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## **The Cat Connection** Annual Report 2018

### **Mission**

The Cat Connection is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit no-kill organization whose primary mission is to rescue abandoned, stray, abused, neglected, unwanted, and injured cats, and to facilitate their adoption into responsible permanent homes. The second part of our mission is to control the feral cat population through our Trap-Neuter-Return-Maintain (TNRM) program, and trapping and socialization of feral kittens. To reduce cat abandonment, surrender, and unwanted breeding by pets, we support low income families through spay/neuter vouchers, financial assistance for acute vet care, food, and supplies. We serve the towns of Waltham, Watertown, Newton, Belmont, Arlington, Lexington, Allston, and Brighton.

### **Summary for 2018**

The Cat Connection has made great progress reducing the feral and stray cat population in Waltham and surrounding cities for over 15 years; however, there are more stray or abandoned cats needing rescue and permanent homes. TCC's life saving mission is greatly limited by the number of foster homes in the system. The Cat Connection is working to open a shelter to add to the foster home network. They have engaged a Realtor to find properties in the Waltham area that are in the proper price range, will meet our needs, and are located in proper zoning. TCC has made offers on several properties and viewed many more.

TCC launched three important programs to educate people about proper pet care and promote spay and neuter. First is the Pet Education Seminar Series, which is a sequence of free, informational lectures at the Waltham Public Library. During FYE 2018 the seminar series included talks on pet first aid by Amy Newfield from BluePearl, solutions to common cat problems by Dr. Rachel Geller, pet hospice by Dr. Lauren Shell, and pet bereavement by Kaleel Sakakeeny. Second, was the CatNAPS program, funded by the Jones Partnership, to provide low cost spay and neuter for low income pet owners. This program was so successful that TCC had to start a waiting list and seek out further funding. Third, was a cat behavior program led by Dr Rachel Geller, a Certified Cat Behaviorist. This program helped keep hundreds of cats in their homes in FYE 2018. Increasing awareness about proper pet care and access to vet care keeps cats healthy and off the street.

To prepare for the financial and organizational transition into a permanent shelter, the TCC Board of Directors has initiated a process of professionalizing the organization so that TCC can rise to meet new challenges and greatly increase the number of cats saved every year.

Toward this goal, TCC drafted a Business Plan and updated the bylaws for the first time since its inception. The Board of Directors began drafting written policies and procedures to capture essential knowledge and standardize practices across TCC. This includes TCC's first Code of Conduct and Volunteer Handbook. To professionalize fundraising efforts, TCC began migrating donor data to Little Green Light, an online database for client relations management, with the help of the consulting firm, BraunWeiss. TCC instantiated its first Advisory Board staffed with financial, marketing, and management experts who are available to give advice. The Board of Directors has started actively recruiting new and talented members to expand TCC's reach and fundraising base.

The TCC volunteer community is vibrant and passionate. Without volunteers, none of the accomplishments featured in this report would be possible. The Board of Directors has recognized the immense importance of volunteer recruiting, community, and retention and engages in initiatives to improve the volunteer experience. The TCC volunteer community has consistently identified communication as an important area that needs investment by the Board. In an effort to improve communication between the Board of Directors and TCC community, a January Town Hall meeting was added to complement the Annual Meeting held in the summer. The Board of Directors now has an email address, [board@thecatconnection.org](mailto:board@thecatconnection.org). The informal Cat Chat meetings that were started during the previous fiscal year, continued through FYE 2018.

### **Financial Summary FYE 2018**

The greatest expenses in FYE 2018 were for veterinary care (\$90,215) and cat supplies for fostered and colony cats (\$24,368).

The largest income sources in FYE 2018 were from the new fundraiser, Whiskers & Whiskey (\$36,287), general donations (\$17,878), and the calendar raffle (\$8,094). Whiskers & Whiskey was TCC's inaugural silent auction and gala that took place on Dec 2 at the French Victory Hall in Waltham. It was a huge success with 200 attendees and 11 sponsors.

