



The Cat People news

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

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Winter Sanctuary News

Thanksgiving morning brought many changes in our adoption cottage when the eight older kittens, once living in the kitten room, joined the rest of the felines in the larger rooms. Within a few hours they were all exploring the new catios, running up and down the new cat towers and finding their new toys. Once again, there is never a dull moment for volunteers around here.

Thanks to some younger hard working volunteers, we have added rocks to the many flowerbeds and replaced some on our catios. Volunteer Beth is getting some help shaping the many plants around the gardens and getting things ready for winter. We ordered some shelving units and are getting the donated bedding organized in a more efficient manner. We all remind ourselves that we are a work in progress, but thanks to the hardworking volunteers, our felines are happy and the volunteers really enjoy helping out. We hope you will consider joining us any morning for a little cleaning and lots of feline attention. There is something for everyone at our sanctuary.

This November we said good-bye to our incredible volunteer Taya who moved to Northridge. She will try to join us for special events and visit the felines as often as she can. I know that all of us, including our many felines will really miss her.

It is hard to believe that a year ago we were immersed in the quagmire of county permits. Now we are able to implement some fundraising activities which actually began with a membership night and mega rummage sale, thanks to the hard working efforts of Le Ann, Fiona and many helpers. Close to \$4,000 was made with the leftover clothing going to the Mission and a few unsold items donated to our neighbors at the SPCA and Goodwill Industries.

In January we hope to host some restorative Yoga sessions (joined by a few feline residents) along with some other special events. Meanwhile we will be working on some lighting issues in the main house in preparation for other fundraising activities.

As always, blankets and other clean bedding supplies are always needed. We could also really use COSTCO and Home Depot gift cards!!



Cats enjoying their condos on one of their many catios, thanks to the efforts of volunteers Norm, Bob and Jack.

We do hope you will drop by and see our felines — the coffee pot is always on, the cat brushes are just waiting to be used, and I promise you will leave with a smile on your face!
by Barb Hays



Little Ashlyn could spend all day with volunteer Elaine.

Food Assistance Program

In September, our Food Assistance Program gave out 496 lbs. of dry cat food, 124 cans of wet food and 58 boxes of litter to 33 households that are having caring for their kitties regularly. The following month, we helped 17 families in need with 272 lbs. of kibble, 68 cans of cat food and 26 cartons of litter. Keep in mind that most of our recipients pick up two months' worth of cat food and litter at a time. Due to demand, we continue to add families to this program.

During the months of September and October, The Cat People received generous donations of cat food and other supplies in support of our Food Assistance Program, the Hart Park cat care program and the Pawsitively Cats Sanctuary from the following supporters: Karen Bayne, Dennis Bookman, Kathy Schaeffer and Laura Stockton. Also, we received donations of items to sell at our October Rummage Sale from Pam Bradley, Frances Denny, Ginger & Bob Smith, Jerry Willis and many other members. Thank you all for your support of our programs and for helping make the Rummage Sale such a success!

From our Spay Today and Community Cats Assistance programs, we issued 41 \$25 vouchers in September and October to help people get their kitties altered and to control the growth of the stray cat population in Kern County. Plus, we continue to lend traps to people who are trying to catch feral and stray cats for neutering in their neighborhoods and businesses.

The Food Distribution Center is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. We're located at 4120 East Drive, north of Rosedale Highway between Fairhaven and Gibson streets. The center is in the former auto mechanic's garage on Fairhaven around the corner from the front entrance to the sanctuary. You're welcome to drop off your donations of cat food and supplies when the center is open. Due to the holiday season, the center will be closed after Dec. 22nd. We will reopen on Jan. 5th.

by Marleen Ray



Kitties enjoying their breakfast at the Park.



Thanks to the generosity of our members, we added seven new cat towers, to the delight of our cottage felines. Member Gwen Barnes donated some great cat pads, too!



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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

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TREASURER

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Marleen Ray

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Courtney Clerico

CORRESPONDENCE

Dianna Knapp

WEBSITE/PETFINDER/MEDIA

Courtney Clerico

MEMBERSHIP

Shelley Ash

PARK COORDINATOR

Carol Lair

AUBURN RESCUE ACCOUNT

Barbara Kitchen

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



Sweet and loving, Mandy is about 7 months old and is available.

Photo Gallery



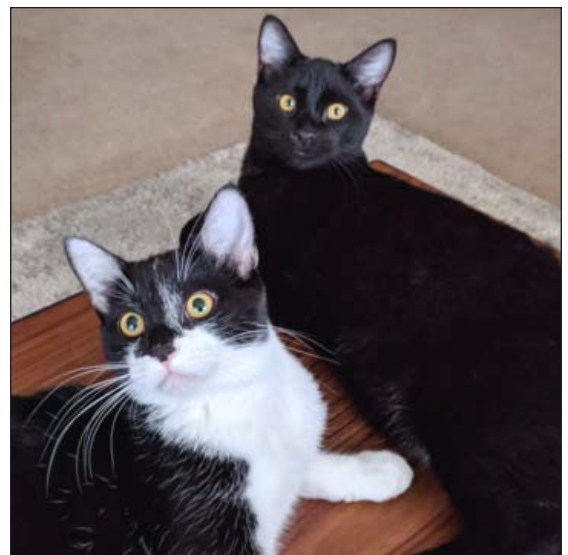
One of our cats enjoying her new tree, thanks to a gift from Dyrrel and Judith Faulstick.



