



THE CAT PEOPLE News

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

Volume 30, Number 3

Summer 2020

In Memoriam

With a heavy heart, we said good-bye to Elaine Horn, our super cat whisperer who died on July 9th at 93 years young. Over the last four years of our daily visits and phone calls, through her two hip surgeries and ultimate kidney failure, her answer to the question of how she was doing was always the same: "I'm doing really good!" Her positive attitude and cheerful smile were inspirational to all volunteers, sanctuary visitors and me.

Of course, a cat problem brought Elaine into my life. Because her daughter Shannon lived out of town, she reached out, asking if anyone in the organization could help her mom with a feral cat and babies living on Elaine's front mobile home porch. As a responsible cat owner herself, she knew the little family needed to be altered. I drove over to assess the situation, quickly impressed at Elaine's willingness to set the traps early mornings and then call when we had the whole group. Sure enough, within a few weeks, the job was done, with a now - sterile mom returning for her daily feeding and the two altered siblings safely relocated.

Elaine was eager to volunteer and I picked her up twice weekly to sit with the sanctuary cats. Hers was the favorite lap for Whiskers and Beauty in the main cottage for an hour or two, and then she would head to the senior room to visit and brush our older felines. Halfway through the three hours, we would take a break with coffee and scones. It did not take long to



Elaine with Beauty.

appreciate Elaine's great stories and insights as only a 90-plus-year-old could offer. I often think that all of us benefited as much as the cats.

When Elaine broke her hip (again) and could not go down her mobile home steps, I offered to visit daily to bring in the paper, scoop 12-year-old Marilyn's box, and feed Missy, the outdoor cat. I ended up always staying an hour or more, laughing away any rescue-related frustrations as she shared stories of her early years, and we commiserated about the political state of affairs. No matter what, I would leave a much happier person.

Last year, Elaine moved to The Palms at San Lauren and once again, residents and staff found her positive attitude inspirational. She soon became the unofficial Palms ambassador as new residents adjusted to the facility. I always had to laugh-she was a great spokesperson for The Palms when with us, and every Palm's staff member and resident knew all about The Cat People. Twice weekly she sat and brushed the cats and at least a few times a month I would drag her with me on some cat mission. Many times on these excursions she listened to me vent, and we would end up laughing and agreeing that cats are far smarter than many people.

Unfortunately, with the spread of COVID-19, The Palms put Elaine and everyone on basic lockdown, ending her much-anticipated volunteer days. While I know how disappointed we both were, she maintained her positive attitude. My nightly calls always opened with, "How are you doing today?" The standard answer was, "I'm doing really good! How are the cats?"

I have thought of our many conversations over the four years, and I do know Elaine was at peace. She was so proud of her wonderful daughter and the rescue work she has done and the many adventures life offered her. The one regret she had was in learning about the Cat People very late in life.

Inside this issue

continued on page 2

Feline Favorites.....	7	Special Friends.....	3
Food Assistance Program.....	3	Special Thanks.....	2
In Memoriam.....	1	The Book Corner.....	7
Membership Application.....	8	The Cat's Meow.....	6
Park Report.....	4	Wish List.....	4
Photo Gallery.....	5	Who We Are.....	4
Sanctuary News.....	2		

She so loved visiting with volunteers and taking care of her special Cat People sanctuary cats.

On those very early quiet mornings at the sanctuary, I look at her special chair, often occupied by Beauty or Whiskers, and I know that her positive spirit remains with all of us. Good-bye, my friend, and may the Rainbow Bridge felines find your special lap.

Barb

Special Thanks

Auburn Animal Hospital
Bynum & Wells, Attorneys at Law
Carol Ewing
Kimberly L. Mayhew, Attorney at Law
Nestlé Purina
Simi Valley Spay & Neuter Clinic
Stiern Veterinary Hospital
Southwest Veterinary Hospital
Walmart



Volunteer Sophia meeting 9-year-old, park rescue, Daniel.

Sanctuary News

This summer has been heartbreaking, frustrating, and at times, quite rewarding for all of us involved in rescue. We are currently bursting at the seams with pregnant park abandoned cats and litters, young adult park cats as well as other severe emergency rescued senior cats. Thanks to our faithful longtime volunteers, both park cats and those who had no one else to help them have been cared for with patience, time, and love.

In June, we received a call from Dr. Sheehan who worked tirelessly for over a month to save an old, abandoned, battle-scarred, super affectionate, dying cat. He joined our seniors in the purple room and our **Stanley** is now a senior favorite. He may never win the Handsome Cat award but loves anyone willing to provide a lap and face rub.

