



## President's Message

*By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be well into our 11th season at RESQCATS and some of this will be old news. The cats, kittens and their circumstances or health issues will be resolved and we will be facing new ones. But, I want to bring you up to date on all that has happened since the December 2007 newsletter.*

RESQCATS was one of the two non-profit organizations selected by the Santa Barbara News-Press to receive donations raised in the 2007 Holiday Fund Drive. It was a tremendous honor to be selected and I don't think there is an organization in Santa Barbara that could possibly appreciate it more! The money has enabled us to do many needed repairs and make some positive changes and additions to the cattery. But most importantly, it will enable us to help many more stray and abandoned cats and kittens this year!

I took several months off during the winter season to rest and heal my mind, body and spirit. Thanks to my house-sitter and the volunteers that continue to come all year around...I can leave RESQCATS for my home in Oregon to enjoy a little time away from rescue. I get to do all the things I never have time to do during kitty season...like knit, quilt, take walks with the dogs and spend long and quality time with my husband Mitch.

The loss of several of my kitties, some of the resident kitties and my dog, "Joy" during the last few months just broke my heart. But the Oregon coast offers healing and comfort for my soul. I have time to grieve there. And I am reminded several times each week of the Rainbow Bridge which connects Heaven and Earth. You see, the Oregon coast experiences dramatic winter storms that often end in those beautiful rainbows! Those rainbows are reminders that all my animals wait for me on the Rainbow Bridge until I join them one day. My home on the coast in Yachats, Oregon is where I find peace with the losses and let some of my grief wash back out into that dramatic sea.

I returned from my sabbatical in March rested and ready to go! It's a good thing I was ready to go because our 11th season has taken off with the arrival of a mom and NINE kittens. We quickly realized that these were not all her kittens! "Amore" is nursing two litters (not even sure which litter is hers) and I am helping out with supplemental bottle feeding. She was turned into the Santa Maria Shelter with all of the kittens and no one has any idea what happened to the mother cat of the second litter. Luckily, all are healthy and growing...but what a job. Be sure to see the "GOT MILK?" section of this newsletter to see and read more about them.

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Jeffyne with three of "Amore's" nine kittens she is bottle feeding.



got milk?  
(see story on page 7)

## Welcome to Our 11th Kitty Season!

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## We Welcome “Mandy” and “Precious” to RESQCATS

*The recent loss of two of our resident cats, Simba and Abby, left all of us very sad.*

*The cattery is just not the same without them.*

*Both of them had their individual indoor enclosures that connected to their very own outdoor space since neither got along well with other cats in the community area.*

*The empty spaces Simba and Abby left in our hearts also left two individual spaces in the cattery enclosures.*

**The voids in our hearts never really go away** when we lose two such special residents, but it didn't take long for two kitties to find their way into those empty enclosures!

“Mandy” was taken to one of the volunteers at RESQCATS by animal control in Oxnard...she has an agreement with them to bring them to her to make sure they are not put down immediately and so she can evaluate them. It didn't take long to discover that Mandy was shy...but certainly not feral as many others in her colony were. Rebecca Branscome called me to arrange for Mandy to be checked at the vet. She was tested for Feline Leukemia and FIV and found to be negative. Unfortunately, her mouth was an abscessed mess...sore gums and bad teeth with several teeth missing. The vet guessed her to be about ten years old and suggested that she have a full blood panel to make sure her kidneys were okay before doing any kind of dental on her which requires anesthesia.



“Mandy” already feels at home in her RESQCATS enclosure.

Her blood work was perfect. The vet also noticed that Mandy had some difficulty with her sight. At that point, we decided that Mandy was the perfect candidate to become a permanent RESQCATS resident. She had her dental and with the love and care that Rebecca gave her, Mandy arrived healthy, happy and loving. She is a sweet...still a little shy around some of the volunteers...loving little tabby tortie. I adore her. As of April 20, (the time I wrote this article) she has been here about three weeks and is just blossoming. She is soft and quiet...very different from the demanding former occupant, Abby! I am not sure if she will join the other cats that roam the entire cattery...she needs more time to adjust. But whatever Mandy decides....to have her own space or join the others is just FINE with me!

“Precious” arrived just about two weeks ago from another organization that searched for a year for her purrfect home. She is a highly sensitive cat that is easily stimulated and not always



Jeffyne and “Precious” have a heart to heart!

in a positive way. She could not be trusted to get along with the other cats at the shelter in a community area and often picked on the less dominant ones. So she would be put back by herself into her cage. She HATED being put back into her cage...it was small and her contact with people was limited when she had to go there. She got so mad that she swatted and bit and it seemed hopeless that anyone would adopt her. She was adopted, however, but when she came back the next day...the shelter knew that finding that special person that would understand her extraordinary social skills would be virtually impossible! So, they called me!

Precious arrived and she has presented some challenges with some swatting and biting...but I have dealt with personalities like hers so many times. And I love a challenge. I talk to her from my heart and tell her she is in a good place. I think she knows that I am her person....she seems to understand that her swatting and biting is not appropriate as we continue to work on it. She loves to sit in my lap and drools (just like Abby did!) when she is content with my love and brushing. I am introducing her to the enclosed outside part of her living quarters...she is quite insecure about it...but we have daily sessions there and more heart talks to give her reassurance. I am honored that the local humane society asked me to take Precious and trust me with her care. Many organizations would have euthanized her well within the year she was with them! The Humane Society has done so much for RESQCATS the last ten years and giving Precious a home is a very small token of my appreciation. I am curious about one thing, however...how DID she get the name “Precious?” ♦

*In the winter of 2005, a stray cat named "Houdini" showed up in the RESQCATS' Cattery quite unexpectedly. I wrote the following story about him several months after his arrival! I hope you enjoy reading it again...but make sure you read "the rest of the story."*

## Cat Apprehended For Breaking and Entering RESQCATS!



There have been many times in the history of RESQCATS that a kitty arrived and decided that they did not want to leave our sanctuary. I explain to them that RESQCATS is just a "stepping stone" on their path to finding their own purrfect person and home in the world outside of RESQCATS. Sometimes it works.... and sometimes it doesn't. That is how "Smudge," "Snowie" and "Endora" became permanent residents at RESQCATS!

