



# THE CAT PEOPLE News

4120 East Drive, PO Box 13610, Bakersfield CA 93389  
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thecatpeople.org

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## Sanctuary News

Summer is almost here and while the mornings are still cool, the Cottage and Purple Room seniors are really enjoying their outdoor catios. Screening was added to all the outdoor cattery areas and litter boxes were moved out. With volunteer Shannon's guidance, we now use special health/feline friendly aromatherapy throughout the rooms and combined with the soft music, great coffee and friendly volunteers, all are happy.

Over the last few months, many of our park Cottage felines were able to find wonderful homes thanks to the coordinated efforts of Brenda and a great Santa Cruz rescue group. Local adoptions are always slow due to the hundreds of kittens and unaltered adult cats in our area. With fewer cats, volunteers can spend more quality time with the more-shy ones. As cat lovers know, too many cats in small areas often result in behavior and health issues. We pride ourselves on maintaining a clean and home-like, cage-free environment for our once abandoned felines.

Speaking of volunteers, we are so fortunate to have some great helpers who not only clean but stay long enough each day to sit with the cats. Some of our very shy felines have come a long way, but we still have some park rescues needing lots of attention. Some of our newer cats are settling in as well. Many guests dropped in to visit the cats during our Caturday in the Garden fundraiser and enjoyed seeing the new arrivals, our new floor and shelving in the cottage. Also, we give a special thanks to our volunteer gardener Beth who continues to keep our garden settings beautiful.

We have a few new sanctuary residents. New Purple Room occupants include Jordon, a 20-year-old lap-loving Siamese Cross, and Peaches, a very shy park cat who gave birth the second day she was rescued



Ashlyn and Beauty enjoy visiting with our biweekly volunteer Elaine.

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Look for us on Facebook or Instagram!

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and brought here. Her only surviving kitten is in the capable hands of foster mom, Dani. Brenda spent nights bottle feeding the mom's other four kittens but we lost them. We also have Miss Ember back after four years when her owner became ill. Our four front house cats will move to the cottage this coming week. For those of you needing a cat-fix we just know you would love spending time with our special cats. Remember, we are open until noon seven days a week.

If you have not friended us on Facebook, we hope you will soon. We try to post pictures and updates several times a week. Thanks to our many Facebook fans, we were able to raise \$1200 for Tuesday's emergency amputation. We also received new carriers after our plea, thanks to Kathy Lochrie, Gertrude Henket, Joshua and Crystal Huddleston, and Laurie Bolvin. Unfortunately, one carrier came with no gift receipt. We try not to bombard viewers with requests, but these donations help offset some of the costs of rescue. Clean towels, sheets and blankets are always needed.

We are exploring several options for our future large cattery as well as other fundraising events (hint: circle November 16 on your calendar), including community spay/neuter expansion, and we will keep you apprised as time goes on. In the meantime, drop by for some feline TLC with the sanctuary cats.

Barb



Shannon with much patience has gained Origami's trust!

## Food Assistance Program

Show your support of The Cat People by wearing our logo t-shirts or caps. We now have a new selection of sportswear prominently featuring The Cat People logo on sale at the Pawsitively Cats Sanctuary. For members, these items are available at specially discounted prices. For women, we have v-neck t-shirts for only \$11 if you're a member. We have unisex t-shirts, ranging in size from small to 2XL, for just \$10 for members. Please note the price is \$11 for the 2XL size. We have caps with our embroidered logo for \$13 with the membership discount. Lastly, we have hooded, zip-front sweatshirts for \$24 for members. All these prices include sales tax. You can purchase these items during our hours of operation at the Food Distribution Center. Cash or checks only, please.

During the months of February, March and April, The Cat People distributed 1,906 lbs. of dry cat food, 444 cans of wet food and 198 containers of litter to 83 different households having trouble feeding their kitties regularly. Remember that we are giving out 3-months' worth of cat food and litter now through our Food Assistance Program. In addition, we issued 56 spay/neuter vouchers, including 18 for altering community cats. Plus, we continue to lend traps to people who are trying to catch feral and stray cats for neutering in their neighborhoods and businesses.

From February through April, we received donations of cat food and other supplies for our programs and for the sanctuary from the following supporters: Rose Annerberich, MaryAnn & Steve Bailey, Eleanor Biehl, Dennis Bookman, Laura Huntington, Connie Jeffreys, Robin Johannsen, Candace McBeath, Pam Miller, Marleen Ray and Laura Stockton. Our organization is very grateful for these generous donations that help us continue our vital work to improve the lives of neglected felines in our community.