Nine-year-old park cat **Daniel** suffering from a severe thyroid condition and unable to eat is another new addition to our senior room. Then, came ten-year-old, declawed **Missy** who found so much love in her final few weeks after she was found starving and full of malignant tumors. **Benji**, another very old weakened cat, was brought in by one of our volunteers after she observed people stepping over him at Benji's Restaurant. He may not have long to live but now spends his remaining time in the front house, sleeping on Art's lap and eating Brenda's freshly cooked chicken.

Our abandoned park cat **Piper** just had five kittens and **Glenda**, another pregnant park cat, is due any time. **Alice**, rescued from the homeless camp tumbleweeds, had five kittens, and they are all doing fine. Little **James**, a three-month-old tabby just arrived. By vet request, we took in **Tiger**, a super friendly six-year-old suffering from respiratory conditions, brought on from second-hand smoke after his owner decided putting him in a backyard cage was preferable to giving up cigarettes. Beautiful ten-year-old **Pinker** and sister, **Tigger** joined the cottage gang when their owner died, and living on the street was their only option. As you can see, we will never run out of felines at the sanctuary!

On a happy note, we hope you have an opportunity to watch our newest video, Litter-Box Yoga, starring our own volunteer Taya. As someone commented, "Who knew scooping litterboxes could be so much fun!" Volunteer/videographer John Harrer is working with us to educate the community and highlight the sanctuary. You can find the links on our website or watch on Facebook. Stay tuned for more sanctuary news.

Barb



Food Assistance Program

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives, The Cat People is still reaching out to families who need help caring for their kitties through our Food Assistance Program. In general, requests for assistance have exceeded our ability to expand the program. Recently though, we received a very generous donation earmarked for the Food Assistance Program from David and Ardath Albizo. They were concerned that people seeking help feeding their cats were being turned away because our organization couldn't afford to give them any assistance. Thanks to their donation, we are now able to offer cat food to all the households on our waiting list.

In April, The Cat People gave out 305 lbs. of dry cat food and 60 cans of wet food to 17 families in need. During May, we helped 19 households with a total of 390 lbs. of dry food and 66 cans of wet. In June, we distributed 670 lbs. of dry food and 132 cans of wet to 30 recipients. We also gave out jugs of litter to recipients, but we had to reduce the amount we handed out because our supply of litter was running low at the time.

During April, May and June, The Cat People issued 63 \$25-vouchers through our Spay Today and Community Cats Assistance programs. Forty-three of these vouchers were issued to help get stray and feral cats altered. Demand for our vouchers has picked up since the low-cost spay/neuter clinic, Critters Without Litters, reopened at the end of May. In addition, the City of Bakersfield recently received a limited-time grant from **#spaytogether** to get community cats altered at no charge at Critters Without Litters. For more information, call Critters Without Litters or go to their website at : critterswithoutlitters.org.

In addition to the support we've receive for our Food Assistance Program these past few months, we've gotten donations of cat food and other supplies for the Hart Park feeding program and for the Pawsitively Cats Sanctuary from the following supporters: Dennis Bookman, Christina Burubeltz, Connie Jeffreys, Pam Miller, Megan Rios, Laura Stockton and Diane Wallace. The Cat People is very grateful for these in-kind donations that help our work to improve the lives of neglected and abandoned kitties in our community.

Our Food Distribution Center is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. We are located at 4120 East Drive, north of Rosedale Highway between Gibson and Fairhaven streets. The center operates out of the former auto mechanics' garage on the west side of our property facing Fairhaven. We can accept your donations of cat food and other supplies when we're open.

By Marleen Ray



Special Friends

In honor of Carol Lair – Philip Neufeld

For the mama cat & her babies that The Cat People feeders rescued from the trash can at Hart Park – Melissa Ednalino

In memory of my beloved cat, Milo – Andrea Dabrushman

In honor of Leo – Gabriela Nevarez

In honor of my daughter's cat, Chii, adopted from The Cat People 19 years ago – Laura Toro

In memory of June Ennis, a lovely lady and a dear friend – Edith Lyons

In honor of my siblings, Tish, Sylvia & Jack – Stella Rous

In memory of a dear lady, Cecile Stevenson, a true kitty rescuer and lover of all animals in distress – Joan Myers

In remembrance of my friend, Barbara Livengood – Nancy Thompson

In memory of Duncan, Monkey & Gypsy – Joel Mack, MD & Sandra Bays

In honor of Deena Pedroza on her birthday – Janni McBurnie

In honor of my cat, Beauty Mark – Teri Jones

In honor of James Buchanan – Sylvia Buchanan

In memory of Coco Traynor, much loved by her Auntie and Uncle Roark – Michele Roark

In loving memory of our dear kitty, Braveheart/Bravey – Steve & Mary Oglesby

In memory of Barbara Livengood, who loved cats – Carolyn Golden

In honor of Bella and in memory of Elaine, the Cat Whisperer – Michelle Beck

In celebration of Cindy Joslyn on her birthday – Gordon Isbell

In honor of Blas Ralph Fimbres – Mark Tumblin

In honor of John Spooner – Craig Jackson



Look for us on Facebook or Instagram!