Darcie, now Paisley, was adopted by Olga Orguna.



Volunteer Eli assisted Mom Stephanie at Thanksgiving to hang out with our Cottage felines.



Brothers Chance and Sawyer (black & white) are together at their forever home with the Turner Family.

The Park Report

Finally some cooler weather after our HOT summer. So far this year we have trapped/rescued over 120 cats from the park. Way more than last year. It has been a very busy time.

During the month of September 18 cats were taken from the park—13 of those were females and 5 were males. Thirteen went to foster care and 5 went back to the park. September started off by finding a dropped off mother cat and her 3 little kittens staying in a pecan tree. They all were rescued and went to foster care. Then 2 days later we found a box with four 10 day old kittens which were rescued and bottle fed

During October 20 cats were taken from the park. Of the 20, 10 were females, 2 males, and 8 sex unknown. Three went to foster care, 4 euthanized and 8 back to the park. Luca is doing a great job trapping! All 8 he trapped this month were females.

Also this month a small tortie kitten was rescued after being apparently tossed from a car onto Alfred Harrell Highway. She landed on her face but her cut lip healed quickly and didn't interfere with her eating and she was soon thriving.

I have saved the best for last. On October 1st I came across a big, friendly, gray, male cat that I hadn't seen before. I scanned him for a microchip and bingo a number popped up. When I got home I made some phone calls and Pet Key gave me the name and phone number for the owner. I called Terry and she was very excited. Within 20 minutes we met at the park. Her Buddy cat wasn't where I had seen him but I spotted him sitting on the grass a short distance away. We put him in his carrier. I gave Terry one of our newsletters and told her about our sanctuary. Apparently someone in Terry's neighborhood grabbed Buddy and took him to the park.

A short time later I heard from Terry. She was having a cat patio—a "catio" added to her house to protect Buddy and her other kitty. AND she was ordering a big fancy cat tower for the sanctuary! What a woman! We thank her so very, very much for her generous gift.

So there are some important points to this story. The first three are: microchip, microchip, microchip. This is the best way to insure your cat (or dog) can be returned to you if found. I try to scan new cats at the park if I can get close to them. And of course it is critically important to keep your contact information current.

Animal control officers scan any found animal and if there is a chip they can return the pet to the owner directly without having to take the animal to their facility.

Both Bakersfield Animal Care Services, and Kern County Animal Services offer low cost micro chipping. Even if Fluffy is an indoor cat they can sometimes sneak out—they are tricky like that. Collars or tags with phone numbers are an alternative. Also kitties can be taught to walk on a leash. Oh yes they can. I have seen it with my own eyes.

Next, the idea of catios is really catching on. It may

not work for everyone but if you can do it, it can give your cat a safe outdoor experience without the dangers of predators, being hit by a car, poisoning etc. On average outdoor cats live just a few years whereas indoor cats can live 12-18 years.

We greatly need more cat feeders at the park. If you enjoy the out of doors at the park and love cats this is the volunteer opportunity for you. We are also in need of foster parents for kittens.

There are several other ways to volunteer at our beautiful sanctuary by helping clean, feeding, playing with the cats, gardening, helping with repairs and so much more. There is no end to the fun things you can do!

We have 2 more Adoption Saturdays planned for December -- the 8th and 15th. Help at the sanctuary on those dates would be especially helpful. We want the sanctuary to look spiffy for the public.

Volunteer applications, foster care applications, and adoption applications are available online at thecateople.org.

by Carol Lair

Automatic Giving Donors

Pam & Ed Ames
Amy St. Amour
Jane Ansolabehere
Michelle Antonell
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Elizabeth Barnhart
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Debra Wingo



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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

Shelley Ash
Luca Foresti
Jamie Jemmett
Cindy Joslyn
Carol Lair
Jodi and Jack Rowe
Jacob Strange
Jill and Jeff Turner
Jerry & Penny
Whittington

DONORS

Marty Barnes
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Rebecca Scott
Gaye Barnes Siemon
Sylvia Simms
Carol Smith
Deborah Stevenson
Eric & Pyper Von
Normann
Rosellyn Witer
The Wonderful
Company
Dorothy Wright

ADOPTIONS

Hill Family (Simon)
Castelluccio Family
(Harry)
N. Frost (Mochi &
Spunky)
A. Bertram (Scamper)
Turner Family
(Chance)
Burton Family (April &
Glory)
O. Orguna (Darcie)

SPECIAL FRIENDS

In memory of Elf –
Frieda Jackson

In honor of Kate
Mackey – Joan
Behrick



Debra and Bill adopted April (tabby) then came back the next day and adopted Glory (dilute calico). Hallelujah!



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

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:

____ \$15 Junior (under 18) ____ \$100 Sustaining member AND an extra donation of \$_____ to be applied to:
____ \$15 Senior (65 & over) ____ \$500 Supporting member ____ Senior Citizen's Asst. Fund ____ Sanctuary Fund
____ \$25 Basic membership ____ \$1000 Lifetime member ____ Park Cat Care Program ____ Food Pantry Fund
____ \$50 Contributing member ____ SPAY TODAY Program ____ 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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