



The Cat People news

4120 East Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308. 661-327-4706
www.thecatpeople.org

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Sanctuary News

It's been a beautiful spring at the sanctuary. The flowers are in bloom and the birds are everywhere, to the delight of the many felines watching their antics on the catios through screen doors. One of the biggest, a robin, delights in tantalizing our kittens as it jumps around right outside the cottage window. The volunteers often say it is hard to work when it is just so relaxing sitting with the cats and looking outside into the lovely gardens and doing some birdwatching.

May brought more permit compliance work. We now have metal conduits running through every room on the property, all linked to an elaborate fire alarm system. We hated the loss of our beautiful cottage and vetting room windows but we have to deal with this. As we have all come to say: "It is what it is." In spite of the many unattractive requirements, the felines are happy and we still find the property a beautiful environment.

The old garage near the cottage has been transformed into "the purple room", which is now home to four of our older cats. In keeping with our tight budget, all items have been re-purposed or made from scratch. Andi and Norm have, once again, turned an old, filthy area into something so unique and fun. One of the volunteers best summed it up when she said: "Prince would be so proud!"

As we get closer to final permit inspections we have begun planning some fundraising activities to offset our ongoing rescue and sanctuary expenses. Leann is already working on our October Rummage sale and we have other activities planned. This past month we hosted the second Make Kern No-Kill meeting for over 43 people., bringing several rescue groups together to hopefully bring about some positive changes for Kern County animals.

We are blessed that so many wonderful members and friends have continued to provide support. Our sanctuary volunteers faithfully help clean and work with the cats and kittens. Other volunteers help with the food program or help around the property. Bedding and towels are in ample supply thanks to our many members who drop in with goodies for the cats and supplies. We are especially happy to now hand out a complete complement of cat care items with our adoptions, thanks to the generosity of Bakersfield Pet Spa.

We hope you will find time to visit us, whether it is attending a fundraising event, sitting with the cats, or lending a helping hand with future activities. Your support ensures that



Beautiful Shelley has been waiting for a home for a long time. This sweet, well-mannered two-year-old is a park rescue and just wants to come and purr at your place!

many felines, once abandoned, now have a safe and loving environment. We hope to see you soon at the sanctuary – the kitties would love it!

by Barb Hays

Volunteer Opportunities

Park feeding
Park Trapping
Food Program helper, Saturdays 9-12 or any part
Sanctuary cat helper-cleaning and visiting the cats
Cat sitter-brushing, interacting, socializing with the cats
Foster care-anything from bottle feeding to housing a cat or kitten(2-3 week commitment) supplies provided
Vet transporting from sanctuary to vet and back
Fundraising committee
Special events planning/participation
Light cleaning in non-cat areas
Sewing and laundry
Sorting donated items
Organizing supplies and paperwork

Food Assistance Program

In March, The Cat People helped 44 families who are having trouble feeding their kitties regularly. In all, we distributed 640 lbs. of dry cat food, 160 cans of wet food and 68 containers of litter. This was the first full month that we offered recipients two months' worth of cat food and litter at a time. Most of our participants are taking advantage of this option.

Consequently, distributions of cat food and litter were low in April. We gave out only 160 lbs. of dry cat food, 40 cans of wet food and 15 containers of litter to 14 households. During the months of March and April, The Cat People received donations of cat food, towels, blankets and other supplies for our programs and for our sanctuary from the following supporters: Dennis Bookman, Dani Bresee, Gayle Fieldgrove, Dinah McHone, Pam Miller, Marleen Ray, Laura Stockton and Nancy Thompson. As always, we are very thankful for donations like these in support of our work to improve the lives of neglected kitties in Kern County.

Please note that below there's a list of "Needed Items" for our activities. You can drop off these donated items at our Pawsitively Cats sanctuary at 4120 East Drive from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. Our volunteers work out of the garage on Fairhaven around the corner from the front entrance.