But never before have I ever experienced or heard of a cat breaking and entering a cattery...guess he saw a good thing when he passed by!

It began one afternoon when I walked into the cattery and got a quick glimpse of a big black and white cat scurrying down the hallway, up the driftwood ramp and into the penthouse. I thought to myself, "WHO IS THAT?...that's not one of mine. And how did he get in here?!?" I searched everywhere for a point of entry but found absolutely nothing. I was baffled even more the next morning because the cat was nowhere to be found...not in



Houdini was often caught making himself comfortable.

the penthouse, not in the outdoor enclosures, not in the outdoor tunnels...just vanished! There had to be some place where he had escaped and my cat "Greyco," had discovered it also because he was happily out roaming freely in the yard!

Now Greyco is always looking for a way out of the cattery and he does manage to sneak past a volunteer or two upon occasion so I thought he had just slipped through the back door again without being caught this time. But five minutes after we'd returned Greyco to the cattery, he was back outside wandering in the yard. When I brought him inside this time I followed him

to discover his point of exit. The wire at the bottom of one of the enclosures had been forced out away from the base. It took quite a bit of skill to pop out the staples and work the wire away from the nails holding it in place. I knew Greyco couldn't do it...only the large black and white visitor I had seen was capable of this. He was gone now so I nailed the wire back in place and went about my day.

When I entered the cattery the following day I discovered that my visitor was back! I search again for his break in spot and found nothing. I even asked the volunteers to look for a hole in the tunnels or break in the roof but we had no success. He stayed a few days and then disappeared. Was he hiding somewhere in the cattery....no! There was no place for him to hide. Then he was back again! I was leaving for vacation and thought I would just deal with this when I returned...obviously he needed to go to the vet and get checked and vaccinated, etc.

My poor house-sitter, Linda Higbee, got stuck with the comings and goings of this stray. She worked eight days trying to stop his breaking and entering and his uncanny escapes. She named him "Houdini" since he would just show up one day and vanish another!

Linda did manage to trap Houdini. He went to the vet and tested negative for Feline Leukemia and FIV, received his vaccinations and was neutered. She brought him back to RESQCATS but he left again just three days after his surgery. I returned from vacation to hear all about it!

Houdini was estimated to be about three years old and a tomcat. I don't know if you've had experience with tomcats...but let me tell you this! There is no question when you are dealing with a "tom" because they permeate the air with a horrible hormonal smell that will knock your socks off! Two days after my return from vacation, I walked into the cattery and knew he was back just by his scent!

It got to be quite a joke....volunteers calling to see if Houdini was in that day or had he let himself back out. I began to think he was being supernaturally beamed up and down like in Star Trek because no one could find his secret entrance and exit...except Greyco. I don't know how many times Greyco appeared on the upstairs balcony in the middle of the night meowing so loud it woke me from my sleep. He was so proud of himself for getting out...he purred as I put him in the bathroom until the next morning when I could inspect for a hole again.

The other resident cats didn't seem to mind Houdini. It wasn't as if I would have to build him his own enclosure because of being unsocial like I have for "Abby" and "Jake" this year. But something had to be done. "In or out Houdini? Doesn't matter to me but it is not a revolving door here. I'll take care of you if you stay and wish you the best of luck if you leave but which one is it?!" He just peered down at me from his perch in the penthouse.

As we inspected each enclosure, we were shocked to see what Houdini had done. He managed to pop out the staples holding the wire in place and pushed on the wire until it loosened from around the nails that secured it. We decided to re-enforce the wire with an additional piece of wood so there was no way it could be dislodged.

It worked!

Houdini is now living at RESQCATS. He doesn't smell like tomcat anymore so I am not always sure exactly where he is. Sometimes he sits in the penthouse and watches our world of caring for kittens and cleaning and all the things our job requires. He likes to listen to the music we play in the cattery. I leave his food at the end of a shelf where he is comfortable eating it during the night. Some sunny days I see him sitting in one of the outdoor

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Dear Jeffyne,

“**Lila**” and “**Huckleberry**” are ever more precious to me. What did I ever do before they came to live with me?

God bless you for the wonderful gifts – the two of them.

Helen Morris and I were so delighted that the local community chest is including **RESQCATS** this year! Congratulations!

All my love,

**Liz Zeller**

*(adopted Lila and Huckleberry in September 2006)*

Dear Jeffyne,

I am enclosing a donation to **RESQCATS** with love and blessings to you all, human and kitties.

I heard your interview on 1290 AM radio and loved all you said, especially the rule: “No cat leaves **RESQCATS** until it purrs!” It was very good to hear your voice.

Huckleberry and Lila are thriving, the joys of my life. Huckleberry continues as an “imp” getting into mischief moment by moment. Lila, the sweetie, never gives a bit of trouble...just love.

All our love to you and yours,

**Liz, Huckleberry and Lila**

Hi Jeffyne

Happy Birthday to **Nefret!**

She is two now and acts like it. Lots of interest in everything I do and she insists on being involved. She is the joy of my daily life (nightly, too.)

We are sending this donation as a gift from us to help with all the good work!

**Jean and “Nefret”**



“Nefret” is now two years old

Dear **RESQCATS**,

I read about your organization in the paper a few months back. I think what you do is so wonderful! We have our own feral cat colony that we try to care for. One even sleeps in our bed now! Keep up the good work!

**Mary Rafferty** (North Hollywood, CA)

Hi Jeffyne,

“**Roxy**” and “**Mojo**” are doing great! **Roxy** is the princess and **Mojo** loves being a “cat”...very independent. We love them!