TCC is very grateful to all donors and vendors who supported its mission, including Petco, Pet Supplies Plus, Especially for Pets, Watertown Savings Bank, Pet Source, Belmont Pet Shop, Bird Precision, and to the vets who give discounted service for cats, including Commonwealth Vet, Pet Haven, Blue Pearl, Kindness Animal Hospital, Cushing Square Vet Clinic and all the individuals and businesses who donated items for the annual calendar raffle and silent auction. TCC appreciates fundraisers held by Jake N Joes, Art Lounge, Brewer's Coalition, Night Shift Brewery, MindBody Yoga, Barnes & Noble, Bertucci's, Hannaford, The Chateau, Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza, Wellesley Cycle Bar, and Roxy's.

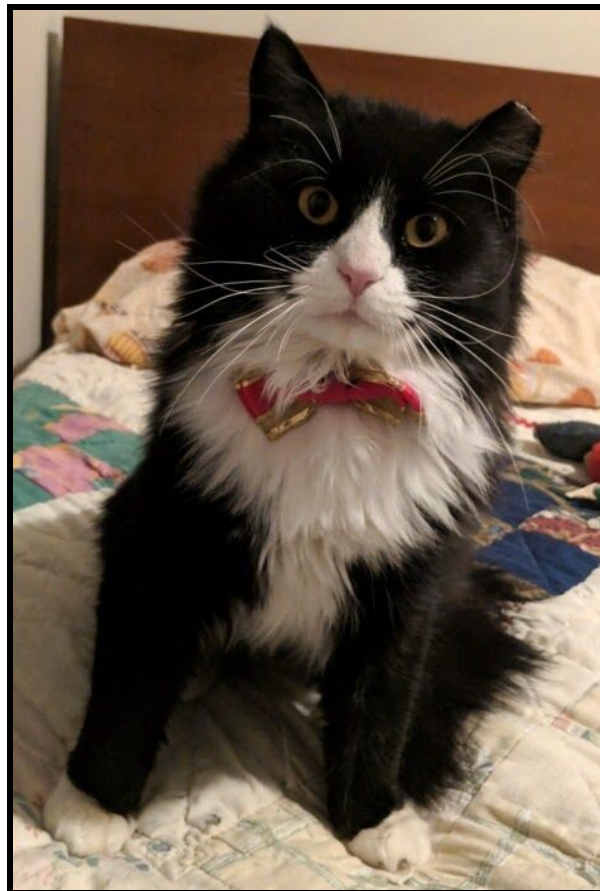
## Officers and Board of Directors FYE 2018

Morgan Ritz, President  
Maureen Tamburro, Treasurer  
Anne Thessen  
Elisif Brandon

Gabrielle Cunningham  
Tina Lampropoulos  
Rachel Geller

### TCC Cat Report 2018 (calendar year)

Cat Intake/Outcomes for 2018	Number of cats or colonies
Total Jan 1	137
Total Received	104
Average Colony Size	2.4
Number of Colonies	16
Total Adoptions	169
Spay/Neuter	56
Euthanized or Died	9
Total Dec 31	37



## **TCC Donors FYE 2018 (in alphabetical order)**

Lyn Ackerley	Edward Boudreau	Grace Cobb
Richard Akell	Rosemarie Bove	Rosemarie Coffey-Gorman
Tracey Alexander	Adam Boyd	Ziva Cohen
Melissa Allen	Dawn Bradley	Joseph Collins
Jenna Amara	Bette Brady	Sally Collura
Letitia Angelone	Elisif Brandon	Michelle Commisar
Laura Appleton	Samantha Brandon	Barbara Compton
Elizabeth Archer	Francois Brochet	Larry Connearney
Thomas Arena	Jacob Brown	Bruce and Kendra Cooper
Catherine Arendt	Larry Brown	Mark Cornebise
Ellen Arsenault	Heather Bruce	Linda Costello
Debbie Ashjian	Tom Bryant	Linda Coxall
Dennis Assenzo	Ed and Jalene Buckner	Leslie Creedy
Barrie Atkin	Jalene Buckner	Robert Csillag
Deni Auclair	Paula Buckowitch	Gabrielle and Carl Cunningham
Linda Austin	Anja Bull	Joan Cunningham
Michael Bakshi	Christopher Burgess	Linda Cunningham
Patricia Barr	Patty Burkhart	Judith Curtain
Judith Barrett	Barbara Burleigh	Grace Curtis
Kathy Barrows	Jean Burroughs	Susan Daganhardt
Janet Barry	Sandra Buss	Evan Dame
Timothy Bartz	Katherine Buttoin	Ariane Daniel
Helen Batty-Tallett	Gisela Calnan	Carol Dargie
Catherine Bazarian	Margaret Cannon	Courtney Dash
Brenda Belliveau	George Caplan	Jennifer Davis-Kay
Maryann Belskis	Stephen Carreiro	Annette Dayie
Audrey Benevento	Linda Carroll	Diane DeBenedict
Carol Bennett	Andrea Carter	Dorothy Dederick
Francine Berger	Joyce Carter	Lisa DeFazio
Sandra Berinato	Mary Cartier	Sarah Defazio
Stephen Berkowitz	Bernice Chamberlain	Marie Delfino
Anne Biggins	Michael Chrabascz	Timothy DeMaso
Robert and Michelle Bishop	Karin Chue	Helen Dempsey
Bara Blender	Claudia Clark	Anita Denault
Alan Bone	Jane Clough	Gregory Devine
John Bonner Jr	Philip Clough	

