



# RESQCATS™

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

June 2006 Newsletter

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**A Miracle in a basket!**  
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## President's Message

Can you believe it?! It's Spring 2006 already and RESQCATS is beginning its ninth season. The volunteers are Spring cleaning, repairs and painting are almost finished, supplies are ordered and food bins are filled. We are ready to go.

We have already found homes for the first litter of kittens and their mom. "Katie" showed up on Teresa and Michele Chen's apartment doorstep **very** pregnant at the end of January. When Michele and Teresa called RESQCATS, I couldn't believe we had a pregnant mom out there already! She was due any day according to the veterinarian. We usually don't see newborns until late March or early April. Due to the warmer weather we experienced in December many of the female cats went into heat early and became pregnant almost two months before the "normal" season.

When Michele and Theresa brought Katie to RESQCATS, she had already been to their personal vet for her exam, had tested her for FIV and Feline Leukemia, and had been dewormed. I couldn't thank them enough for their compassion. I have stayed in touch with them since that day to give them updates.

Katie went into foster care immediately with Denny and Bonnie Epperson. I was traveling quite a bit during the winter months and knew Katie would be in purrfect hands with the Eppersons, two of our long time volunteers.

On February 13, 2006, Katie gave birth to EIGHT kittens. I have never seen such a large litter born to one tiny mom! She had one calico girl, one calico tabby girl with no tail, two black and white little boys (one of them had a tail only about an inch long), a black boy bursting with personality despite his half inch tail, and three darling orange and white tabby males. Katie was a wonderful mom to her kittens despite being overly protective of them the first few weeks after giving birth. She literally attacked anyone who came into her nursery. She appeared fine one second and raging the next (must have been hormonal and I'm sure some of you women know what that is like!) Denny actually came up with a defense outfit of goggles, gloves and protective overalls. He said it was the only way he could feel safe when entering the bathroom he had set up for Katie and her family. I would love to have seen his outfit when he entered the bathroom to check on the kittens, clean the litter box and feed Katie! Eventually her hormones returned to normal and the whole family was comfortable enough to move to RESQCATS.

As of April 21, 2006, all the kittens have found homes. The little black kitten with his stubby tail was adopted with Katie by Tim and Shelley Moore. We all celebrated that they would even consider adopting Katie with all those kittens to choose from. What a blessing they are!



**Jeffyne with Katie's babies**



**The Telson Collies and Katie's babies**

## Danny's Corner

(for all of you who don't know "Danny," he was adopted by Linda Turner almost two years ago. They lived together in Linda's van and have some very unique experiences to share... from Danny's perspective)



I case you're new I'm Danny!

Meow, everyone! It's great to be back in the RESQCATS newsletter to tell you about life with my mom, Linda....which is never DULL!

I used one of my nine lives earlier this year. Mom and I were sitting in the van at a lovely park overlooking the marina when all of a sudden the van accelerated with no warning! The van shot out over the cliff above the marine center and only the quick thinking of my mom saved us. She put the van into reverse, stood on the brakes and cut the engine all at one time. We stopped but were positioned on top of the guard rail elevated at a crazy angle!

Three hours later our van which weighs 1/2 of a ton was hoisted by cables and set on the road as gently as a feather by a police officer and his helpers. We were SAFE! And luckily no damage was done to the van so we returned to our home in the church parking lot and said a little prayer of thanks to our Guardian Angel.

My mom spent most of the new year knitting. She has knitted more than 35 scarves and I now have my own small black and white mohair scarf made from scraps of her previous projects. Hmmm. She has an idea for next Christmas for all the cats at RESQCATS!

I also celebrated my second birthday on March 29! I have grown into quite the handsome cat and can be very loving, too.

This year, we celebrated at a local café. The owner of the café even let me sit at the bar snuggled up against my mom before all the dinner crowd started to arrive. She filled a pretty blue and white dish with canned salmon. The finishing touch was the two blue candles she lit while the chef and employees sang Happy Birthday to me! How lucky I am!

I recently needed a new cardboard scratching board for the floor of the van. We created a lot of attention as I rode in the basket of the grocery cart as we searched for the perfect one. People are just not used to seeing a purrfectly behaved cat riding in a grocery cart. Everyone always want to stop and pet me...I love it...that's what makes our excursions so much fun.

My mom and I are going to be featured on "Inside Edition" sometime in May. The topic is about people living in their vehicles. I overheard mom talking to the program director and heard my name mentioned several times. She is so excited and I will be a STAR, too. We have already begun sprucing up our home on wheels for the press!