Thank you! Hope all is going well.

**Marcella Young**

Hi Jeffyne,

“**Rosie**” and “**Oscar**” wish you a Happy New Year.

We are forever grateful to you for these two kitties. They are not lap cats but loving in their own ways.

Hope this donation helps out.

Love,

**Irma Singer, Jeff Hattanda, Rosie & Oscar!**

Dear Jeffyne,

“**Teddy**” still talks about the excellent care he had as a tiny kitten at **RESQCATS**.

He is sending a donation to help the others.

Love,

“**Teddy**” and **Debbie Branch**

Dear Jeffyne,

Your work must be so rewarding to you and all the lucky cats. I do really enjoy receiving your newsletters. Besides the heartwarming stories I simply love seeing photos of the cats and hearing the great names people choose.

Thank you,

**Tom and  
Rhonda Bush**

Dear Jeffyne,

“**Jazzy**” wishes you a Merry Christmas! She is healthy, and growing very fast. She likes to play and sleep with me. Also, here is a donation so the kitties can be even happier!

Love,

**Elise and “Jazzy”**



Elise and “Jazzy”

Dear **RESQCATS**,

Thank you for my kitten! She is HUGE now and so very mischievous! She’s beautiful and is a perfect addition to our happy family. I LOVE “**MITTENS!**”

Thank you, xoxo,

**Margarita Sanchez and Mittens**

*(Many of you may remember our long search in 2007 for a mommy kitty named “Vanity” She holds the longest record at **RESQCATS** in search of a home. Vanity waited for over five months to choose her new guardian, Roberta Roeser. It was love at first sight for Vanity and it seems that all has been a match made in Heaven for Roberta, as well. I felt tears of joy when I read this letter from Vanity.)*

Dear Aunti Jeffyne

As I approach my first Christmas in my new home, Mom asked me what I wanted as a gift. I purred over page after page of the Drs. Foster and Smith catalog, but nothing seemed to touch my heart.

I thought about what my life had been only a few short months ago, all alone on the street and scared. You were so kind to open not only your heart but your home to me in my “delicate condition” (very pregnant!). You took me in and then found wonderful homes for my kittens, something I assure you a Mother worries about.

I also didn't know, until Mom read my story to me that was in your *December 2007 newsletter*, about my reputation for being the longest-up-for adoption cat!

Now you must admit, it's very difficult to make the decision to leave when your surroundings are so-o-o purrfect! Nice people talking to me during the day, a warm bed, tasty food, even music playing! Just how does a cat walk away from all that tender loving care?

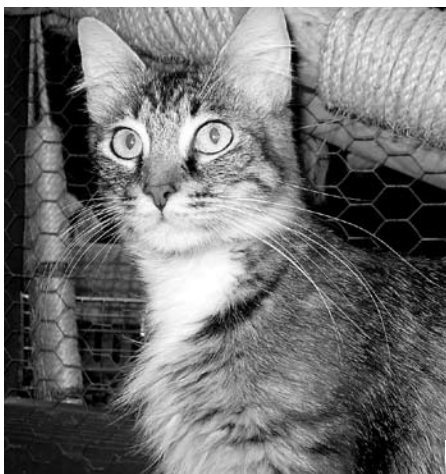
Finally, I realized that there were other needy cats arriving all the time and that they needed a cozy home for their refuge. I was also feeling much stronger after my ordeal and it was time to let other deserving cats have my place and your kind attention. I reached my decision to go the very day Roberta walked in and as hard as it was to say good-bye, I felt peace at last, knowing my room would be available and offering this safe haven to yet another of my furry friends.

Thank you and your wonderful volunteers for my life with you and please accept my offering (donation) as my Christmas gift to you. I wish you health, happiness with time to enjoy during the coming year!

All my love and gratitude,

**"Vanity"**

*(The loss of one of our resident cats named "Simba" in December 2007 brought all of us sadness. BJ Hawley took care of Simba on the streets for seven years (checking on him up to three times a day during rainy days) after his guardians moved*



**"Vanity"**

and left him behind. Since BJ is not allowed to have kitty in her apartment, she did the next best thing by allowing him to stay in the area he had always known and treat him like a king! When uncontained pitbulls moved into his area, BJ brought him to **RESQCATS** where he could have his own indoor enclosure that connected to his own outdoor space through a tunnel. Simba was old and his health was failing so many of his last months were spent making trips to the vet to stabilize his failing kidneys. In addition, BJ spent many hours at **RESQCATS** giving him love and making sure he had quality of life and was happy. When the sad day came to send Simba to the RAINBOW BRIDGE, we all had broken hearts and worried about BJ. Then one day, not too long after he left us, we received the following from BJ.)

*This is my "thank you" list to everyone, in honor of Simba and in remembrance of the compassion he inspired in so many humans.*

To **Simba**:

Thank you, **Simba**, for your gentle spirit, for showing me my better self and always welcoming genuine kindness – two forms, one soul.

To Humans:

Simba's eyes were overflowing with gratitude to everyone at **RESQCATS** who helped him feel loved

– his young soul chirped and purred his appreciation for all the gentle hands that supported him, including the extraordinary efforts of **Dr. Greg Haskell and his entire staff at Adobe Pet Hospital.**

And a tickling sandpaper kiss to Jeffyne – for the paw pad massages, and for saying yes to Simba and me when he needed to come to **RESQCATS**. **Simba's** ninth life depended on that!