Mary Ellen and Peter Dickie	Janis Galligan	Joyce Hoagland
Jennifer Diego	Rachel Geller	Deborah Hogan
Maria DiMaggio	Susan Genser	Stephanie Holender
Mark DiTondo	Jeanine Germaine	Anne Hudson
Corinne Dizio	Jacqueline Giddens	Dianne Hudson
Deborah Dobbins	Leslie Gildersleeve	Barbara Huggins Carboni
Reva Dolobowsky	Cheryl Gillespie	Rex Hume
Mary Donnelly	Joseph Glannon	Amina Iftikhar
Gina and Tom Donoghue	Nancy Glynn	Marilyn Jacobs
Robin Dooley	Judi Goldberg	Cynthia Johnson
Sharon Duda	Karen Golden	Kenneth Johnson
Maryanne Duffy	Kathleen Goldstein	Sherri Johnson
John Dyckman	Sandra Goldstein-Davis	Betsy Jones
Amy Eastwood	Jody Gray-Linden	Louis Kabelka
Mary-Rebecca Ebeling	Phyllis Greenspan	Hannah Kaplan
Henry Eden	Eric Greer	Joel Kaplan
Morris Efron	Leah Greer	Kathryn Katsenes
Carole Epstein	Roland Gregoire	Tanya Kavanagh
Larry Espling	Janice Grudt	Jonathan Kean
Beverly Fanning	Eric Gsell	Amy Kelly
Michael Fatale	Rita Guardabassio	Cynthia Kelly
Stacy Fatale	Karen Haas	Ed Kelly
Iris Feldman	Bernice Hadley	Sharon Kelly
Steven Feldman	Rachel Haft	Amanda Kennedy
Laurie Ferguson	Daniel Halbert	Daryl Kennedy
Barbara Fichtner	Tara Hall	Harry Keshishian
Eugenia Fitzgerald	Kate Halstead	Carol Knell
Natalie Flett	Janet Handert Powers	Michelle Kovach
Katherine Floyd	Patricia Hankin	Mary Krafcik
Phyllis Foley	Sheila Harper	Deborah Kromer
Eric Fournier	Paul Harris	Renee Kwok
Ari Frankel	Theresa Harris	Charles Lamb
Albert Frazier	Patricia Hartnett	Tina Lampropoulas
Ann French	Florence Hashem	Robyn Lane
Lisa Fruitt	Guy Haynes	Robert Lantz
Carolyn Fuchs	Susan Hays	David Larrabee
Peter Fuchs	Scott Heidemann	Kristen Larrabee
George Gagliardi	Heather Hersee	Kent Larson
Clara Gagnon	Steve Higgins	Lori Lass

Donna Laswell  
Rick Lavoie  
Barbara Lazaris  
Anna Lazzaro  
David LeBlanc  
Evelyn LeBlanc  
Ruth LeBlanc  
Roberta Leger  
Katherine Leppanen  
Marin Levy  
Karen Lewis  
Christina Libertini  
Jonathan Lister  
Cheryl Llewellyn  
Christopher Lloyd  
Laura Loewenstein  
Robert Logan  
Laura Lowenstein  
Janet Lucas  
Katie Lugo  
Jennifer Luoma  
Cindy Lux  
Ellen Madzar  
Rosemary Maguire  
Dawnmarie Manning  
Stephanie Marjamra  
Eulalia Marques  
Kathleen Marsh  
Bernadette Martel  
Elizabeth Martin  
Julie Martinos  
Alice Marullo  
Adam Marx  
Teresa McAdams  
Kevin McCarthy  
Marijo McCarthy  
Karen McClory  
Mary McCusker  
Barbara McDermott

