



The Cat People news

1930 18th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301. 661-327-4706
www.thecatpeople.org

Volume 24, Number 4

August 2014

Just One Litter

Julie forgot the apartment repairman was coming to fix her sliding glass door that day. Later at work, she realized she also forgotten to confine her seven month old kitten, Kali, in the bedroom. When she arrived home, Kali was waiting for her outdoors, under the pine tree. "Thank goodness you're okay," she said to the kitten.

Two weeks or so later, Julie noticed that the kitten was putting on weight. She felt disappointed when she realized Kali was pregnant. She had been waiting for Kali to go through one heat cycle before spaying, which she'd always heard was best. But she hadn't been in a hurry. After all, Kali never went outdoors. With Christmas coming, Julie didn't worry about finding homes for Kali's kittens. She would just take them into the store where she worked and put them in the window.

The four kittens, when placed in the window at work, all found homes within one week. Six months later, Kali's kittens had matured and their stories went like this:

1. A striped female went to live with a mother with two children. No longer kitten cute, the kids paid little attention to her anymore. She was left outside most of the time. When she delivered five kittens, the family put a "free kitten" ad in the paper. Luckily, a man was interested and took all five, to be mousers in his barn, he said. Actually, he sold the kittens to a local dealer, who sold them to a research facility. The family did not have the mother cat spayed.

2. Another family took the black male kitten. They said he was a great cat, and they let him out periodically. When the cat was eight months old and sexually active, he spent a great deal of time roaming the neighborhood looking for receptive females. One day his excursions took him across a highway where a car struck him. The family discovered their dead pet, and the parents told their crying children that those things happened and they would get another cat. In his short life, this cat fathered eight litters, totalling 50 kittens.

3. The young woman who took the black female kitten lived in a no pets apartment. Her landlord discovered the cat and ordered her to get rid of the pet or be evicted. Unable to move and unable to find anyone to take a mostly grown cat, she took the animal to the country and abandoned her. In the year and a half before this cat died of distemper, she had four litters of wild kittens.



Thanks to feeder Jill, this beautiful, friendly (and spayed!) 3 year old kitty is just waiting for her purrfect home. Now know as Emily, she is affectionate and super laid-back.

4. The young man who adopted the striped female had her spayed when she was six months old and has kept her indoors at all times. This cat was a healthy, wonderful companion for him for years.

In the fifteen months after Kali had her litter, 83 kittens were born. Julie found "good" homes for Kali's first four kittens, but she didn't consider the other 79. The sad fact is that every single litter, planned or accidental, adds to pet overpopulation. The cycle must stop before it starts; before that one litter. And consider this: no county animal shelter nowadays, let alone the local SPCA, can cope with the yearly springtide flood of kittens and cats. Sadly, the solution to the turn-in of unwanted cats/kittens is euthanasia. But you can do your part to help by spaying or neutering your cat -- and doing it today!

We like to run this story every couple of years (it first appeared in the ASPCA news) to give people a clear idea of the consequences of letting your cat have "just one litter". A whole lot of unintended events branch out from that one litter, and not only the female offspring are affected -- think about the male offspring, too! So don't neglect this very important surgery, please. And if you need, help, call us.

Gift Shop News

We'd like to welcome Lupe to our staff of volunteers at the Gift Shop. Lupe will be helping out at the shop and office a couple of Saturdays a month. You can come in and meet her then. It's wonderful to see our crew of shop volunteers continue to grow. We especially need volunteers who can work during the week. We don't ask our staffers to work every week. If you can spare only one or two days a month, that would be fine. Just contact our volunteer coordinator at 327-4706 or at our website, www.thecatpeople.org. You can even fill out an application online now at our website.

We're keeping the shop stocked with a variety of supplies at competitive prices to help you care for your feline friends. Recently, we got a shipment of Kong ZoomGroom brushes and containers of kitty cat grass that you can grow yourself. To make playtime even more fun for you and your kitties, we carry packets of colorful spring toys and Da Bird feather toys, featured in the TV series, My Cat From Hell. Besides our selection of cat care supplies, we have a unique assortment of gift items. Our Personal Gift Shop Shopper, Keith, keeps a sharp eye out for collectible pieces like picture frames, salt & pepper shakers, teapots and knick knacks, that are sure to appeal to cat lovers. Visit our Gift Shop and see what's new! We're open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. You can find us at 1930 18th St. in the HP Sears Building in downtown Bakersfield.

by Marleen Ray

Food Assistance Program

During the months of May and June, The Cat People distributed 740 lbs. of dry cat food and 296 cans of wet food to families in need and their feline companions. We'd like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following supporters for their donations to this vital program and to our other efforts to care for abandoned cats in our community: Ardath Albizo; Bakersfield SPCA; Myridia Boggs; Phyllis Denison; Michael Heiser; Judy Keolker; Carol Montsinger; Marleen Ray; Laura Stockton, and Lillian Warrick.

by Marleen Ray



These handsome Cat People logo caps are going fast! Get yours today at our Gift Shop.



This lovely cat-themed teapot would make a fine addition to your collection of feline knick knacks.