Love,

**BJ**



**"Simba"**



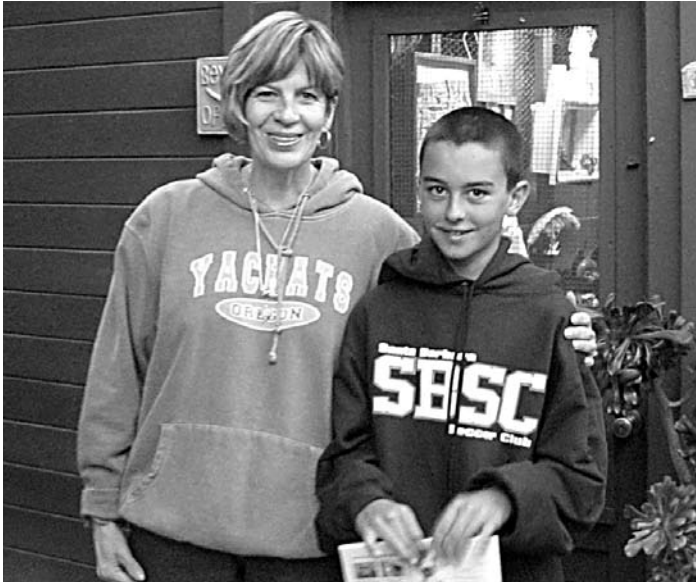
1. Oops! Stuck in the middle – a 2008 arrival.
2. "Pumpkin" adopted by Julie Kaplan, 2007.
3. A 2008 arrival.
4. "Betsy McCall and Winnie, ready for their birthday month" adopted by Candace Burton, 2005.
5. Elise adopted "Jazzy" in 2007.

I recently had the honor of being selected by a young boy who was assigned to present a current event for one of his 5th grade school projects. His name is Colin Hyatt. Of all the current events the teacher had assigned, he asked special permission to do a different one that was not on the list...he wanted his presentation to be about RESQCATS! Colin visited the facility and interviewed me, got a glowing report on his presentation at school and sent me a copy to share with you. Great job, Colin!

## One Life at a Time

Story by Colin Hyatt

My article is about a place called RESQCATS.  
The date of my article is November 25, 2007.



Jeffyne & Colin at the entrance to the Cattery

RESQCATS saves cats found on the street or cats who are going to be put to sleep. RESQCATS does everything they can to keep cats alive and to find permanent homes for them. I went to RESQCATS and visited. I got to see the whole place. It was so cool. They have about 15 cats living there who are permanent residents. No adoptions are happening right now because Jeffyne is getting ready to go on a once a year vacation. Kitten season starts in May.

In the first year RESQCATS was founded, 57 cats came in. 1,245 cats have been adopted since the organization began. Jeffyne, the founder of RESQCATS feeds her cats every day, looks after them, pets, and tickles them. Everyday she has dedicated her life to saving cats. She has seen so many cats and she still remembers all their names and stories of where she rescued them or how they came to RESQCATS.

RESQCATS is right above Hendry's Beach. The whole building is so amazing. The cats have outdoor walkways that are fenced in. At the end of the walkways there is either a sun box or outdoor room. Indoors there are litter boxes, scratching posts and beds with heating pads. If a cat gets along with the other cats, it gets to be in a room with a bunch of cats, but if a cat doesn't get along with other cats it gets its own enclosure.

I think RESQCATS is so cool. My opinion is that I think there should be a shelter like RESQCATS in every city. How about one for every animal that needs a place to stay and get taken care of? I think RESQCATS is the greatest cat shelter I have ever seen. I would like to have 15 cats living near my bedroom, would you? ♦

## President's Message

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We are also working to help a woman that started out with a well-meaning heart when she took in a stray pregnant mom. Unfortunately, she lost sight of the well-being of the cats after the stray had a second litter and all are now breeding. I may still be working on that sad situation with many young momma cats and pregnant cats and all their babies when I write the next newsletter! With the help of several of my volunteers and the cooperation of the woman, we are working around the clock to end the suffering of the kitties there and to get them all spayed and neutered.

RESQCATS is also helping to place kittens that arrive from an organization called Catalyst for Cats...they work on trapping, spaying or neutering feral cats and returning or relocating them to safe places where someone is assigned to feed them. We often get the kittens because they are young enough to for us to socialize and adopt out.

RESQCATS is able to help the Santa Maria Shelter in placing many kittens. They just overflow with hundreds every season and it is impossible to place them all. We placed almost 40 from the shelter last year and hope to surpass that number this year.

All the volunteers are already in full swing...cleaning enclosures, socializing, making trips to the vet and fostering. The volunteers are an integral part of RESQCATS and I cannot express how much they are appreciated. Each one brings something very special to RESQCATS and to the kitties that pass through on their way to permanent homes. They can look forward to the Fall 2008 newsletter which will be dedicated to them!

As most of you know, all the kitties that come through RESQCATS (and that is over 1250 now!) receive a vet exam, are tested for Feline Leukemia and FIV, are de-wormed, vaccinated and spayed or neutered before we find their purrfect home! Often, some require extraordinary medical care and we set up a fund called the Polar Bear Fund for those special needs kitties.

So, as awkward as it always is for me to ask for something: this is the time that I ask for your help...not for me...but for the kitties. Your donation is tax-deductible and whether you designate it to our general fund or to the Polar Bear Fund for special needs kitties...it will help RESQCATS do our job.

It is still my passion to rescue, care for and adopt stray and abandoned cats and kittens...and I hope you will join me with your support!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

President. RESQCATS, Inc.



Once I was a lonely cat,  
just looking for a home.  
I had no place to go,  
no one to call my own.  
Then one day I heard  
a voice so gentle,  
kind and sweet,  
And arms so soft reached  
down to me and took me  
off my feet.

Excerpt from *Rescued Cat*  
by Arlene Pace





## got milk?

This is a demanding job that these tiny baby kittens need for survival which can be overwhelming for one person. Thanks to the foster volunteers for helping me give them a chance at surviving.

