



# THE CAT PEOPLE News

4120 East Drive, PO Box 13610, Bakersfield CA 93389  
(661) 327-4706  
thecatpeople.org

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Winter 2019

## Sanctuary News

This February has been a very noisy and busy time at the sanctuary as we proceed with many necessary projects and welcome new visitors now that we are open Saturdays all day. Of course, our felines are quite happy with all the attention.

Another new catio has been added, thanks to the efforts of Bob and Jack. Seven felines, once living in the upstairs vetting area due to lack of cottage space, were moved to the west bedroom in the main house. Bob and Jack created a new catio right off the bedroom and for the first time, the former upstairs cats got to enjoy a safe feel of the outdoors. They also had quite an initial shock at seeing themselves in the full-length mirrors running across the entire room! Volunteers and visitors can spend time trying to find a place on the long futon or comfortable chairs in the room.

A noisy but very necessary project involved replacing the stairs going up to the vetting room and, thanks to Carly, our contractor and her crew, we are ahead of schedule. While our volunteers run up and down several times each morning, the stair foundation was getting rather shaky. Our new staircase will be much safer with a wider decking, all new wood, metal guard-rails and wider stairs. We hope to only use the upstairs for quarantine purposes, but we want everyone going up there to be safe.

Thanks to volunteer Nancy, we have eight new young and hardworking volunteers helping out two days a week. Beth finds their help invaluable while she reworks many of the plant areas on the grounds. By late spring you will see lots of new plants and comfortable seating areas. It's also quite nice to have young, strong people available to bring in 40 lb. jugs of litter. We all may be hard-working, but we are not in our 20's anymore!!

*continued on page 2*



*Our new "Wave" shelving being tested out by Victory!*



*Old stairs and decking coming down.*

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*Sanctuary News continued.....*

The main house has undergone a few welcome changes. Our electricians put up some needed fans and installed better lighting. We also have some lovely donated sofas and lights. Jack and Bob did some necessary repairs all gearing up for upcoming fundraisers and more visitors.

The real hit is the cottage, with all new wall "wave" shelving. Soon we will complete our murals behind the shelving if we can get the cats off the shelves long enough to complete the painting! We are also getting estimates on much needed flooring, and hopefully, this last cottage project will be completed by late spring.

We are still looking into affordable designs for a large garden catio which will give the many felines more space and a platform for our future Catnip Café. To this end, please read board member Marleen's report on our exciting May 18<sup>th</sup> fundraising event!

As usual, we are always in need of sanctuary helpers from 9-12 and Saturday afternoons. If cleaning isn't your thing, how about just providing a warm lap and hanging with the felines?? There is something here for everyone. The coffee pot is always on, and our super volunteers would love you to join us.

Hope to see you soon,

Barb Hays



*Volunteer Stephanie and Princess hanging out.*

## *Food Assistance Program*

Before the Food Distribution Center closed for the holidays, we gave out 432 lbs. of dry cat food, 108 cans of wet food, and 51 cartons of litter to 27 families who have trouble feeding their kitties regularly. That month, we issued 30 spay/neuter vouchers through our Spay Today and Community Cats Assistance programs. These vouchers help defray the cost of altering kitties and are honored at most area veterinary hospitals, including the low-cost clinic, Critters Without Litters.

During the first month of 2019, we distributed 496 lbs. of dry cat food, 120 cans of wet food and 54 boxes of litter to 31 households in need. In addition, we issued 25 spay/neuter vouchers, including seven for altering community cats, that month. Plus, we continue to lend traps to people who are trying to catch feral and stray cats for neutering in their neighborhoods and businesses.

In December and January, The Cat People received donations of cat food and other supplies for our programs and for our Pawsitively Cats Sanctuary from the following supporters: Gwen Barnes, Beck family, Dennis Bookman, Pam Bradley, Charlotte Brandt, Ann Cierley, Melissa Ednalino, Judy Genther, Susan Gilbert, Judy Hall, Pam Miller, Carol Montsinger, David Porto, Laura Stockton, Nancy Thompson and Stephanie Whisler. We're very appreciative of these donations that help our programs and the sanctuary.

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 operates out of the former auto mechanic's garage facing Fairhaven around the corner from the front entrance to the sanctuary. You're welcome to drop off your donations of cat food and supplies while the center is open. Due to high demand for assistance, we could really use donations of cat food. We would appreciate 16-lb. bags of dry cat food and 5.5-oz. cans of wet food for our Food Assistance Program. For our park cats feeding program, we need large cans of cat food (no seafood, please), as well as the 16-lb. bags of dry food. Thank you for helping us improve the lives of felines in our area!