Park Report

The past three months have certainly been different. Since mid-March, we haven't been able to take any cats to Kern County Animal Services for adoption. Fortunately, the veterinary offices have remained open with new procedures in place. Critters Without Litters reopened June 1st. I am continuing to take a break from most trapping.

My priority has been to bring friendly pregnant cats and friendly kittens to our sanctuary. They are friendly because at one time they were someone's pet.

During April a beautiful long haired pregnant cat was rescued and taken to our sanctuary. She had seven, yes seven, kittens. Also, a mother cat and her four kittens were rescued one rainy morning from a trash can and taken to the sanctuary. Mr. T, one of our very favorite park cats had an injury to his leg, and he was treated by the vet and returned to the park. One deceased cat was found.

In May, four seven-week old kittens were abandoned. Park visitors took one home and the other three were taken to our sanctuary. There were three kittens born in the park maintenance building and over several days all three were rescued and after a brief time in foster care were taken to our sanctuary. A tiny kitten born at the park was rescued and spent time in foster care and then taken to the sanctuary in June. In addition to the cats and kittens, we rescued two abandoned small ducklings, a baby possum and a young hawk. With many thanks to a number of caring people, safe places were found for all of them.

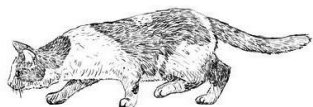
For the month of June, we were finally able to trap the mother cat that had the three kittens in the maintenance building. We took a very sick cat to the vet and sadly it had to be euthanized. A newly abandoned friendly orange kitten was rescued and taken to our sanctuary. We were able to catch a gray tabby kitten born at the park and he is in foster care.

For the three months, a total of 23 cats are no longer at the park and, of these, 20 came to our sanctuary. One feral cat, was altered and returned to the park.

At last count, at the end of March, the cat population was 97. Right now it is difficult to count the number of cats at the park because so many people are using the park and there is a lot of activity. Some of the cats seem to be hiding and we can only count the ones we see. I try to make the numbers as accurate as possible. As of the end of June, there are approximately 87 cats at the park.

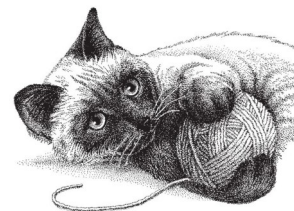
We would definitely love to have new cat feeders at the park! Don't hesitate to contact us if you think you might be interested. If you love Hart Park and cats, this is for you!

Carol Lair



Who We Are

PRESIDENT	Barb Hays
VICE PRESIDENT	Brenda Bynum
TREASURER	Pam Ames
INTERIM SECRETARY	Ranae Harrer
AUBURN RESCUE ACCOUNT	Barb Kitchen
CORRESPONDENCE	Ranae Harrer Amy St. Amour
FOOD ASSISTANCE	Marleen Ray
GRANTS	Kate Mackey
MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER	Shelley Ash
PARK COORDINATOR	Carol Lair
PETFINDER/ADOPT-A-PET	Ann Lariviere Stephanie Whisler
SPECIAL EVENTS	Ranae Harrer
TRAP RENTAL COORDINATOR	Carol Ewing
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Barb Hays
WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA	Ranae Harrer Barb Hays Taya Treulieb-Kolostyak Alisa Davies
THE CAT PEOPLE FOUNDER	Linda Wright



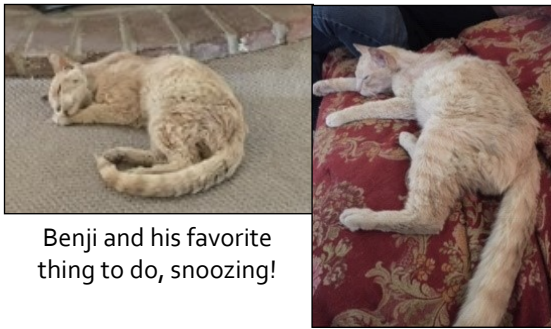
Wish List

Top Loading Cat Carriers
 Fancy Feast Paté (No Fish)
 Friskies Chicken or Turkey Paté
 Purina One Adult Dry Food
 Whole Earth Farms canned Healthy Kitten Recipe
 Slider Style Food Storage Bags (All Sizes)
 Large Garbage Bags
 Paper Towels
 Cat Beds
 Clean & Gently Used:
 Towels & Full/Queen Sized Flat Sheets