Valerie McGonigle  
Katelyn McGowan  
Kathleen McMenimen  
Laura McTaggart  
Marianne Meuse  
Jill Millis  
Linda Montessano  
Alex Moot  
Kathleen Morrill  
Geraldine Muccini  
Misti Mullins  
Robert Murch  
Pamela Murphy  
Maureen Murphy-Bott  
James Najarian  
Barbara Nason  
Helen Nayar  
Julie Nelson  
Kay Nilakantan  
Margaret Nix  
Timothy Nolan  
E Noonan  
Sheila Norton  
Bob Nunes  
Michelle Ochoa  
Roger O'Connell  
Patricia Odette  
Timothy O'Donnell  
Suzanne Oesterreicher  
Karen Olson  
Margaret O'Neill  
Amy Oppenheimer  
Margaret Parker  
Mary Parker  
Diane Parry  
Molly Paul  
Shawn Peach  
Holly Pearson  
Rose Penniman

Christina Perdiki-Lord  
Linda Peters  
Joan Petrowsky  
Ray Phillips  
Beckey Phipps  
Brandis Pickard  
Quenby Poland  
Lauren Poliak  
Carolyn Pope  
Louise Potter  
Christine Powers  
Ann Psliekas  
Susan and Greg Pugliani  
Anne Pugliese  
Christine Quinby  
Marco Ramirez  
Roger Ramirez  
Deirdre Reade  
Judith Ribeiro  
Jeanne Ridolfi  
Janet Riley  
Charles Ritz  
Morgan Ritz  
Dorothy Rizzo  
Robin Rohrabacher  
Tim and Mary Ronan  
Nancy Roosa  
Cathy and Michael Rowell  
Shai Sachs  
Barbara Salamy  
Frada Salo  
Stephen and Eileen Samuels  
Astrid Sanai  
Cherise Sandrock  
Melissa Saporetti  
Donna Schaefer  
Pauline Schaeffer  
Josh Schawbel  
Sandy Schawbel

Robert Schneider  
Hank Schowalter  
Jonathan Seidmann  
John and Mary Selig  
Melissa Selliken  
Sandy Sener  
Gary Shaw  
Rosalind Shaw  
Patricia Shesgreen  
Flo Shulman  
Ellen Silver  
Danielle Simonetti  
Kenneth Sinclair  
Ruth Siporin  
Raluca Sisu  
Elizabeth Smith-Hamilton  
Steven Snider  
Linda Soave  
Kristen Sommerhalter  
Maria Spagnolo  
Rebecca Spanagel  
Kristina Stanley  
Catherine Steiner  
Martin Steinmetz  
Rachel Stern  
Pamela Stockard  
Wendy Stocker  
Marjorie Stone

Joan Strauss  
Angela Stroupe  
Margo Strucker  
Karen Sudbey  
Napapon Suksutatong  
Lisa Taddeo  
Maureen Tamburro  
Helen Taplin  
Laura Tarko  
Leslie Teel  
John Teopaco  
Lauren Terry  
William Tharion  
Priscilla Thayer  
Anne Thessen  
David Thomson  
Mary Tornabene  
Annie Toth  
David Trexler  
Aleksey Trubitsyn  
Louis Tsien  
Elisavet Tsolakis  
Elaine Tuson  
Yvonne Tylinski  
Janice Uguccioni  
Barbara Upson  
Karen van Kennen  
Megan Van Voorhis

Erin and Herb Vannasse  
Catherine Vlasuk  
Sonja Wadman  
Chris Walker  
Virginia Walsh  
Bonnie Waltch  
Janet Wasserstein  
Maya Weeks  
Joan Weinmayr  
Terri Weissenberg  
Mark West  
Donna Whitman  
Fran Williams  
Cheryl Wilson  
Alison Wintman  
Carol Woodworth  
Yvonne Woodworth  
David and Beverly Wright  
Janet Wunderlich  
Matthew Wyman  
Ouida Young  
Thomas Zawadski  
Xiao-Xia Zhen  
Ping Zhou  
Barbara Zulkiewicz  
Jane Zulkiewicz