursday Health-Care Team

"I started volunteering at KittyKind on the health-maintenance team in August 2015. Growing up, I had aspirations of becoming a medical doctor but didn't end up taking that path. As an adult, I wanted to work with animals so I could be a voice for them. Volunteering became the perfect way to bring these two ambitions together. It's very fulfilling to know that I am helping the kitties in some way, but it turns out they've given me so much more in return. Spending time at KittyKind has been an escape from the everyday stresses and so rewarding in every way. I've also met life-long friends from training new team members. It's been one of the best decisions I've ever made."

*Photo: July 22, 2016 - This is Jules who loved belly rubs. Ginger cats are my favorite.*



### From Kathleen S., Thursday Health-Care Team

"I volunteer because I enjoy helping animals, and I have a very warm place in my heart for cats especially. The best part of volunteering is two things for me, helping the scared and sick become happy and healthy kitties. I also love when they get adopted. My ultimate goal to do good in the world and help the ones who can't help themselves.

I am a vet tech, too."

*(When the KittyKind adoption center had to close in March 2020 because of Covid-19, Kathleen fostered, and then adopted, the Houdini escape artists Oscar and Silver Boy. They are part of a thumping brood at home.)*



**Check out our wish list on**

**Amazon**

[kittykind.org/wish](https://kittykind.org/wish)





## WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT KITTYKIND, THE INSIDE VIEW

TEENAGE CAT: The kittens got adopted. I knew it! And here we are.

GIRL CAT: Mr. Senior got adopted, too. Did you hear the volunteers? He burrows two blankets deep in bed, all day, and every night. And gets all the food he likes.

TEENAGE CAT: Glad someone was listening on how to train humans.

GIRL CAT: Mr. Neighbor upstairs. What happened? You were adopted, and now you're back.

BOY CAT: It was terrifying. Someone carried me in a rocking box. Then I saw this new space with no sky. I hid behind something called a fridge, and fingers kept poking in. I was so hungry, but how could I trust that hand? It could grab me for something worse. I got sick, and when I was too tired, that hand scruffed me and put me back in the rocking box to go to a vet. I do feel a lot better. She did seem nice. I'm so confused. Was it me?

TEENAGE CAT: It's never you, for something bad.

GIRL CAT 1: Ah, I'm sorry. Always sneak out from hiding places when it's dark. Get a lay of the land. It's usually okay. And you find new places to hide, if needed.

GIRL CAT 2: That's what I did. I snuck out from under the bed when it got dark. There was food right there. But a couple of times, the person surprised me. I hissed and swatted. I keep hearing about social distancing from the tv, but people keep coming too close. Like here. The minute you look out the bars, there's a grinning face.

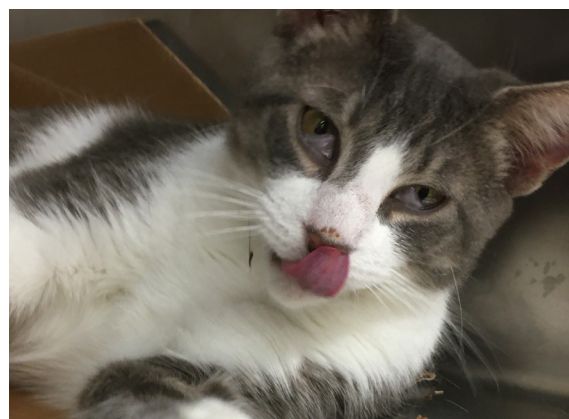
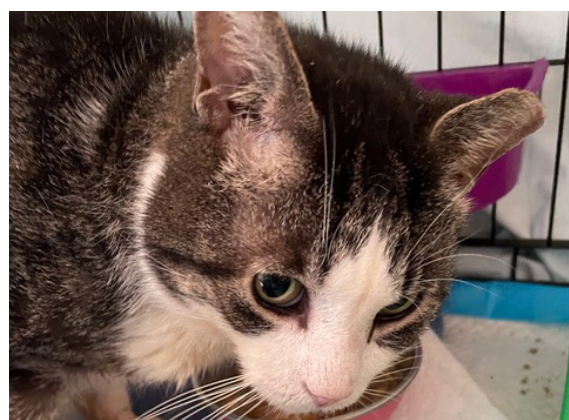
TEENAGE CAT: I always try attitude, first.

GIRL CAT 1: I wish Mr. Senior was here to advise you. He was wise.

GIRL CAT 2: I'm so conflicted. It may be better to go to a home. More space to hide. Maybe it will work out. But maybe this small space is safer. I'm so exhausted. Always keeping one eye open.

TEENAGE CAT: What is all this drama? I miss the kittens!

*(This conversation will be continued.)*



From top:  
Betty as Teenage Cat  
Lola as Girl Cat  
Roy as Boy Cat  
Daisy as Girl Cat 2

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Thank you everyone, for everything you do. Please continue to share the link [adopt@kittykind.org](mailto:adopt@kittykind.org) to help our cats find homes. Research interview tips for Albert. Also, check your email for directions on how you can share your amazing adoption story for an early holiday treat.