Mom began preparation for the filming by cleaning out and rearranging the van. She had the passenger seat removed so I truly have a "Danny's Corner" now. My carrier has a place next to her so that I can see her while she drives. But she decided to move it. Well, it looks nice but I did not like the relocation of my carrier one bit. So in my typical cat behavior I let her know by refusing to sleep in it. Finally, she got the message and moved a large basket with my sheepskin blanket back on top of the carrier next to her and I am happy once more. After all, it is my van, too!

After a winter break from RESQCATS, my mom is back volunteering there and I am once again exploring Jeffyne's rose garden but now I am sporting three new cat harnesses that she gave to me. Do I ever look smart in the black one with the yellow and green squiggle design...it is great for Spring!

Have a purrfect Summer  
Love and purrs, Danny



## President's Letter

*continued from page 1*

That brings us to a total of 970 adoptions since we began nine years ago! We are eagerly anticipating our **1000<sup>th</sup>** adoption and predict that one lucky kitty and his or her new guardian will be united sometime in early summer! What a special day that will be...**1000<sup>th</sup>** stray and abandoned cats and kittens will have found homes through RESQCATS! There will be a celebration with all the volunteers and we are brainstorming to come up with something special to do for the person that adopts the **1000<sup>th</sup>** kitty. Any ideas? E-mail me at [RESQCATS@aol.com](mailto:RESQCATS@aol.com) with your creative suggestions.

We were so lucky to start out the season with Katie and her babies... she was a healthy mom that was tame and someone had obviously cared for her at one time. Her babies were healthy, weaned perfectly because they had a Katie to nurse and had no fleas or diarrhea. We had none of the health issues to deal with that we expect to face with kittens off the street. We've been there and know how difficult it is to undo some of the circumstances these poor creatures experience. But we



Katie's bunch!

are ready and just need your help.

RESQCATS is a non-profit organization so your donation is tax deductible. But donating to RESQCATS goes farther than you realize. It will help us care for stray and abandoned cats and kittens. But it will also make you will feel good in your heart because you are making such a difference. Thank you so very much.

Jeffyne Telson  
President, RESQCATS, Inc.

P.S. The President's Message was written on April 20, 2006. At 7:30 the next morning I received a call about some less fortunate kittens than Katie's family. Three 10 day old kittens were found near a drainage pipe in a little nest vulnerable to coyotes and who knows what else. We are still trying to locate their mom if she is still alive. They were delivered to RESQCATS a few hours later by a caring lady who found them while walking her dog. We are bottle feeding them every 4 hours around the clock. They were a little dehydrated when they arrived, but as of this morning (April 23) they are doing great!

## Believe in Miracles

RESQCATS is fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers ...some have volunteered for several years. This story is about one of them and her dedication to an abandoned momma cat and her babies. The volunteer's name is Susan Leroy.

At Thanksgiving which is normally the time that RESQCATS begins to wind down from a long hard kitten season Susan called in a panic. The tale she had to tell was a horror story that will break your heart.

Susan's son and daughter-in-law, Jamie, live in Bakersfield. Jamie and a neighbor had noticed a big box in the middle of the road one day and decided to move it onto the sidewalk thinking that if it had fallen off a truck, the owner could back track and retrieve it. When the box was still on the sidewalk the next day, the neighbor went to investigate. The box had been duct taped shut. He noticed scratch marks on the cardboard that appeared to originate from inside the box. Upon opening it, he was shocked to see what was inside.

It contained two young kittens around 8 weeks old and two older kitties that were about 7 months old. Unfortunately, after being in the box for who knows how long, one of the younger kittens flew out of the box, ran down street and was never seen again despite the neighborhoods' efforts to find him. The neighbor then moved the box into his garage.

To his amazement, the next morning he discovered that one of the teen-age cats had given birth to six kittens. One of them was already dead. He called Jamie and asked, "What do I do?" Jamie knew that her mother-in-law had a lot of experience with rescue after volunteering at RESQCATS but it was Susan's granddaughter, Elyse who called. She said, "Grandma, what do we do?" Well, Susan had plenty of advice! "Get them out of that garage and into your bathroom and get those kittens on a heating pad... it is freezing in Bakersfield! I will be there as soon as I can."

Susan called me from the road on her way from Santa Barbara to Bakersfield and asked for help. She said, "Jeffyne, I know it is the end of the season and that you don't take kitties from out of the Santa Barbara county area, but can you help if I bring them back from Bakersfield?" Sometimes even my own rules are meant to be broken! So what if they are from Bakersfield!...this is Susan!...a wonderful volunteer who has given her heart and soul at RESQCATS... and I am **not** going to say NO. She agreed that she would foster the kittens and be responsible for helping to find homes for them when the time came since I would be traveling so much over the winter months. We agreed they could be RESQCATS kitties and that they would follow the RESQCATS medical protocol.