By Marleen Ray

## Who We Are

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Barb Hays	<b>PETFINDER/ADOPT-A-PET</b>	Ann Lariviere
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Brenda Bynum		Stephanie Whisler
<b>TREASURER</b>	Pam Ames	<b>VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR</b>	Courtney Clerico
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Stacey Augustson	<b>WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA</b>	Courtney Clerico
			Ranae Harrer
<b>AUBURN RESCUE ACCOUNT</b>	Barb Kitchen		Barb Hays
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	Ranae Harrer		Taya Treulieb-Kolostyak
	Amy St. Amour		Alisa Davies
<b>SHOP/OFFICE</b>	Marleen Ray		
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Shelley Ash		
<b>PARK COORDINATOR</b>	Carol Lair		

### Did you know....

- The Cat People is now open to the public every Saturday between the hours of noon to 4 pm for adoptions.
- When shopping on **smile.amazon.com** 0.5% of your purchase price can go to The Cat People.

New customers log into smile.amazon.com and under "Or pick your own charitable organization" type in **The Cat People**, a list of charities will pop up and you then select us.

To change your charitable organization to The Cat People:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity. Or, from your mobile browser, select Change your Charity from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select your new charitable organization to support.

### Special Thanks to....

Coffee Road Animal Hospital and Buster's Pet Fund for their blanket and food donations.

## Upcoming Events

Don't miss out on The Cat People's special event, **CATURDAY IN THE GARDEN**, to benefit our Pawsitively Cats Sanctuary. Enjoy a lovely afternoon tea in the gardens of our sanctuary on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale for \$25 per person, or you can reserve a table for eight for \$200. You and your fellow feline fans will be served an elegant tea, catered by the Petroleum Club of Bakersfield. Wine and mimosas will be available at a no-host bar. Seating is very limited, so get your tickets now. For tickets, contact Ranae Harrer at 661-203-7899. Deadline for ticket sales is May 11<sup>th</sup>. Your payment secures your reservation. In addition to the tea, you'll have a chance to tour our adoption center, Charlotte's Cottage, and get acquainted with all the loving kitties there, waiting for their forever homes. Plus, we'll be selling raffle tickets for chances to win a cash prize and several premium gift baskets. For our super grand prize, we'll be offering \$20 raffle tickets in advance. The winner need not be present to claim the grand prize. We've come a long way, but there's still a lot of work to do to complete our sanctuary. With the success of this fundraiser, we'll be closer to reaching our goals for the sanctuary.

If you cannot attend this special event, we are accepting absentee donations. You can send your donations to The Cat People, P.O. Box 13610, Bakersfield, CA 93389. We are also looking for business sponsorships for this event to help underwrite our expenses and for gift basket items. Let us know if you'd like to contribute in this way. You can call us at 327-4706 or you can email Marleen Ray at

[marleenf@thecatpeople.org](mailto:marleenf@thecatpeople.org).

## The Park Report

During the month of November, eight cats were taken from the park. This was the last month Luca and Nao did TNR. Four of the cats were neutered and returned to the park. Two went to foster care and two were removed by park visitors.

The Cat People began partnering with Kern County Animal Services and General Services on plans to humanely remove cats from Hart Park. The plan involves taking friendly park cats to Animal Services and they will work to get our cats adopted. At the end of November the first two friendly cats were taken to Animal Services.

And there were two other changes also. From now on only feeders with The Cat People are authorized to feed cats at the park. We received badges showing us as authorized contractors. All very official. Also, the cats are only to be fed at 6 designated feeding troughs. We and the cats are still adjusting to this change.

In December things really picked up and Luca and Nao diligently got as many friendly cats as possible to Animal Services. They took in almost 30 cats. Then during January Luca and Nao took in 37 cats!! They have truly done an amazing job. Nearly all our cats have been adopted or taken by rescues. Animal Services is dedicated to becoming a "No Kill" shelter so they want positive outcomes for as many cats as possible. They are working hard for our cats.

Due to some news articles in The Bakersfield Californian, people have stepped up and wanted to help the cats and we have two new feeders for the park.

The two big challenges continue to be the dumping of cats at the park and park visitors feeding in places they shouldn't.

Remarkable progress has been made in a short time and we will continue to remove as many cats as possible from the park.

