

Spring Issue: 2007



# KittyKind inc.

A Not-for-Profit, No-Kill Cat Rescue Group

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The spring issue of our newsletter is dedicated to celebrating our "extra special" cats and kittens. KittyKind, as a feline rescue organization, is unique in that we provide shelter to cats irrespective of their potential for adoption. Our "extra special" KittyKind cats include cats that are feline leukemia and FIV positive and cats born with cerebellar-hypoplasia or our "wobbly-bobbles". Some are elderly or suffering from chronic illnesses. Others require critical medical attention. Dixie came to us with a pelvis fractured in 3 places and required surgery to save her life. Although she is recovering beautifully, her surgery cost \$4200. We care for them all. Ultimately we work toward finding permanent homes where they can enjoy the individual love and care that all cats crave.

We hope this newsletter shows that many of these cats are adoptable and make wonderful companions. We've seen, and in many cases experienced ourselves, the extraordinary effect that including one of these special-needs felines can have on our lives. Not only do they show deep appreciation and love when given a second chance, their courage and determination to carry on is truly inspiring.

The next time you adopt, we hope you would also consider a special-needs cat. Alternatively, we ask you to consider helping these cats, currently in foster homes, through a generous donation. Thank you for your continuing support and compassion.

Most sincerely,

Hilary Harris  
Director



## THINKING INSIDE THE BOX

If your cat is urinating outside the box, it can be frustrating for the entire household. There are a number of possible explanations for such behavior, and happily, many solutions. The key is to pinpoint the reason why your cat is "thinking outside the box."

The most common reason for this behavior is that your cat isn't spayed or neutered and *your cat is marking his territory*. If this is not the case, check his health. If your cat is producing minimal or excessive amounts of urine, take him to a vet. But if the character and amount of the urine appears normal, keep searching for the problem. Provided your cat is spayed/neutered and in good health, then this behavior is likely due to stress.

### What to Do

Do NOT punish your cat for urinating outside the box—it will just create more stress. Instead, give praise for correctly using the litter box. When the cat does urinate outside the box, make sure you clean the area well and try feeding in that area—cats don't eliminate where they eat.

### Common Stress Factors

**The litter:** Cats have litter preferences. Your litter might be too dusty or perhaps not gravelly enough.

**The litter box:** There might be something about the box he doesn't like—the size, the top, or the liner.

**The position or location of the box:** If your box is near a heater or an air conditioner it may disturb your cat.

**The number of cats per box:** Although two cats can share a large litter box, ideally each cat should have his own.

**Lack of cleanliness:** Just like us, cats don't like dirty restrooms. Clean the litter box at least once a day.

**A declawed cat:** Sensitivity in their paws may cause them to avoid the discomfort of walking on litter.

You can also try retraining, if all else fails. Keep the cat in a small, enclosed space like a bathroom for a few days—they will likely choose to use their box because of its proximity to where they are living and eating.

— Marieke Cassia Gartner

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**KittyKind  
2006 Shelter Statistics**

Beginning Shelter Count	177
Intake from NYC ACC	10
Intake from Public	1493
Transfers in from other sources	38
Total 2006 Adoptions	1672
Transfers out to other organizations	1
Cats Euthanized	0
Cats that died	50



*The Pet Rescue Foundation*

*Our thanks to the Maddie's Fund for their continued support in our efforts to save cats and kittens*

The first thing I noticed is how happy and full of love the cats are. As I enter, they all run to greet and sniff this new visitor. There are many -a dazzling mix of colors, patterns and sizes. Each wants to be noticed and has a unique and distinct personality. But what they all have in common is that they have tested positive for feline leukemia.

I am in the home of a KittyKind volunteer, where leukemia-positive cats live together in foster care until they are adopted into permanent loving homes. Had these cats been unfortunate enough to wind up at a shelter, they would probably have been considered unadoptable and euthanized. Thankfully KittyKind is a no-kill shelter and believes that all cats they encounter be given a chance at a quality life.



EMILY



ZEUS

a low stress environment, a leukemia-positive cat can live a long, healthy and happy life without symptoms or problems. Feline leukemia is, however, highly contagious among cats and is easily transmitted via grooming or sharing bowls and litter pans. For this reason a positive cat cannot share a home with a negative cat.

NINA, is a sleek slender female, about one year old. Her coat is all white except for a splash of silver on her head and tail. One blue and one yellow eye makes this little girl an exotic heart breaker. Nina is very friendly and sweet and enjoys the company of other cats and people. She was rescued by a KittyKind volunteer in Manhattan during a rainstorm.



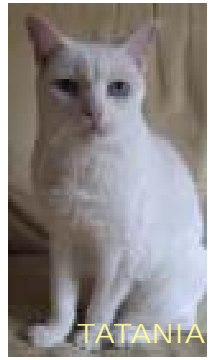
NINA

ZEUS, as his name implies, is a big robust male. He is solid blue grey with golden eyes. He is both leukemia- and FIV-positive, but that doesn't stop this big guy from enthusiastically cruising around. Zeus would love to find a home of his own to rule.

Resembling an African wild cat complete with brown tufted ears, EMILY was rescued in Harlem. She has a brown silky coat and an extra long tail. She is a very outgoing and energetic one year old girl who enjoys having other cats in her life.

TATANIA is not leukemia or FIV positive but represents another hard-to-place category: older

cats. She is about 8 years old and was rescued in the Bronx, terribly malnourished and sick. She is now in excellent health. However, she is deaf, a common problem seen in cats that are all white with blue eyes. Currently in foster care, her caretaker says she is very affectionate and greets her at the front door. Tatania likes the life of a princess and needs to be the only cat in the house.



TATANIA

RHIANNON, although perfectly healthy, is very stressed when in the public eye at KittyKind's adoption center due to an earlier history of abuse. She was transferred to a foster home and shortly thereafter, her true personality emerged. She's playful and loves to chase toys throughout the house and enjoys spending time on the windowsill. She brings "presents" of junk mail and receipts to show her affection. She has a beautiful soul, but needs a home with patience and willingness to work with her gently, at her own pace, in order to overcome her traumatic past

KittyKind has many other cats in foster care that are not on view at the adoption center at PetCo. Either due to health issues or because they find the cage environment too stressful, some of our cats are not suited for placement there. Please speak with an adoption representative about our special need cats in foster care. The rewards of opening your heart and home to them are great.



RHIANNON

To see more of Kittykind's adoptable cats in foster homes look for the bulletin board at our adoption center. Or go to [www.KittyKind.org](http://www.KittyKind.org) and click on the Petfinder link.

— Sarah La Rocca

**KittyKind** is a not-for-profit, no-kill, all-volunteer cat rescue and adoption group. All of us at KittyKind have provided love and resources to save thousands of homeless cats and kittens from abuse, torture, starvation on the streets or certain death at the city pound. Every cat we rescue is given food, shelter, medical care, a safe place to lay their head, and most important of all, a reason to purr.

*Support our efforts to save the lives of felines by donating to KittyKind*

**Donor Information:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

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- \$25
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- \$75
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