Within a couple of days, the mom and babies were in Susan's bathroom. It was set up like a little nursery with a heating pad and soft blankets, food and water for the mom, soft music playing in the background and thus, she began her job as foster guardian for "Nemris," the mommy cat and her five babies: "Connor," "MacKenzie," "Blackie," "Snowball" and

"Josephine" had a first class room in that bathroom.

I took the other young kitten and the teen-age kitty into the RESQCATS facility. They seemed healthy, but we never short change a kitty by not going through the normal protocol. Both went to the vet for exams, were tested for Feline Leukemia, were de-wormed, vaccinated and neutered before we found a home for them. "Lussa Kat" brought some very big smiles to Ing and Gaylord Welker when they came to pick him up on adoption day. He has helped to heal their hearts from the recent loss of their other cat. And the seven-month old teenager went to my dear friends, Kay and Steve Franz. They named this talker cat "Romeo" and within a few days rescued another kitty from their veterinarian and named her "Juliet!"

All did not go so well, however, for Nemris and her litter. Nemris was only about seven months old (which means she got pregnant at five month of age) and did not weigh more than six pounds herself. She was healthy...but she was a kitten herself having kittens. She probably had given birth to her babies prematurely due to the stress of being dumped in that cardboard box. All the kittens were underweight and they

were born in freezing temperatures in the neighbor's garage. Susan called me and said there was trouble.

Despite all the warmth and love Susan gave the kittens and the excellent veterinary support Beverly Holmes, DVM provided....we lost four of the little kittens with in 24 hours. It was devastating for all of us, not only for losing these little lives but for witnessing the pain Susan was feeling. It was one of the saddest times I can remember at RESQCATS. Susan and I placed four tiny little bodies that didn't weigh a total of eight ounces into a beautiful box. The box was lined with soft

blankets, a rose was placed with their sweet bodies, and I put a feather in with them so that their spirits could fly. They are buried in a special place in my yard called "Twilight Park."

Susan went home in tears to Nemris and her only remaining kitten. She said that even Nemris knew what had happened that day and that she also had tears in her eyes.

After careful research and communicating with the vet, we learned that the kittens suffered from, what is called, "fading kitten syndrome." There was nothing humanly possible that we could have done to save them. Premature birth, low birth weights, a young mom, stress and freezing temperatures just don't add up to survival.

"Josephine," "Blackie," "Snowball" and "MacKenzie" have their place in Heaven now where they can run and play and be the kittens we wished they could have been on Earth.



**Nemris and her only baby & friend, Miracle.**



**If you look closely you might see a tear in Nemeris' eye.**



## & RESQCAT'S photo contest!

Dear Jeffyne,

I hope you and all the kitties are doing well! We just love our two black beauties. Their names are "**Pepe**" and "**Vegamin**" (yes, named by my five year old son!) They bring so much joy to our home. Pepe is huge and thinks he is the boss, and Veggie is our little huntress, trapping an occasional wayward fly! I will send you a photo soon.

Best wishes,

**Dominique Lacerte**

Dear Jeffyne,

My daughter, Sarah Pedersen, adopted two black kitties from you about three years ago. These kitties have grown into wonderful adult cats. "**Jackson**" and "**Kennecott**" enhance Sarah's life. I am grateful to you for the loving care you gave to them at the beginning of their lives. Thank you for rescuing these two adorable animals. **RESQCATS** does amazing work. With gratitude and admiration,

**Cairn Pedersen**

(The following letter was written to **RESQCATS** volunteers, Bonnie and Denny Epperson, after a friend of theirs accompanied a perspective adopter to our sanctuary)

*Hi Bonnie and Denny,*

*I had my first visit to **RESQCATS** today. I got the **WHOLE** tour!*

*In my next life I am coming back as a cat and living there. I loved it!*

*I played with all the baby kittens and kissed all of them on the lips.*

*The kitties are so relaxed and comfortable. I am very excited for my friend, Marcella to adopt them. She is getting a black and white boy and a little calico girl without a tail (manx). Their names are "**Sweetheart**" and "**Heartbreaker**"*

*What a great place!*

**Jill**

Dear Jeffyne.

Thank you so much for giving us a tour of **RESQCATS**. We enjoyed our visit very much. We are still planning to open a cat shelter when we are older. You inspired us so much!