Carol Lair

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## Special Friends

In celebration of Stacey Augustson's birthday – Marilyn Stewart

In memory of beloved kitty, KK, who jumped through a window and into the hearts of Carol & Greg Tillitt for 18-1/2 years – Joan Myers

To honor the memory of Hugh Altman and his love for his feline children – Kathleen Elwell

In memory of Dale, who loved the kitties – Phyllis Denison

In memory of my sweet fur-babies, Sammy & Ginger – Dee Daniels

In memory of my sweet kitty, Freddy – Dee Daniels

In honor of Katherine Furr – Betty Dlouhy

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## Adoptions

Shannon Berkowitz & family (Buttons)  
Joshua & Crystal Huddleston (Haiku)  
Shannon & Josh O'Brien (Alex)  
Phillip & Angela Manuel (Pickles)  
Brittani Ojeda (Greta)  
Ethan Alvarez (Alexa)  
Marti Richardson (Laverne)  
Susanne S. (Beau)  
Jason Sliger (Louise)



Look for us on Facebook or Instagram!



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

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## Photo Gallery



*Elders Bendorf and Pitcher trimming the many sanctuary rose bushes.*



*Elder Gray and Elder Lee cleaning out the new gardening shed.*

*You cannot look at a sleeping cat and feel tense.  
Jane Pauly*



*Volunteer Jodi giving Alysa a little love.*



*BB hanging in her new room.*



KRISTY UTT, D.V.M., D.A.B.V.P. (Canine/Feline)  
3713 Auburn Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
Telephone: (661) 872-0363



[www.vethospitalbakersfield.com](http://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  
Roberta Isbell  
Jamie Jemmett  
Cindy Joslyn  
Carol Lair  
Judy Long  
Jodi & Jack Rowe  
Jacob Strange  
Jill & Jeff Turner  
Jerry & Penny  
Whittington

### DONORS

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Carol Smith  
Ginger Smith  
Jackie Smith  
Verna Smith  
Amy St. Amour  
Deborah Stevenson  
Marilyn Stewart  
Rosemary Swinyer  
Patricia Tarle  
Rae Thrasher  
United Way  
Victoria Vukonich  
Amy Walker  
Katherine Walters  
Tracy Weddell  
Sandra Wendt  
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Mary White  
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Tommy Wright

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Marie White  
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### WEEKLY SANCTUARY HELPERS

Zayna Alkhalili  
Nancy Allred  
Shelley Ash  
Shannon Berkowitz  
Logan Berkowitz  
Po Cho  
Angelina Cho  
Sydney Cho  
Steven Feiner  
Fiona Hamilton  
Sofie Hay  
Barb Hays  
Elaine Horn  
Frieda Jackson  
Debbie Jensen  
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Lynn Onsum  
Deena Pedroza  
Marleen Ray  
Jodi & Jack Rowe  
Amy St. Amour  
Beth Stark  
Jacob Strange  
Stephanie Whisler



One of the feeding troughs at the park.



## Cat Tips 101

### WHAT AN INDOOR ONLY CAT MISSES...

- \* BEING HIT BY A CAR
- \* BEING STOLEN
- \* BEING USED AS BAIT IN DOG FIGHTING
- \* FIGHTS WITH CATS, DOGS, SKUNKS, FOXES, COYOTES, BEARS & RACCOONS
- \* RAIN, SNOW, VERY HOT or COLD WEATHER
- \* BEING ABUSED & TORTURED BY STRANGERS
- \* GUNSHOT WOUNDS/BB GUNS/PELLET GUNS
- \* BEING SOLD TO LABORATORIES FOR TESTING
- \* GETTING LOST
- \* INFECTIONS/DISEASE
- \* SICKNESS
- \* FIV, FELV, FIP
- \* INJURIES
- \* ANIMAL TRAPS
- \* RAT POISONING
- \* ANTIFREEZE POISONING
- \* ROCK SALT BURNS
- \* FLEAS, TICKS & WORMS
- \* GETTING COLLAR CAUGHT
- \* RINGWORM
- \* UNWANTED PREGNANCY
- \* HUNGRY HAWKS



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- \* RINGWORM
- \* UNWANTED PREGNANCY
- \* HUNGRY HAWKS

### Adoption Photos



*Ethan adopted Alexa*



*Haiku adopted by Huddleston family*

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I would like to help The Cat People out. Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be applied to:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Junior (under 18)   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sustaining member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior (65 +)       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Supporting member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Basic membership    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Lifetime member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Contributing member |  |

AND an extra donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be applied to:

- Senior Assistance Fund
- Park Cat Care Program
- SPAY TODAY Program
- Sanctuary Fund
- Food Pantry Program
- Where needed most

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to The Cat People and mail to PO Box 13610, Bakersfield CA 93389. The Cat People is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

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