



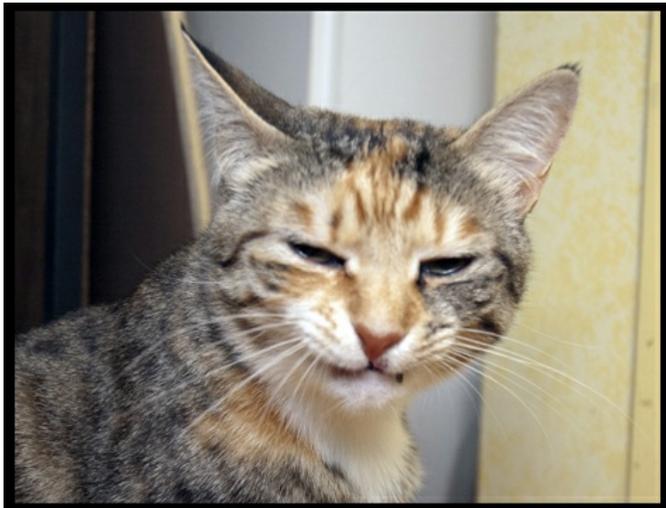
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[Home](#) > Foster Cat Journal: The Never Ending Battle

Foster Cat Journal: The Never Ending Battle

Mon, 2011-05-16 19:32 — Robin Olson

Mazie went from having a strangely, rather shockingly elevated white blood count (53,000-when high normal is 19,000) and a high fever (105+°F) last week, to a NASTY upper respiratory infection. Her WBC went down to almost normal after hospitalizing her and giving her IV antibiotics. Her temperature went back down as of a few days ago, but she came home with the snuffle and each day Mazie seems more seriously afflicted.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Mazie, mid-sneeze.

Mazie IS eating, though much quieter than usual. She's found a place on the corner of the bed where the angle of the wall creates a comfy, almost hiding place. I put some towels and a pillow there for her. She's been taking it easy for a day.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Runny eyes and a spot of ringworm that's healing. Sweet...NOT!

I called the Vet and was given a message to get the kittens OUT of the room. That incubation is 7-10 days and that they should be in another room for that period of time. The problem is: **I HAVE NO ROOM to put them into and we still don't have any foster homes.**



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Mazie has to constantly lick her face because her nose runs.

I begged a favor from a good friend. She's going to take Cara and Chester and maybe Polly, tonight. I hate to separate the cats, but it must be done. I think Polly could stay behind because she sneezes all the time and has watery eyes, but is really not in bad shape at all. **I wonder if what Mazie has is something else, entirely and if so, then Polly should go, too.** Mazie will have a quiet week, but I'll make sure to spend time with her. **My biggest fear is transmitting what Mazie has to my other cats, especially BOB DOLE.**

Bob could die from a cold. I've been furiously washing hands, not touching Mazie, changing clothes. I don't know if it will be enough. **I just heard Nora, one of our other cats, sneezing. I am very worried.**



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. My how Cara has grown, yet she is still tiny compared to her siblings.

Little Miss Cara is STILL tiny. One of the cats vomited, but I don't know if it was her. Having her live away for a week will help me find out if she's still getting sick. I see her do her "I feel queasy" mouthing where she licks at her mouth and twists her head a bit. Her appetite is good and she's bright and fairly playful. I think she's very close to being considered ready to be adopted-after she gets spayed, of course.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Polly. Our little girl has grown up.

Polly needs to see the Eye Specialist. I'll have to do a fundraiser for that. Her left eye is still cloudy. She may have some blindness from being sick, so young. She's grown into a beautiful young lady. Even with all that she's suffered, she's very sweet and LOVES to escape from the foster room, run down the stairs with her tail held high and visit the other cats. If she wasn't rapid-fire sneezing so often, I wouldn't mind her being out, but she can't go near my cats until she is all better-IF she ever gets better!



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. That's "Mr. Handsom" to you!

Then there's the most Handsome Young Cat in the world-Chester Cheesetoes. He still has a runny eye, but it's very subtle. All the cats are getting a big dose of Lysine to help boost their immune system. Other than his eye, Chester is awesome. He loves to get onto a high perch and watch things going on, below OR run after the laser pointer like a crazy-cat. He is so soft and sweet and stunning. He's grown into a very big boy.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Polly and Chester boldy go where I don't like them to go!