STIERN • SOUTHWEST • VETERINARY HOSPITALS

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

STIERN • 17 Monterey Street • Bakersfield, CA 93305 • 661.327.5571
SOUTHWEST • 2905 Brundage Lane • Bakersfield, CA 93304 • 661.327.5719
www.stiern-swvets.com

Who We Are

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Barb Hays
VICE PRESIDENT	Brenda Bynum
TREASURER	Pam Ames
SECRETARY	Shelley Ash

CHAIRPERSONS

SHOP & OFFICE MANAGER	Marleen Ray
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Dianna Knapp
WEBSITE/PETFINDER	Shelley Ash
WEBSITE/FACEBOOK	Courtney Clerico
WAYSIDING	Barbara Kitchen
MEMBERSHIP	Shelley Ash

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

Photo Gallery



The Putnam family adopted Taz and Talley.



A 4 month old female, Pepper is available for adoption.



Parker was adopted by Laura and Kasey Muggs.



Another 4 month old female, Caliie is ready for her new home.

Sanctuary Report

Many of you know of our dream to build a sanctuary/office/gift store/adoption center somewhere in Bakersfield or the immediate vicinity, but some do not. In case you don't know, that's what our "Sanctuary Fund" is dedicated to. We have had some very generous donors in the past and have accumulated a large amount of cash (which is in a restricted account) but we're not quite at the total. We estimate we will need about \$300,000. When we get to half of that amount we can start looking for matching grants -- so you see, we're almost but not quite there!

All of us on the Board, and all our volunteers and supporters, share our dream of a place where adoptable cats can roam free in indoor/outdoor quarters, and where we can run a really spiffy gift shop. In the meantime, please keep those donations coming. Any little bit helps. Our total to date is:

\$127,869.60

The Park Report

Well, summer has hit the felines and feeders hard. Due to the very dry terrain, we constantly worry about fire but the maintenance department is doing a great job of cutting old debris away. Feeders have been hauling extra water up on Hill Road since there is no water source around that area. We will make sure that our park felines get enough water thru the hot season.

On a pleasant note, we had our first park feeder potluck and ended with a memorial toast to Dale. Great food, conversation, and a chance for everyone to put a face with a name. A special thanks to Cindy and Jim for hosting the event. We got to see all of their park rescues including Raggs, a special once-pregnant, abandoned park dog, befriended by Phyllis and Dale, and rescued by park feeders. Cindy and Jim fostered Raggs, her puppies, found homes for some, and kept Mom and two of the babies.

We welcome our new substitute feeders, Le Ann and Laura. They join Ann who not only subs for us, but works at the shop on Wednesdays. It is truly a commitment to animals that all of our feeders have especially on these hot summer days when we start our feeding about 6:30 in the morning.

Feeder Ann rescued little Parker, a cute tabby from the park, and he was adopted the following week. Judy found our little Tree Climber hanging from a tall branch; he is patiently awaiting adoption. Cindy and Jill found three little six -week old kittens, covered in fleas and starving. They are now playing, happy, and will make their adoption debut in two weeks. A week later Carol found our little Emily Mill, a super affectionate spayed three year old Calico. She hangs with some other park rescues at my house while she awaits a new home.

We sure await the day our sanctuary is here!

by Barb Hays



Tree Climber, one of our newest rescues, waits for breakfast at Barb's place. Feeder Judy found this little kitty crying up a tree.



Judy and Cindy found this starving 7 week old kitten and his siblings one Sunday at the park. They are now in foster care.

Automatic Giving Donors

Pam & Ed Ames
Jane Ansolabehere
Michelle Antonell
Stacey Augustson
Elizabeth Barnhart
Vicki Benson
Virgie Bloodworth
Jay Bresee
Candace Bunes
Art & Brenda Bynum
JE David-Marble
Winnifred Davis
Paula Dittmann
Gloria Dumler
Carol Ewing
Donna Goins
Frieda Jackson
Judy Keolker
Dianna Knapp
Carol Lair
Judy Lehmeier
Tami Lumpkin
Alexandra Matic
Donna McKenna
Diana O'Neil
Deena Pedroza
Carol Raupp
Marleen Ray
Vickie Rose
Dorann Ruby
Amy St. Amour

Donald P. St. Clair
Claudia Sobel
Christy Solari
Joan Tambosso
Shirona Thomas
L.Y. Warrick
Bill Walker
Marie White
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

Shelley Ash
 Penny Calderon
 Margaret Harrison
 Barb Hays
 Lee Anne Hendricks
 Cindy & Jim Joslyn
 Frieda Jackson
 Dianna Knapp
 Carol Lair
 Ann Lariviere
 Judy Long
 Bob Rutledge
 Laura Shaw
 Jill Turner

