

## DIFF MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER.....

DIFF volunteers diligently fed, groomed, medicated our few happy felines and went about daily chores. Smokey's den behind the Marina Gazebo Lav grew into a cozy area replete with feeding station, a cozy hut, a chair and more. This was a quiet time.

Then Bang! An early morning email, in July, from Lori Murdaugh indicated she had seen a tiny, tiny kitty by the RV storage area. Then our fun began and the DIFF mission became alive. We brought tidbits of food, enticing the tiny one to trust us. A photo was sent island wide and after No Datawites claimed her, although we did try to encourage RV folks to take her, the usual routine began of trapping (Tom Hurley) this petite wafer of a kitten with runny eyes, intestinal growing and haul her to the usual Ashton porch for safe harbor and rehabilitation. The little girl's eyes were so infected the crust showed like crystals ... so! Why not name her "Lucy (in the sky with diamonds)" and the name stuck. Her vet visit proved unremarkable, meds were started and good health ensued. Luckily Sonya MacMillan was looking for companionship for her Fiona and she and Christian embraced her from day one. Once Lucy was rehabbed, off she went to terrorize the MacMillan clan.

Last year's wee 1½ pound route 21 foundling sent news from Austin, Texas. He, now Lucky, of Peg and Ken Lantelme, had reached an incredible 16 pounds and was loving his Texas home...

Another kitten foundling happened in the late fall and Melanie was able to find a home for her with the Clements where she too is thriving.

Come February the DIFF Board held our annual meeting. Dale Martin, having served for 10 years as DIFF executive Director, begged off to an at large member of the Board. Beverley Porter felt Roberta had more direct contact with outside Dataw catters and took the place of Fundraiser and hostess of our Annual Diff Tea. Anne Clements, Patty and Stu Domeshek hopped on board to lend some fresh ideas and spirit to the Board.

### 2020-21 DIFF BOARD

Ingrid Schweitzer:	Executive Director
Pat Ashton:	Co Executive Director
Tom Hurley:	Treasurer
Roberta Gunderson:	Secretary and Community Catliaison
Beverley Porter:	Fundraiser Chair and Annual Tea Hostess
Anne Clements:	DIFF Feline Tracker
Patty Domeshek:	Cat Food Replenisher
Stu Domeshek:	Camera Guy
Fred Houle:	Equipment Storage
Dale Martin:	At Large, Newsletter and Dataw Webpage

Tom reported our treasury was in good shape for at least another year. Pat and Ingrid reported tracking found all our DIFF charges in good shape although they do have moments of

disappearance which are worrisome. Roberta maintains community contact and keeps us “in the know.” Fred has controlled our equipment storage.

All appeared in good shape for our annual February tea at Beverley’s when here came the uninvited Covid 19 ... for now we’re hunkered down and hopeful to regain human contact...

Now on to a new Zoom regime. Do you think the cats get it?

Our ***huge thanks*** to the constant willingness of our 40 or so volunteers who switch feeding chores at Gleason’s (Hammonds), Odingsell (Carolyn Collins), Tennis Courts, Marsh Colony (Brotzman) and Smokeyville. Betty Muncil continues to cocktail with Peanut.

July generally gives us surprises, so let’s see what happens this year! Stay safe and be thankful we have our ferals to amuse us.

Dale Martin

Edited by Roberta Gunderson