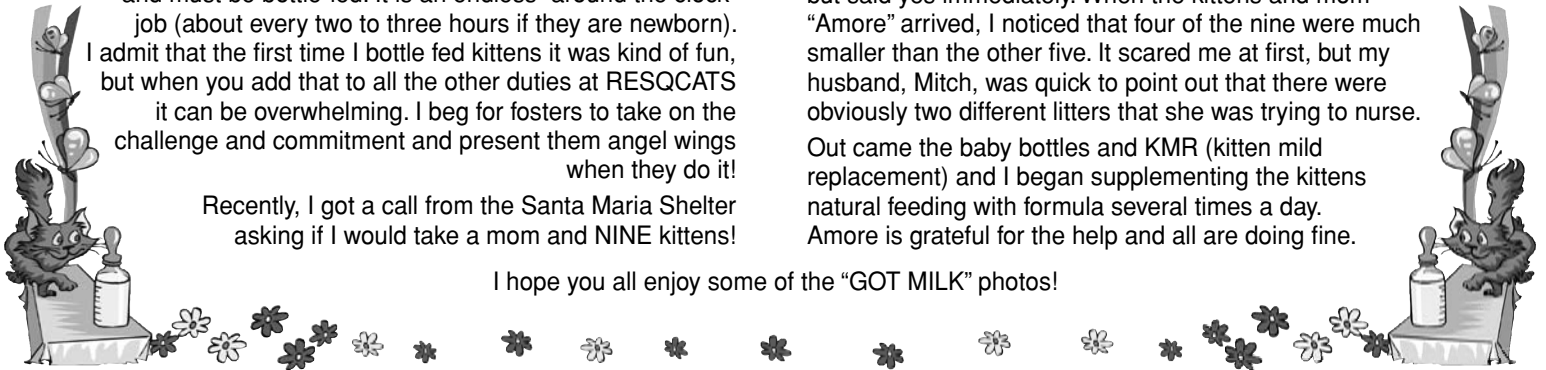


Several times a year RESQCATS gets kittens that have no mom and must be bottle-fed. It is an endless "around the clock" job (about every two to three hours if they are newborn). I admit that the first time I bottle fed kittens it was kind of fun, but when you add that to all the other duties at RESQCATS it can be overwhelming. I beg for fosters to take on the challenge and commitment and present them angel wings when they do it!

Recently, I got a call from the Santa Maria Shelter asking if I would take a mom and NINE kittens!

I could not believe one mom had nine kittens, but said yes immediately. When the kittens and mom "Amore" arrived, I noticed that four of the nine were much smaller than the other five. It scared me at first, but my husband, Mitch, was quick to point out that there were obviously two different litters that she was trying to nurse. Out came the baby bottles and KMR (kitten mild replacement) and I began supplementing the kittens natural feeding with formula several times a day. Amore is grateful for the help and all are doing fine.

I hope you all enjoy some of the "GOT MILK" photos!



### Cat Apprehended

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enclosures or tunnels taking in the fresh air and sun. He does let me approach him, but I cannot pet him because he is very timid. I tell myself that it will take time. For now, he is safe and dry, has a full tummy, doesn't have to be afraid of cars and coyotes and all the other dangers outside and he does seem content. Maybe he can talk to Snowie, Smudge and Endora about how wonderful it is at RESQCATS and that it is okay to trust me. I hope so.

Recently, I shared the story of Houdini with a friend. He said, "WOW! You must really have a great place there if you have strays wanting to break in!

**And now...for "the rest of the story!"**

For the next two years, Houdini resided at RESQCATS but always maintained a watchful and cautious eye on all of our comings and goings as we took care of the daily business of caring for all the kitties. He showed up on a distant cat shelf for dinner, but never allowed us to get within about ten feet of him. Even the tastiest of treats could not tempt him.

Houdini was often caught making himself comfortable in the front room with all the beds and heating pads...but it took eight months for him to even find the room. I am not sure he ever fell into a deep sleep because I could not enter without him flying

out of bed and scurrying to the nearest and farthest exit leading to the outdoor tunnels.

I never minded having Houdini here at RESQCATS and found it kind of humorous to think about his arrival and permanent residence. The other cats never minded him...he never seemed to intrude on their space and they accepted him readily...even when he found his way into their territory.

It took TWO years before Houdini let anyone touch him...and that was only when we could sneak in a light stroke of his fur as he ate his treats. It was a thrill for all the volunteers and almost a contest to see who could pet him and win him over first.

I must give that prize and credit to BJ Hawley...she is always the one to break through with the tough ones...she has an amazing connection with the cats.

Today, Houdini has let all of us into his domain. He sleeps soundly in a heated bed in the front room with all the other cats and people are allowed to come and go all around him. He is famous for liking his "cookies" and not only does he love to be brushed and petted...but he loves to give head butts! Just lean your head over...and there he is to give his love back to you with a gentle push of his head! Even RESQCATS' visitors that are total strangers to him now get to pet him.

Houdini has resided here for over three years which just goes to prove that every cat just needs his or her own time! ♦

## “In Remembrance, There is Life”

*Donations made in honor or memory of some very special people and friends of the fur persuasion*

*(Recognizing all I received through April 19, 2008)*

In memory of “**Kiki**” and **Irene and Dick Fulton**  
*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

In celebration and honor of “**Chico**” – adopted from **RESQCATS**  
several years ago

*Pat Pellino and Jo Neugent*

In loving memory of “**Simba**” and for **BJ**  
*Jeanette Iwatsuki*

For **Don and Betty Richardson** – Happy Holidays from  
*Jim Steiner*

In special memory of one of our **RESQCATS** resident kitties named  
“**Simba**” and for **BJ Hawley**, a long time volunteer and Simba’s caregiver.  
From all of us who love both of you – a special poem for you...

### The King of Cats Sends a Postcard

*Clouds are gentle walls that hide  
gardens on the other side.*

*Tell the tabby cats I take  
all my meals with William Blake,  
lunch at noon and tea at four,  
served in splendor on the shore  
at the tinkling of a bell.*

*Tell them all I am sleeping well.  
Tell them I have come so far,  
brought by Blake’s celestial car,  
buffeted by wind and rain,  
I may not get home again.*



*Take this message to my friends.  
Say the King of Catnip sends  
to the cat who winds the clocks  
a thousand sunsets in a box,  
and to the cat who guards his door  
a net for catching stars, and more  
(if with patience he abide):  
Catnip from the other side.*

~ By Nancy Willard



In memory of “**Fred**” and for **Pam Haldeman**  
*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

In loving memory of “**MiMi**”...my beloved cat from 1988–2007.  
It still was not long enough to be loved so unconditionally.