The cats have been here too long. Kitten Season is in full swing and I haven't saved one Mama or kitten. It's driving me crazy. I must get these cats well and adopted. **I'm also so attached to each one of them, that it will be very hard to say goodbye-much harder than usual.** The only comfort I can take in all of this is to remind myself that I've felt this way before and over time the pain softens. Over more time, I get to a place where I need a minute to remember their name. That's when I know it's okay to let them go. I have to make room for more. So many need help. Whether or not I cry about the ones I have makes no difference. I need to do this. **I need to rescue more cats.**



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. *Who loves Cara? Who doesn't?*

But more than anything else...I NEED THESE CATS TO GET BETTER!

The Vet bill for Mazie came in a just over \$700.00. It's a heartbreaking amount of money for us to come up with and thankfully, many of you have used our ChiPn to help out. We still need about \$200.00 to get to our total, so if you can offer a dollar or two, we appreciate it VERY much! Thank you for helping Mazie!

*(You can use the ChiPn for Maze on the right sidebar if you wish to donate. **Your donation IS tax deductible.**)*

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[Disease](#) ^[1]

[Foster Cat Journal](#) ^[2]

[Kitten](#) ^[3]

[Needs a Home](#) ^[4]

[Puke, Vomit, Spew](#) ^[5]

[Who Approved That?](#) ^[6]

[Georgia Rescue](#) ^[7]

[Kitten Associates](#) ^[8]

Comments

Mon, 2011-05-16 19:48 — Catnymouse (not verified)

foster cats ^[9]

Oh boy do i know your pain i have 13 foster cats ranging in age from 9 months to 3 yrs i pulled them from a high kill shelter in GA only to be abandon by the rescue i pulled them from , once i'd had them a few weeks i discovered they were sicker than we originally thought instead of a normal URI they had a nasty little bug called mycoplasma ! they are all healthy now but it has cost me over \$1000.00 to vet them and i have no idea what it's costing me in food and litter , But my only wish for these sweet kitties is a fur ever home .Good luck with your babies and may they all have happiness and be healthy

Mon, 2011-05-16 21:18 — [acninee](#) ^[10]

I need to vent. So excuse me ^[11]

I need to vent.

So excuse me please.

I watch this poor family go through so many challenges. I watch you and the the other rescuers put so much of your emotional and financial resources into helping these animals.

And then I stumble across someone who has a turn a natural accidental breeding into an official registered breed and all I can think of is.. how many kittens are you going to produce who aren't anything special. And how are you going to place them? Or.. are you going to clear room for the next litter by taking the ones who don't match your breeding standards to a shelter.

And I'm just burned because I can see that the rescue network is so overburdened as it is. And as I get older I find I have less and less patience with selfishness. Which isn't very nice of me.

Thank you.

And I hope someone with a little room in the house realizes that one of Maizie's kids would be just the right little personality to fill that space.

Tue, 2011-05-17 08:28 — [Nancy \(not verified\)](#) ^[12]

Good Job ^[13]

Robin, you and your fosters have come through hell and seem about to pop through to the other side. Your little wards are looking wonderful. Great pics, by the way!
May your little ones find forever homes quickly.

I take in whoever shows up, whether they are dumped off because of our barn or even truly feral. I feed them, then catch them any way I can to get them indoors. That's when the dance begins; grab your partner, swing them all the way to the vet! I usually keep whomever I catch. Right now I have 9 rescues and strays, I have been up to 12.

Robin, you do what you do because of that drive inside to save as many as you can, and send them on to have a wonderful life full of love and good health. What more can any of God's creatures expect? I have so much respect for you and what you manage to do for these little critters, these little balls of love.

So congratulations on the current class. Here's hoping that they soon will go on to begin the next stage of their lives. And you, most amazing woman, a bottomless heart full of love and care, will turn to welcome the next bunch! Yes, Robin, you are an amazing woman. Congratulations on your successes! Truly amazing!

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Robin @ [Google+](#)

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- [2] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/57>
- [3] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/63>
- [4] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/68>
- [5] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/92>
- [6] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/95>
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