Finally, in March and April, The Cat People gave out 30 spay/neuter vouchers to help families, including senior citizens, get their kitties altered. Six of these vouchers went to people who are trapping and altering stray cats in their neighborhood to keep the feline population in check.

by Marleen Ray

Needed Items

- Clean bedspreads
- Sheets (full or queen)
- Towels
- Paper towels
- Canned food
- Cat carriers
- Cat trees, new (for our senior cats)
- Cat beds
- Cat treats
- Cat toys

The Great Rummage Sale: Oct 6

Save the date! Leann Meek, Cat People member and Rummage Sale Coordinator, needs your help. **October 6** is when we're having our fabulous, terrific, exciting, enormous (did we mention it'll be big?) Rummage Sale! We need to defray our recent sanctuary expenses . . . you need to clean out your closets . . . it's a match made in heaven. Specifically, Leann says we need:

Working, recent electronics and small appliances
All sizes of **clean** clothing, men's or women's
Hangers needed to hang clothes
Racks for clothes
Household items like dishes, pots, pans
Large and small children's clothes
Tools
Gardening items
Camping items
Decorating items

Donated items can be dropped off at the sanctuary any Saturday morning from 9-12.
Large items will be collected closer to October. Call us about those at 327-4706.

Email Leann at leann.meek@gmail.com if you have questions or would be willing to sort. With your help, we can make this a success!



Suzie, a 5-month-old park rescue, is looking for a home.



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***We commend the efforts of The Cat People.
They turn forsaken felines into furry friends.***

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Who We Are

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Barb Hays
VICE PRESIDENT	Brenda Bynum
TREASURER	Pam Ames
SECRETARY	Stacey Augustson

CHAIRPERSONS

SHOP & OFFICE MANAGER	Marleen Ray
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Courtney Clerico
CORRESPONDENCE	Dianna Knapp
WEBSITE/PETFINDER/MEDIA	Courtney Clerico
MEMBERSHIP	Shelley Ash
AUBURN RESCUE ACCOUNT	Barbara Kitchen

To contact any of the above personnel
please call 327-4706



Max roamed the park for 6 months before he was finally caught. Now he has a forever home with foster kitten parents Nau and Luca. Max even cleans the kittens!

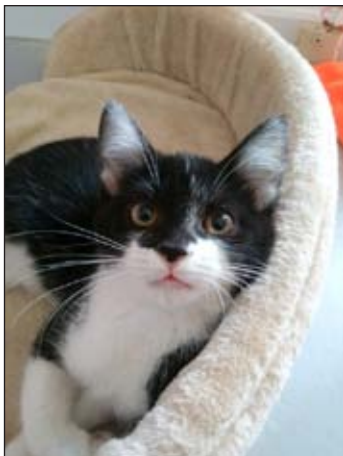
Photo Gallery



Munchkin and Tigger were adopted recently by Robin. They join their big brother Buffy, who was also abandoned and rescued from the park.



Aardvark, a 7-8 year old special rescue, would have died if left at the park. Several feeders chipped in to see that he got needed dental surgery and he is now safe and recovering. This guy deserves a nice, quiet home!



Little Sawyer, just one of many kittens brought in recently from the park.



Buttercup was adopted by Sherry..

The Park Report

Park 911 !!!

Warmer weather and kitten season have both arrived with a vengeance. Two moms and their litters were rescued, all super friendly and now settled in at the sanctuary. Feeder Cindy found five four-week-olds by the Mill and they are now happily playing in the kitten room with several others. Carol has been carrying on with TNR but so many abandoned and helpless felines seem to show up each week. From May 1 to May 16, 14 new felines were brought to the sanctuary or went into foster care. It is frightening to think of the number of unwanted kittens would have sprung from this many if we had not intervened. Let alone the number of deaths.