You can drop off your donations of supplies at our sanctuary at 4120 East Drive from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. We operate out of the mechanic's garage on Fairhaven around the corner from the front entrance. While we're open on Saturdays, we distribute cat food through our Food Assistance Program, and we hand out vouchers to families in need and to colony caregivers to help get their kitties altered.

By Marleen Ray

## Who We Are

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Barb Hays
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Brenda Bynum
<b>TREASURER</b>	Pam Ames
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Stacey Augustson
<b>AUBURN RESCUE ACCOUNT CORRESPONDENCE</b>	Barb Kitchen Ranae Harrer Amy St. Amour
<b>FOOD ASSISTANCE MEMBERSHIP PARK COORDINATOR</b>	Marleen Ray Shelley Ash Carol Lair

<b>PETFINDER/ADOPT-A-PET</b>	Ann Lariviere Stephanie Whisler Courtney Clerico
<b>VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA</b>	Courtney Clerico Ranae Harrer Barb Hays Taya Treulieb-Kolostyak Alisa Davies
<b>TCP FOUNDER</b>	Linda Wright

## Thanks to....

*Auburn Animal Hospital  
Southwest Veterinary Hospital  
Stiern Veterinary Hospital*

## Attention Members

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the public Grand Opening of our sanctuary on Saturday, November 16, 2019. If you or a friend are interested in helping, please text Ranae at 661-203-7899 or send an email to [ranaeharrer@gmail.com](mailto:ranaeharrer@gmail.com). We hope to hear from you soon!

## Special Friends

*With thanks in the name of Jared Sons – James Granville McManus III & Michele Wilson McManus  
In honor of Dinah McHone – Barbara McManus  
In honor of Rita Wolosz on her birthday – Brenda Bynum  
In honor of my husband, Bob Rutledge, on his birthday – E J Rutledge  
In memory of Muffie & Mikey – Dee Daniels  
In memory of Irene "Mike" Brintz, a dear friend who loved & rescued many cats during her life – Edith Lyons  
In memory of Thurman Breece – Bob & E J Rutledge  
In honor of our cat, Loving Wife – Bob & E J Rutledge  
In honor of Jordan Peeples – Karen Saunders*

## Fundraiser Thanks

The Cat People would like to thank the following sponsors for generously underwriting many of the expenses from our recent fundraiser, Caturday in the Garden:

Thomas Frank, D.D.S.  
Kern Honey  
The Petroleum Club of Bakersfield  
Primetime Signs

Rabobank  
Valley Republic Bank  
Josh Wall Insurance

The Cat People is deeply appreciative of the support it has received from local businesses and patrons like these. With such support, we can continue our mission to improve the lives of abandoned kitties in our community.

Thanks to the efforts of the fundraising committee and its volunteers, the Caturday in the Garden was a great success. The guests enjoyed a lovely day in the refurbished gardens and patio area of our sanctuary. They were offered tours of our adoption center, Charlotte's Cottage, and were served a luncheon of canapes and pastries, catered by The Petroleum Club of Bakersfield. In a brief presentation, the president, Barb Hays, outlined the work that's been done to convert the facilities to a feline sanctuary. Furthermore, she discussed our vision to add a large, enclosed patio-like structure where sanctuary visitors and kitties could intermingle. The event was capped off with the drawing for several lovely gift baskets, including the \$500 grand prize, all donated by area vendors.

## The Park Report

Since we began partnering with Kern County Animal Services and Kern County General Services we have taken in over 147 friendly cats to Animal Services. Nearly 92% have been adopted through Animal Services or taken by other rescues. A small number were returned to the park as not adoptable and some had to be euthanized. We have tried to target the female cats to prevent litters of kittens and have been pretty successful.

We have also helped rescue several dogs from the park. Several more rabbits, two guinea hens were also abandoned and we couldn't save them. Then a goat was also abandoned and taken to Animal Services. What is wrong with people?

At the end of March, we rescued a kitty with fishing line wrapped around her front paw. The paw was in very bad shape and we arranged immediate vet care for her. Initially, we hoped the paw could be saved but this was not to be and the front leg needed to be amputated. Luca and Nao have been fostering her and have decided to adopt her!! Her name is Tuesday and she is a very sweet kitty. She loved the little kittens that were also being fostered by Luca and Nao and has been a wonderful surrogate mom to them.