*Love,  
Mary Lou and Jon Sorrell*



Never a day without you in my heart, “**Miejek**.”  
*Love, Jeffyne*

Merry Christmas to **RESQCATS!**  
*“Lily,” “Nicky,” “Scooter,” “Lucy” and Jary Cater*

In memory of “**Snapper**,” one great cat!  
*From Bill Sparrow*

For my daughter and her husband, **Janice and Bob Contons**---  
because they love cats so much!  
*June Stoner*

In memory of “**Simba**” and for **BJ**.  
*Your Mom and Dad,  
Sarah and John Morrison*

Remembering “**Mama’s Boy**” and for **Alissa and Matt Briggs**.  
*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

To honor **Ter Mathis**  
*Katherine Gunther*

In memory of “**Moocher**”...never forgotten and still missed after all  
these years.  
*Roger West*

Always in my heart...my “**Sam**”  
*Love, Mary Rosenfeld*

In memory of “**Kitty**”  
*Lorrie McKean Lyons*

For “**Jetty**” who was one of the first  
kitties I ever rescued...off the “jetty” in  
San Diego 15 years ago. I miss seeing  
you every morning in the cattery...’til  
we meet again.

*Love, Jeffyne*



In memory of “**Jennings**” and our thoughts are with **Linda Warden**  
*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

In honor of **Jon and Mary Lou Sorrell**  
*Dan and Nancy George*

In honor of **Randi Fairbrother**  
*Dan and Nancy George*

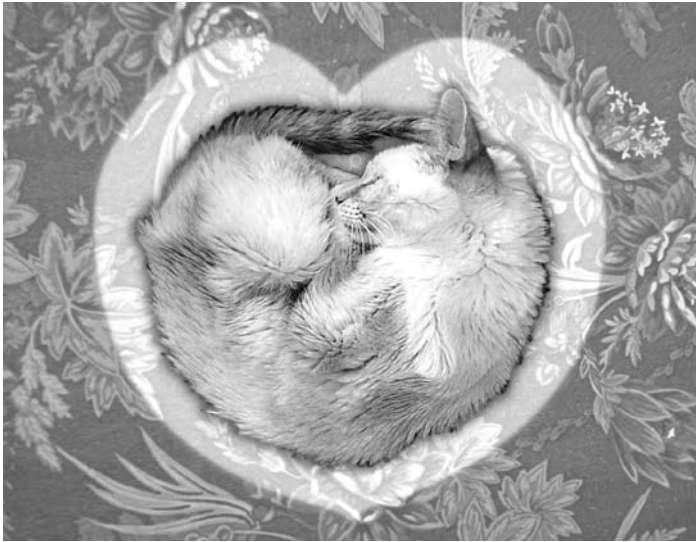


Always in the hearts of many...sweet memories of “**Driver**” for **Sara and Bob Kvass**

*Love, Jeffyne*

In honor of **Nancy and Dan George** for their love and care of all the kitties they have saved and cared for

*Jon and Mary Lou Sorrell*



In loving memory of “**Valentino**,” who was adopted 10 years ago from **RESQCATS** by **Joanna Haynes** who has also become one of my very best friends. Valentino was a very shy kitty that found heaven on earth with Joanna. Many of you have seen his photos on the front of several of the **RESQCATS** cards and on many cat and kitten flyers advertising **RESQCATS**.

*Love, Jeffyne*

To honor **David Bison**

*Patricia Warren*

A donation on behalf of “**Lucy Lu**”, who started life in a junkyard and chose us three years ago. Thanks to foster mom, **Lee Heller!** Thanks to **RESQCATS!**

*The Kennelly family*

In sweet memory of “**A.D.**” and for my friends, **Volaria and Jackson**.

*Love, Jeffyne*

In honor of **Bonnie Epperson...**

*Tina Riegler*

In honor of **Jeffyne** and for all the wonderful things you do for these precious souls.

*Tina Riegler*

In memory if “**Piper**” and for **Chris Carnaghi**

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

Remembering “**Bonhomme**” and **Jeanne Spencer and Wayne Kimball**

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

In memory of “**Daisy**” who was adopted from **RESQCATS** many years ago by **Ed Forster**. When Ed passed away, his daughter, **Pru Broadwell** gave Daisy a home for the next several years...what a precious gift Daisy had...a home to go to. So many kitties end up in shelters with no hope of finding a home due to their age when their owners die. Daisy’s passing was a loss for Pru... and one that I personally feel, too.

In memory of “**Gene**.”

*Adria Abraham*

In memory of **Jack Telson** and for **Mitch Telson**

*Deanna Sampson, Terri & Rick Pocock and Stephanie Dancer*

In memory of “**Buffy**” and for **Kebi and Ralph Brown**

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

In memory of “**Momoko**” and for **Mary and Michael Zolowski**

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

For “**Abby!**”

Abby arrived at **RESQCATS** four years ago at the age of 16 to become a resident and ruler of the cattery. She demanded breakfast before anyone else and her dinner was served on a platter! Her loud demands are missed by all of us. I miss her voice, her loud purr and the drool she dropped all over the floor to show her happiness when I pet her.

*Love, Jeffyne*

For “**Hydrox**” and all your spirit and courage...but mostly for all the love you gave to me in your last months.

*Love, Jeffyne*

For my beautiful “**Patches**” – there are no words to share how much I miss seeing you in your little heated basket all curled up...you were so soft inside your soul and your fur was like velvet.