Gift Cards from: Amazon
 Chewy.com
 Home Depot
 PetSmart
 Wal-Mart



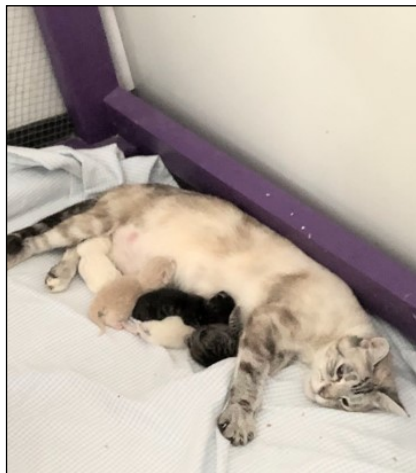
Pinker, a new arrival, enjoying her favorite pose!



Benji and his favorite thing to do, snoozing!



Stanley: Before and After.



Piper and babies.



Tiffany from Hart Park.



Dear departed Missy.



Kittens, Kittens, Kittens...Oh my!



Graduating to unrolling TP!

PHOTO GALLERY

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

Carmen Carpio
Roberta Isbell
Jamie Jemmett
Cindy Joslyn
Carol Lair
Tony Odisho
Anthony Powers
Robin Tinsley
Jill & Jeff Turner
Jerry & Penny
Whittington

DONORS

Diane Ackley
Mary Ellen Agan
Nancy Allred
David & Ardath Albizo
Michelle Antonell
Nancy Arslan
Stacey Augustson
Patricia Basset
Antonette Bealesio
Jane Beckett
Eleanor R. Biehl
James Bisztyga
P.J. Bradley
Bonnie Bradshaw
Jay Bresee
Judith Buechler
Paul Burzych
Marianne Carlsen
Jacqueline Carson
Alice Chapin
Angelina Chavez
Emily Churchfield
Keith Clark
Pamela Clark
June Cochran
Connie Cohen
Carole "Lee" Cole
Brenda Conners
Karen Cooley
Marci Cunningham
Wanda Dadds
Amy Daniel
Dee Daniels
Alisa Davies
Phyllis Denison
Jean Disney
Judith Ditzler

Jacquelyn D. Dominey
Ray Draper
Dianne Drennan
Sheila Drewry
Deborah Edwards
Suzanne Edwards
Shannon Evans
Judith Faulstick
Marilyn Fisher
Miriam Fitch
Shirley Foster
Lucas Froschheiser
George & Suzette Garza
Leslie Geissel
Paul Gennaro
Deborah Giem
Carolyn Golden
Denise Gordon
Terry Hampton
Sofie Hay
Barb Hays
Timothy Heasley
Michael Heiser
Melba Henderson
Heather Holland
Vanessa Howard
Pamela Irwin
Louise Jasper
Connie Jeffreys
Diane Karch
Carey Keene
Sherry Keith
Kathleen Kilby
Jenny Kysor
Fanny Laborde
Carol Lair
Letitia Landers
Vincent Lau
Marianne Laxague
Karen Lees
Rachel Lenix
Cheryl Lewis
Jane Loranger
Cindy Lynch
Edith Lyons
Katherine Mackey
Joyce Macy
Dinah McHone
Terri Middlemiss
Pamela Miller
Peggy Miller
Linda Mitts
Laura Mizrahi
Monji Landscape Cos.

Nancy Moore
Sharon Morgenthal
Linda Mumford
Nestlé Purina
Robert Nichols
Mary Nicholson
Diana O'Neil
Lawrence O'Neil
Andrea Owens
Susan Palla
Donna Supal
Panasiewicz
Vernon Pennington
Anne Peper
Mark Perez
Pamela S Pike Trust
Karen Price
Primetime Signs
Carol Raupp
Sherie Roberts
Kenneth Robinson
Toni Ronquillo
Laurie Rott
Jodi Rowe
Wilma Ruby
Bob & EJ Rutledge
Stacey Sayer
Debbie Scott
Marvin Seibel
Gaye Siemon
Sylvia Simms
Kevin Sinichko
Shirley Skenfield
Carol Smith
Verna Smith
Amy St. Amour
Jacob Strange
Cynthia Talley
Lynda Thomas
Alecia Thornton
United Way
Victoria Vukonich
Diane Wallace
Katherine Walters
LY Warrick
James Webber
Jaime Weyand
Linda Whipple
Marie White
Liane Whitson
Penny & Jerry
Whittington
Bonnie Winders
Tommy Wright