**RESQCATS** is amazing! We are very interested in volunteering. Would that be okay? Thank you again for showing us around.

Sincerely,

Courtney and Luna

(Age 10 and now volunteering every Saturday!)

Dear RESQCATS,

Thank you for "**Zuki**." She continues to grow, fascinate, and bring much joy to the household. And what a very beautiful cat she had become!

**Marian Jean**

Dear Jeffyne,

"**Teddy**" IS MY LOVE! He is still shy with strangers, but not me! Teddy says "thank you for rescuing me and sending me to Debbie."

I love the articles in your newsletters.

**Debbie Branch**

Dear Jeffyne and **RESQCATS**,

Brandon and I wanted to send you a donation for **RESQCATS**. Please use it in any way that would most benefit the kitties that don't have homes yet.

We absolutely love our two kitties so much. They have added such warmth and life to our home. Each day, they make us smile even brighter. A friend of mine said that sometimes cats attach themselves more to one person than to another, but that has not been true of "Snoop" and "Newton." They love both of us equally and we return the love. Snoop loves to have her belly rubbed and Newton always gets into Brandon's lap when he is on the computer. We couldn't be happier.

Thank you so much for taking care of them before God's will brought us to them. You are truly an angel!

Love,

**Brandon, Christine, Snoop and Newton Armstrong**



**Snoop & Newton**

*If you want to know the character of a man, find out what his cat thinks of him.*

~BRUCE SCHIMMEL

Hi Jeffyne,

I am enclosing a donation for the kitties. The additional \$1.79 is from Hugh, our seven year old son who found your December newsletter and its photos this morning.

Thanks for your work.

"Faro Night Rainbow" continues to thrive. She has her new sheepskin nest that seems especially appealing for winter windowsill napping.

Happy 2006 to the cattery and all its inhabitants and visitors. (cat and human!)

**Elizabeth Cook and family**

Dear Jeffyne,

Hello and Happy New Year. Thank you so much for the **RESQCATS** blanket. It has become the new sit-upon for

“Chloe” when Nathan works from home a couple of days a week. I realize that the blanket was “Bella’s” prize for winning the prize for “most beautiful” in the RESQCATS photo contest. But, as we have discovered with most things, Chloe pulls rank!

Both **Bella** and **Chloe** continue to enlighten our lives. Ultimately, I think these silly girls make up happier people. Bella enlivens my mornings with her gregarious vocalizations and her helpfulness in the bathroom when I’ve just gotten out of the shower...wet body and cat fur...great combination! We have discovered that Bella is actually part dog. Her favorite game is “play fetch!” I have counted up to 15 retrievals with her favorite toy, one of my many pony-tail holders that she regularly steals from my jewelry case. She is so smart.

**Chloe** is the “snuggle bug” when we are in bed on a lazy weekend morning and certainly the designated lap kitty during TV time. **Bella** prefers to be held and walked around...such funny differences! Both girls continue to be super affectionate and playful with each other and with us. Everyday gets better and more fun somehow! Going home to the kitties has become the favorite part of my day!

I have started taking **Bella** and **Chloe** to work once or twice a week with me. They are VERY popular and well received. I think people just have more fun at work with a couple of furry beasts wandering around. And of course, **Chloe** is so helpful with any typing that needs to be done. Or, if the pointer on the computer monitor needs to be followed, she is there for you!

Anyway, we just wanted to say hello and thank you for all you do. We talk about you and RESQCATS all the time.

Love,

**Laurie Pfeiffer**

Dear Jeffyne

Enclosed are some new pictures of “**Snow**” and “**Shadow**.” I cannot begin to tell you how much I love my precious girls! They are the sweetest, most adorable, funniest girls I have ever seen. Snow’s favorite place in the evening is beside me on the couch with her front paws and head on my knee, while Shadow stretches out by my feet. I think they love me as much as I love them. They follow me from room to room, and have to know what I am doing ALL the time.

I think of you often and thank you so very much for entrusting me with my “pretty girls.” Snow and Shadow wanted you to have this donation to help out other pretty girls and boys not so luck as they are.