*Love, Jeffyne*



*Who among us hasn't envied a cat's ability to ignore the cares of daily life and to relax completely.*

– Karen Brademeyer

## They Wait For Us at the “Rainbow Bridge”

The following poem was given to me just after my seventeen year old cat, “Patches,” went to the Rainbow Bridge. She went the same day as one of RESQCATS resident kitties named “Abby” who arrived after her owner abandoned her – she was 16 then and stayed at RESQCATS until she was 20. Letting one kitty go in a single day is hard enough...but knowing that two were getting old and quickly going downhill is almost unbearable. I still look for Patches every morning in the cattery – and how I miss that demanding voice and attitude of Abby – but they ARE with me...in my heart...forever and ever.

### Poem for Cats

For “Abby” and “Patches,” March 1, 2008

Author unknown

And God asked the feline spirit  
Are you ready to come home?  
Oh, yes, quite so, replied the precious soul  
And, as a cat, you know I am most able  
To decide anything for myself.

Are you coming then? asked God.  
Soon, replied the whiskered angel,  
But I must come slowly  
For my human friends are troubled  
For you see, they need me, quite certainly.



But don't they understand? asked God  
That you'll never leave them?  
That your souls are intertwined. For all eternity?  
That nothing is created or destroyed?  
It just is...forever and ever and ever.

Eventually they will understand,  
Replied the glorious cat  
For I will whisper into their hearts  
That I am always with them  
I just am...forever and ever and ever.



## Some Very Special Thank You's!

The volunteers at RESQCATS continued to care for the resident cats and my kitties while I took a winter sabbatical at my home in Oregon...what a wonderful group of people they are...they are both friends and family to me. Thank you so much!

**Linda Higbee** is always there to pitch in anytime! She was in charge of my home and fur family while I was away and there is no one I would trust more. She is my friend, confidant, right hand and an angel on Earth!

**Jesse Stimson** did a total face-lift in the cattery! He replaced all the old wire on the enclosures and helped with a remodel! It looks awesome!

The **Santa Barbara News-Press** honored RESQCATS by presenting us with the *Holiday Gift Fund for 2007*. The donation enabled us to do some much needed repairs, to upgrade our storage areas, to remodel some sections of the Cattery and to help with the cats! There could not possibly be another organization that could appreciate such a gift as much as RESQCATS!



**Graham Brown** from the **Santa Barbara News-Press** is at the Cattery to present a check to RESQCATS from the Holiday Gift Fund Drive!

### Paula and Melodie

**Haynes** (the Polar Bear People)

made their annual delivery of toys, litter, food, toys, beds and special gift packages for our Home At Last Program.

The *Home At Last Program* is designed to help adult kitties get homes by advertising them

and giving perspective adopters incentives such as food and gift packages. They make all the pillows for all the beds at RESQCATS and I just love going through all the new hand-made toys for the kittens and catnip for the adults. I want Paula and Melodie to know how much they are appreciated for all they do.

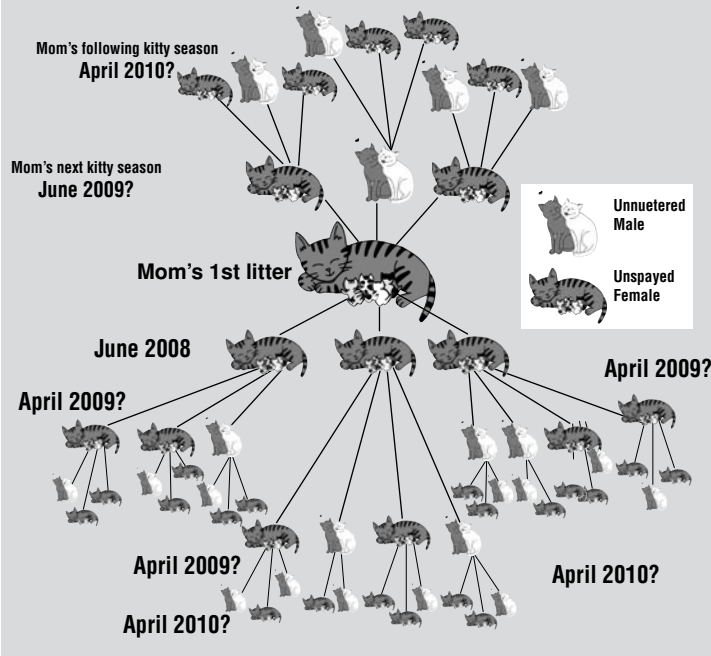
**Susan Leroy** is my kindred spirit...always ready for a challenge. She is our number one foster and will do ANYTHING I ask of her at 110%! Susan is always there to offer help, advise and listen... she is a volunteer... but she is also my friend.

A special thank you to **Rebecca Branscome** and **Julie Kaplan** for all your help!



**Paula and Melodie Haynes** (the “Polar Bear People” in memory of Polar Bear) make their annual delivery to RESQCATS at Christmas time!

# Millions of reasons to Spay and Neuter!



has always been a responsible pet owner but that it has just "gotten out of hand!" Now she has 15 to 18 cats that are all having kittens or are about to have kittens. They are all living inside a small apartment and kittens are being born in cupboards, drawers, trash and I hate to think of what else. Many are in-bred and it is not known how many die at just a few days old because of the conditions. The woman means well but she is what is known as a collector/hoarder. This mental illness usually begins with compulsive/obsessive disorder and escalates to the collector mentality. The collector starts out with the best of intentions, but soon feels that no one can take care of the animals like they can. Consequently, the animals suffer...and so do all the rescue people that become involved.

1 year:	12
2 years:	66
3 years:	382
4 years:	2201
5 years:	12,680
6 years:	73,041
7 years:	420,715
8 years:	2,423,316
9 years:	13,958,290
10 years:	80,399,780

**Get the message!**

## By The Numbers

Fortunately, the woman realizes that things are out of control and has agreed to allow us to help. Many of the young cats have already had several litters and now those that have survived the conditions are having their own litters!