Dianna Ybarra

AUTOMATIC GIVING DONORS

Pam & Ed Ames
Jane Ansolabehere
Andrea Anthony
Michelle Antonell
Elizabeth Barnhart
Virgie Bloodworth
Jay Bresee
Candace Bunes
Carol Ewing
Donna Goins
Sandra Goins
Barb Hays
Frieda Jackson
Rae Ann Kumelos
Carol Lair
Tami Lumpkin
Mary Martin
Alexandra Matic
Diana O'Neil
Carol Raupp
Marleen Ray
Vickie Rose
Rebecca Scott
Claudia Sobel
Christy Solari
Amy St. Amour
Beth Stark
Anna St. Clair
Gloria Vega
Bill Walker
L. Y. Warrick
Marie White
Debra Wingo

FOSTER PARENTS

Dani & Jay Bresee
Terisa & Sara Harju
Katy Nichols
Carey & Jim Keene
Rita & Rob Wolosz

SANCTUARY HELPERS

Nancy Allred

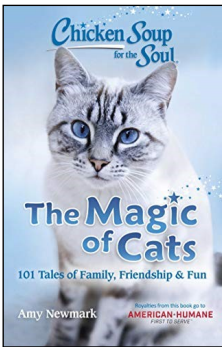
Shelley Ash
Emily Beck
Michelle Beck
Shannon Berkowitz
Logan Berkowitz
John Beyerbach
Brenda & Art Bynum
Keith Clark
Pam Clark
Amy Daniel
Ray Draper
Suzanne Edwards
Carol Ewing
Lori Gifford
Sue Grant
Sofie Hay
Barb Hays
Frieda Jackson
Araceli Jauregui
Debbie Jensen
Barbara Kitchen
Lynn Onsum
Deena Pedroza
Marleen Ray
Jodi & Jack Rowe
Amy St. Amour
Beth Stark
Laura Stockton
Jacob Strange
Iona West
Eli Whisler
Stephanie Whisler
Penny & Jerry
Whittington
Sarah Wilson

ADOPTIONS

The Beshirs Family
(Scout)
The Jones Family
(Carl)
The Kilby Family
(Chelsea)
Cindy Talley
(Axel & Ferguson)
The Westervelt Family
(Figaro)



The Book Corner



Ernie Haberdasher

We were excited to receive a copy of *The Magic of Cats*, in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series, featuring several heart-warming stories, one written by founder Linda Wright, recalling the moment our Ernie entered our lives. For The Cat People old-timers, Ernie Haberdasher lived with us for twelve years and was a favorite for members and customers.

Royalties from this delightful book go to American Humane, and the stories all will bring some sunshine into your life especially during these stressful times.

If you are interested in purchasing the book, the cost is \$14.95, and copies will soon be available at the sanctuary. Linda's story is a beautiful tribute to such a special cat.



Feline Favorites

The sanctuary is the perfect "testing lab" for feline products, so we would like to share some favorites with our "A" product rating... if they work here, they will work anywhere!

Perhaps these products will prevent some cats from being kicked outdoors or ending up in shelters.



- ◆ Allerpet-for people with allergies to cats. Comes in a variety of applications (wipes, liquid, etc.), and really keeps the dander issue at bay.



- ◆ Purina Pro Plan LiveClear. Good reviews on this new Purina food. Used in combination with Allerpet, feline owners suffering from allergies should find some relief.



- ◆ Baking soda, infused with a few drops of organic, **feline safe** oils. We use dōTERRA® Essential Oils at the sanctuary, both as aroma therapy and in our baking soda. Many health benefits (plus helps with litterbox smells) for both felines and people. Contact us for more information.



Purple room nighttime party-goers finally discovered by volunteer Suzanne - Yikes!!



Enjoying the pink catio.

THE CAT PEOPLE



PO Box 13610
Bakersfield CA 93389

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bakersfield, CA
Permit #487

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.

The Cat People news is a quarterly publication of The Cat People, PO Box 13610, Bakersfield CA 93389. Phone (661) 327-4706. The Cat People News is written by our volunteers. Printing by Minuteman Press, Bakersfield CA. We are an all volunteer organization dedicated to helping Bakersfield's homeless cat population. Find us on the web at thecatpeople.org.