

CAT LADY RESUME

www.o4wcatproject.com | O4W Cat Lady Frances Hamilton

My mother loved Siamese cats after she was given one as a gift so I grew up with Siamese kitty's: in the 1950s our cat was Sylvester, 1960's Tiger, 1970's Lynous. Growing up with and always being around cats developed a bandwidth for admiring, being kind and enjoying animal company. Kids raised around animals generally do not have allergies as well.

1980's:

"KITTY": My first cat was a Tabby who showed up on my front porch at about 6 months old and charmed our hearts with her prowess and affection.

"NOSEBAG": About a year later my husband brought home a little black kitty totally infested with worms and fleas. In a matter of days this kitty "Nosebag" captured my heart and soul for the next 12 years.

"FAMOUS AMOS" I was an architecture student in Gainesville Florida. Outside my apartment lived an orange tabby with no hair making a living begging students for food. Everybody knew him thus the name Famous Amos. Upon finding he had a flea allergy I promptly de-fleaed him (in those days this was a fine art of flea baths and 20 Mule Borax in the carpet) and all his hair grew back! I adopted him as a protected indoor kitty with Kitty and Nosebag. Amos was a renowned lap warmer.

1990's:

BIGBAD & SISSER: I lived in Atlanta working as an architect and Nosebag had just passed. Amos soon followed. Kitty lived out her life with my ex-husband. When they passed I remember crying at my desk at work to my great embarrassment. A few weeks later I had a mental flash of 2 white kittens and then someone came up and asked me if I wanted to adopt 2 white kittens! These guys were companions and a constant delight for the next 16 years. White cats are prone to deafness and Big Bad was 100% this. He had no idea that big dogs made a lot of noise and when he saw one would charge it. His "bluff" scared the bejesus out of the dogs and made the dog owners disconcerted that their fierce dogs would run away from a *felis catus*.

2007:

"SAMMY": I had a vision of a gray cat and low and behold pulled into a Pet Smart at the exact same time a young couple pulled in with a 2 week old kitten. They had found him in a deserted warehouse wailing at the top of his rather formidable lungs and said his litter mates had been all killed by "rats" (may have been a dominant male cat taking over territory). He was .9 lbs and crawling around in a shoe box when I first met him. Even at 2 weeks he fiercely kicked his weight around like a tiny Sumo wrestler, the dominant male may have been afraid of him! 10 years later if I don't give him yummies upon demand I risk combat! Even cats can have personality disorders. He is sweet most of the time because I acted as his mother, hand fed, burped and kept him clean, which I'm very glad he remembers!



Sylvester



Nosebag



Sisser and BigBad



Sammy

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WORK

2008: BOD of SeniorPaws.org; webmaster

2012: BOD of FreedomBarkway.com; webmaster

2009-2017: MCGILL PLACE TNR COLONY: I had observed hungry urban stray cats starting in the mid-1990's while living on the West Side of Atlanta. Around 2005 I looked on the internet and became aware of TNR as a solution to stray cats. When I saw a lady tending to wild cats around the Ansley Mall I made a habit of talking to her to gain information and network. When I moved to McGill Place in April 2009 there were feral cats and kittens everywhere. If cat food was put down in back of the property over 20 pathetic starving cats and kittens would run up and gouge themselves. TNR at this point was still not understood and the stated method for getting rid of the McGill Place cat population was to "trap them and drop them off in Grant Park" according to then McGill Place Condo President. In 2012 after attending an Ally Cat Allies Convention to learn the best and most mainstream methods of TNR, I hired a trapper to help me and thus began the McGill Place TNR colony. The colony is maintained by TNR of un-eartipped kitties who show up. Over 40 cats and kittens have been TNR'd thus far and the young kittens found homes.