Our most rewarding experience, however, involved Maxwell, a frantic Terrier cross who ran through the park for over 6 months. Carol spent countless hours trying to rescue him and many other animal lovers joined the efforts to no avail. In the meantime, the Foresti family, now fostering three bottle babies, made their way to the park and got him. While a Los Angeles rescue group agreed to consider him, this great family decided to adopt him. He now helps clean the foster babies and is settling in to a wonderful life, from a throwaway to a valued family member. It really took a village to accomplish this!

Due to limited space, limited volunteer help, and financial considerations, we often have to fix and return adult cats. An exception had to be made with Aardvark, an older super friendly, neutered male cat. Our feeders noticed his weight-loss and difficulty eating. With much needed oral surgery he is now resting at the sanctuary and will hopefully find a loving family. With the many horrific park conditions: inhumane people, speeding cars, and the many predators, it is hard enough for a healthy feline to make it in the park. Those cats with compromised health issues rarely survive.

Thanks to our great team of feeders, Auburn Animal Hospital, our foster families, and generous donations, at least these felines have support, love and the chance to find a forever home.



Rizzo, Riley and River were left at the park. They are ready to come and play at your house now!



Beauty lived in a tree at the park for two years before we were finally able to bring her in.

Automatic Giving Donors

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Bill Walker
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 Debra Wingo



KRISTY UTT, D.V.M.
 3713 Auburn Street
 Bakersfield, CA 93306
 Telephone: (661) 872-0363

www.vethospitalbakersfield.com



The Cat's Meow

Every issue, as space permits, we make every effort to gratefully thank the generous people who have helped us.

PARK FEEDERS

Andi Anthony
Shelley Ash
Margaret Harrison
Barb Hays
Cindy & Jim Joslyn
Frieda Jackson
Dianna Knapp
Carol Lair
Judy Long
Bob Rutledge
Sylvia Simms
Jill Turner
Jerry & Penny
Whittington

DONORS

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Carole "Lee" Cole
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Rebecca Cook
Karen Cooley
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M.T. Correia
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Valenzuela
Katherine Walters
Jaime Weyand
Bonnie Winders
Wonder Cat Rescue
Dorothy Wright
Tommy Wright
Susan Young

ADOPTIONS

Suzanne Fimbres &
Scott Adams
(Cricket & Forest)

Sherry Nickell
(Buttercup)

Robin Tinsley
(Munchkin & Tigger)

Joyce Treulieb
(Hendrix & Greyson)

SPECIAL FRIENDS

To honor my husband, Bob, on his 82nd birthday – E.J. Rutledge

In memory of Scooter & Amber – Dee Daniels

In honor of my best friends, Gracie, Big Guy, Sam, Missy & Tiffany – Mary Martin

In honor of Jordan Saunders Peeples – Karen Saunders

In memory of Jack Farrer – Linda Mumford

In honor of E.J. Rutledge on Mother's Day – Robin & Patrick Paggi

In honor of Dr. Sherry Clark – Laura Stockton

To honor Mother's Day and Father's Day – The Rutledge Family

In memory of little Pearl – Edith Lyons



Suzanne and Scott adopted Forest and Cricket, two park siblings.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Count me in! I'd like to help THE CAT PEOPLE provide services to Bakersfield homeless cats. Enclosed is my check for: \$_____ to be applied to:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Junior (under 18) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sustaining member | AND an extra donation of \$_____ to be applied to: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior (65 & over) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Supporting member | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen's Asst. Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctuary Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Basic membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Lifetime member | <input type="checkbox"/> Park Cat Care Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Pantry Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Contributing member | | <input type="checkbox"/> SPAY TODAY Program | <input type="checkbox"/> where needed most |

Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

Address _____

Make checks payable to THE CAT PEOPLE and mail to P.O. Box 13610, Bakersfield, CA 93389 www.thecatpeople.org.

THE CAT PEOPLE is a registered non-profit organization 501(c)3. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

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THE CAT PEOPLE
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