Animal Services has a new Barn Cat flyer and we were able to take in seven feral cats for this program during April.

During March General Services put up several nice signs telling people it was illegal to abandon an animal and was punishable by a \$500 fine and six months in jail. Unfortunately, the dumping of cats and kittens continues. Several kittens have been rescued recently.

More rangers have been added and there is more of a ranger presence now in the park.

One bathroom has been redone with stainless steel fixtures. Others will follow.

The fencing along the river is completed and the equestrian trail has been improved by removing vegetation.

Cameras have been added close to the old mill where the majority of the dumping of cats happens. Initially, they didn't work but now they do. The camera on Bison doesn't work.

The big accumulation of trash in the south canal has been removed by maintenance workers. They didn't

look too happy wading around in the muck with dip nets.

The Kern River since January has been flowing at about 400 cubic feet per second but now it is flowing at close to 3000 cfs. With the recent rains and the heavy snowpack it will go even higher.

There has been a bald eagle seen several times at the park. The south canal is full of turtles and they can be seen sunning themselves on logs. Five on one log! One of the perks of being at the park is the wildlife.

Please be aware that fleas and ticks seem to be a huge problem this year. Many of our rescues have been infested with fleas so badly, that they would have died without treatment. My friend rescued two dogs that had been running loose for about one week and were covered in ticks--over 200.

Carol Lair



Park cats sharing their food with a skunk.

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## In Remembrance

In May, we mourned the passing of longtime member, Claire Graham. For over 20 years, Claire generously donated to The Cat People. Her legacy of kindness, generosity and love of all animals will always be remembered.

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## Adoptions

Luca Foresti (Tuesday)  
Elena Pitts (Onyx)  
Christopher Smith (Sarah)

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## 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

Luca Foresti  
 Roberta Isbell  
 Jamie Jemmett  
 Cindy Joslyn  
 Carol Lair  
 Judy Long  
 Jodi & Jack Rowe  
 Jacob Strange  
 Jill & Jeff Turner  
 Jerry & Penny  
 Whittington

### DONORS

Michelle Antonell  
 Beverly Banks  
 Patricia Basset  
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 June Cochran  
 Carole "Lee" Cole  
 Dee Daniels  
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 Claire Graham  
 Jean Hughes  
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Kathryn Harkness  
 Barb Hays  
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 Italian Catholic  
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 Fanny Laborde  
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 Vincent Lau  
 Marilyn Laxague  
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 Amanda Lucas  
 Paula McGee  
 Dinah McHone  
 Kathryn Miller  
 Peggy Miller  
 Maria Morales  
 Linda Mumford  
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 Karen Price  
 Primetime Signs  
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 Gaye Siemon  
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 Peggy Smith  
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 Marie White  
 Mindy White  
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 Company  
 Susan Young

### AUTOMATIC GIVING DONORS

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 Diana O'Neil  
 Carol Raupp  
 Marleen Ray  
 Vickie Rose  
 Rebecca Scott  
 Claudia Sobel  
 Christy Solari  
 Amy St. Amour  
 Beth Stark  
 Donald St. Clair  
 Joan Tambosso  
 Bill Walker  
 L. Y. Warrick  
 Marie White  
 Debra Wingo

### WEEKLY SANCTUARY HELPERS

Zayna Alkhalili  
 Nancy Allred  
 Shelley Ash  
 Shannon Berkowitz  
 Logan Berkowitz  
 Po Cho  
 Angelina Cho  
 Sydney Cho  
 Suzanne Edwards  
 Sofie Hay  
 Barb Hays  
 Elaine Horn  
 Frieda Jackson  
 Debbie Jensen  
 Barbara Kitchen  
 Lynn Onsum  
 Deena Pedroza  
 Marleen Ray  
 Murtaza Rizzo  
 Jodi & Jack Rowe  
 Rebecca Scott  
 Amy St. Amour  
 Beth Stark  
 Jacob Strange  
 Stephanie Whisler

## Adoption Photos



Irene adopted Onyx  
 (now named Buddy).



Sarah with her new owner  
 Christopher.



Healing from surgery, Tuesday, adopted  
 by the Foresti family, hanging out with  
 some foster kittens.



# Caturday in the Garden

Photos taken by Stephanie Whisler & Logan Berkowitz





## Raffle Winners



## 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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