DONORS

Phillip Anderson
 Patricia Basset
 Tonya Battistoni
 Michelle Beck
 Marge Bentz
 Debbie Boone
 P.J. Bradley
 Charlotte Brandt
 Lou Burgoni
 Angelina Chavez
 Chevron Humankind
 June Cochran
 Carole "Lee" Cole
 Karen Cooley
 Marci Cunningham
 Michelle Dandrea
 Phyllis Denison
 Cleo Dieterich
 Alyssa Divelbiss
 Shannon Evans
 Marcia Eyherabide
 Judith Faulstick
 Miriam Fitch
 Barbara Gardiner
 Leslie Geissel
 Paul Gennaro
 Betty Jo Giblin
 Marilyn Gifford
 Claire Graham
 Mayor Harvey Hall
 Michael Heiser
 Kari Hemphill
 Melba Henderson
 Lee Anne Hendricks
 David Herring

Elaine Horn
 Vanessa Howard
 James Johnston
 Ann Justice
 Diane Karch
 Laddie Kumelos
 Fanny Laborde
 Vincent Lau
 Jean Leach
 J A Lehmeier
 Cheryl Lewis
 Dinah McHone
 Billie McMahan
 Mary Martin
 Janice Mayes
 Albert Morel
 Karen Price
 Marvin Seibel
 Laura Shaw
 John Slaton
 Carol Smith
 Deborah Stevenson
 Donna Supal
 United Way
 Katherine Walters
 Ron & Peggy Watkins
 Jaime Weyand
 Mona Wilson
 Debra Wingo

ADOPTIONS

Antonette Bealesio
 (Mai Tai)
 Tonya Blahut (Fluffy)
 Melinda Burrage
 (Macy)
 Cynthia Cormier
 (Percy & Leo)
 Alex Hughey (Nathan
 Pond)
 Leah Mayfield (Target
 11)
 Debby Moore (Bran &
 Dani)
 Aaron Prusak (Lily &
 Bam Bam)
 Jill Putman (Tyron &
 Arya)
 Jacqueline Salindeho
 (Rivers)
 Lauren Shoenfeld
 (Black Stone &
 Chubbers)

SPECIAL FRIENDS

In loving memory of
 Dale Denison who
 loved & cared for so
 many abandoned
 & unloved cats &
 kittens – Dennis &
 Joan Blackburn

In memory of Dale
 Denison – Robert &
 Caryl Bennett

In memory of Dale
 Denison – Cindy
 Joslyn & Jill Turner

In remembrance
 of Dale Denison –
 Shirley Groth

In memory of
 Michael Ressler –
 Diane Adame

In loving memory of
 Dale Denison – Barb
 Hays

In memory of
 Mrs. Mary Marie
 Ghilarducci – Mrs.
 Lorraine Panelli

In remembrance
 of Mary Marie
 Ghilarducci –
 Delores Jean
 Christian

In memory of Frank
 Vargas, a great
 advocate of The
 Cat People – Mindy
 White

In remembrance
 of Dale Denison –
 Laddie Kumelos

In honor of John &
 Stella Rous – Sylvia
 Howard

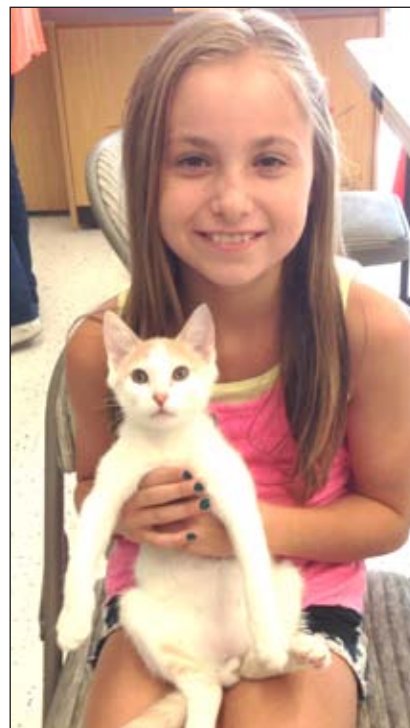
In memory of Mary
 M. Ghilarducci – Mr.
 & Mrs. Don Nighbert

In memory of Mary
 Ghilarducci – Sherry
 Anderson

In loving
 remembrance of
 my mother, Mary
 M. Ghilarducci –
 Armanda Ghilarducci

In memory of Mary
 Ghilarducci – Mr. &
 Mrs. Andrew Abbott

In loving memory of
 Mari Lynn Conley –
 Cyd Walker



The Tinsley family adopted Blondie.

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.

THE CAT PEOPLE NEWS is a publication of The Cat People, P.O. Box 13610, Bakersfield, CA 93389 (661) 327-4706. THE CAT PEOPLE NEWS is written by 4 Paws Enterprises. Printing by Pioneer Printing in Newport, Oregon. We are an independent organization dedicated to helping Bakersfield's homeless cats. We are on the web at www.thecatpeople.org and downtown at 1930 18th Street.



Serenity Cat Hospital
Kind, gentle care exclusively for cats...

Cherry K. Mattias D.V.M.

3000 Taft Highway
Bakersfield, California 93313
serenitycathospital@gmail.com
661-837-1CAT (1228)

Feel the Purr...



Cozy Cat Pet Sitting
While the owner is away - the cat will stay

Ann Lariviere
Pet Sitter

www.cozycatpetsitting.com
480-319-1697
faithwagon@hotmail.com

Current Resident or

Bakersfield, CA 93389
P.O. Box 13610
THE CAT PEOPLE



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