Think about it! Every original female kitten from two years ago has given birth to litters at least once a year for the last two years. All of their kittens had at least one litter last Spring. AND they all have kittens this Spring! In addition, if it continues, the newborns the lady has now will also be producing next Spring!

Try to add all those kittens up!

So I often repeat the chart you see in this story so we can all understand the importance of spaying and neutering our pets...and I hope you will join me in fighting for a spay and neuter law to come into affect that will help to avoid so much suffering!

According to the Arizona Humane Society Education Department, an un-spayed female cat, her un-neutered mate, and all their offspring, producing two litters per year, with three surviving kittens per litter will produce the numbers above! ♦

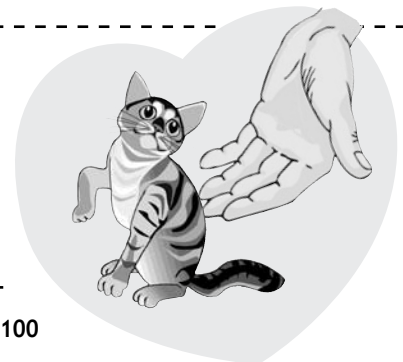
If I could be granted only one wish this year for RESQCATS and all the animals....it would be for a spay/neuter law to pass!

Each day, 70,000 puppies and kitten are born in the U.S. That is over 25 million each year. And the sad truth is...millions of these loving, healthy animals are put to death each year because homes cannot be found for all of them.

Every year at RESQCATS, a situation comes to our attention about someone who has neglected their cat by not spaying or neutering. This season, we are dealing with a woman who began with one stray pregnant female cat about two years ago. She states that she

# RESQCATS

A non-profit sanctuary dedicated to the rescue, care and adoption of abandoned cats and kittens



**Give a Helping Hand!**

I am enclosing my tax deductible donation :

- |                       |        |                     |       |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|-------|
| Angel in Heaven ..... | \$1000 | Caring Spirit ..... | \$100 |
| Miracle Worker.....   | \$500  | Supporter .....     | \$50  |
| Magic Maker .....     | \$250  | Helper .....        | \$25  |

Please designate my donation to the Polar Bear Fund to help kitties with special medical needs.

Make your check payable to:

RESQCATS  
P.O. Box 3852  
Santa Barbara, CA 93130  
(805) 563-9424

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

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

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

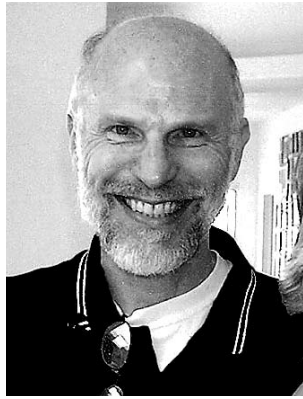
## Dedication

*This newsletter is dedicated to Denny Epperson.*

Denny is a long time volunteer at RESQCATS who was involved in a terrible accident in January while driving the Guide Dog Puppy Truck for the Blind. He suffered a broken pelvis, ribs and leg while saving his co-worker and 23 dogs with his expert driving when another truck jumped the median and came crashing into the puppy truck.

Many of you read the "Believe in Miracles" stories that are published in the newsletter from time to time. Well, Denny's survival is our miracle. I expect him to return to bathing kittens and helping me with all their medical needs soon....I gave him a deadline of June 1!

*We all love you & miss you Denny!*



## Wish List!

My only wish is for a spay/neuter law to pass so the endless suffering of unwanted animals and those of us who try to save them all will end!



"Why we Love RESQCATS!"



## The CAT-EGORICAL Dictionary

(from *My Life as a Cat*, compiled by Lois L. Kaufman)

### CAT-ABOLISM

*Feline blood pressure and digestion*

### CAT-ACLYSM

*Two toms out on the town*

### CAT-ACOMB

*Used with a catbrush*

### CAT-ALEPSY

*When kitty sleeps 24 hours a day*

### CAT-ALOG

*Kitty's diary*

### CAT-ALYST

*Feline therapist*

### CAT-ALYTIC CONVERTER

*Changes a kitten into a cat*

### CAT-AMARAN

*Boat for the owl and the pussycat*

### CAT-AMOUNT

*Pussy peak overlooking Katmandu*

### CAT-ARACTS

*Imperfect pupils*

### CAT-ASTROPHY

*Award for catching a mouse*

### CAT-ATONIC

*Feline summer drink*

### CAT-CALL

*Feline phone conversation*

### CAT-EGORY

*A kitty horror story*

### CAT-ENATION

*Kitty kingdom*

### CAT-HODE RAY

*Permits cable TV for pussycats*

### CAT-KIN

*Feline family*

### CAT-NAP

*The Big Sleep*

### CAT-NIP

*Feline love bite*

### CAT'S-CRADLE

*For kitty snoozes*

### CAT-SKILL

*Tabby talent*

### CAT-SUP

*A relish for pet food*

### CAT-ISH

*Four-fifths feline*

### CAT-TLE

*They say "Meow" instead of "Moo"*

### CAT-TY

*"Meow-Meow"*

### CATTY-CORNER

*When Tom has Jerry in a jam*

### CAT-WALK

*Pussy prowl*

### DE-CAT-HALON

*Track and field event at Cat Olympics*

### HEP-CAT

*Katharine's favorite feline*

### KAT-MANDU

*Capital of Nepalese cats*

### KITTY-HAWK

*Capital of Catenation*

### POPO-CAT-EPETL

*Mexican Cat with volcanic temper*



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**Visit our new ResQCats website**  
[www.RESQCATS.org](http://www.RESQCATS.org)

Please take the time to see our new website. You can read past issues for the heart warming stories or if you just want to see the entertaining photos. The designers are **Nathaniel and Laura Courtens**. It is beautiful. Thank you for all your hard work.