Love from all three of us,

**Pat McCloskey, Snow and Shadow**

(Readers: you may recall that Pat gave Snow and Shadow a home a year and a half ago after they arrived at RESQCATS abused and neglected the first three years of their lives)

Hi Jeffyne,

Well it has been so long since we have either seen each other or spoken to each other. I have attached some pictures of our two adorable little girls “**Destiny**” and “**Kennedy**” who



**Snow & Shadow**

are growing up so fast. They love to climb, and I must add they like to climb into bags and sit in suitcases, jump around and most of all they love to be cuddled. Destiny is the grey one with white socks and **Kennedy** is the all grey one. Destiny is the leader and more rambunctious one and **Kennedy** well let’s just say she likes to follow her sister around and jumper when she least expects it. We allow them to go outside on our patio only when we are outside enjoying the sun so we can watch them. They are sneaky little girls. They are very aware of birds now. Every morning I open our patio doors and they run to the screen door and watch the birds and they meow at them to get their attention. They run from door to door if the birds

*The little furry buggers are just deep, deep wells you throw all your emotions into.*

~BRUCE SCHIMMEL

move up or down our patio. The best is when the birds walk on the patio and they are at the kitten’s level then they really meow at them. It is the cutest thing.

Jeffyne, I can’t tell you how much we really enjoy our two cats and we hope to adopt at least one more. We really miss them when we are gone and always look forward to picking them up everyday and saying hello, giving them kisses and talking to them. Of course they can get out of hand and we have had to squirt them with the squirt bottle at times but with any pet they learn within time. Now when they seem me pick up the squirt bottle they just run.

I hope you enjoy these photos and please pass them along to the parents who have adopted their brother and two other sister. I believe in their litter there were five. Who ended up adopting the little boy he was so cute. Steve and I often wonder if he got adopted.

I hope all is well with you and please send me a newsletter so I can stay informed as to what is going on with RESQCATS`.

Can I enter my cats in the Photo Contest. If so can I enter “**Destiny**” who is sitting in a plastic bag” all packed up and no where to go”! And, “**Kennedy**” sticking her tongue out “That ice cream was good”!

Please take care of yourself and keep in touch

Sincerely,

**Rachel and Steve Martinez**



**You’ve gotta have someone to lean-on, Betsy McCall & Teddy**

**"Letters to RESQCATS"  
Photo Contest Winners**



**RESQCATS "Most Darling" - MIRACLE**  
Miracle's guardian is Stephine Rounce.



**RESQCATS "Most Motherly" - MOSLEY & KATIE**  
Mosley & Katie's guardians are Shelly and Tim Moore and Beth Gorsky.



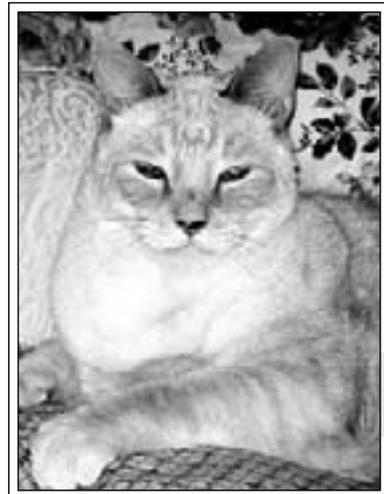
**RESQCATS "Most Relaxed" - PUMPKIN**  
Pumpkin's guardian is Gloria Dettner.



**RESQCATS "Most Precious" - NEFRIT & ROXY**  
Nefrit & Roxy's guardians are Jean Faison and Marcella Young.



**RESQCATS "Cuddliest" - PIP**  
Pip's guardians are Murray and Esta.



**RESQCATS "Most Elegant" - VALENTINO**  
Valentino's guardian is Joanna Haynes.

**"Letters to RESQCATS"  
Photo Contest Winners**



**RESQCATS "The Sweetest" – ZOE & EMMA**  
Zoe and Emma's guardian is Roxine Brown.



**RESQCATS "Most Beautiful" – DARLIN LUNA**  
Darlin's guardian is Sara Oberman.



**RESQCATS "The Funniest" – DESTINY**  
Destiny's guardians are Rachel and Steve Martinez.



**RESQCATS "The Cutest" – WIZARD**  
Wizard has many guardians as a resident at RESQCATS.



**RESQCATS "Most Adorable" – TEDDY & WINNIE**  
Teddy & Winnie's guardian is Candace Burton.

**How To Enter The Photo Contest!**

RESQCATS is having a "Photo Contest" for each of our Newsletters.

To be eligible, just mail or email us your cutest and/or funniest and/or sweetest kitty pictures along with your letters. (If you mail, be sure to write your name and your kitty's name on the back of the photo(s)). There is no limit to the number of entries you can submit.

Our volunteers and staff will choose a photo from the "Letters to RESQCATS." The winners receive a RESQCATS prize and will be featured in the Photo Contest space.

Because of the huge response to Photo Contest, we are having to expand the categories for entries: there will be one for CUTEST, one for FUNNIEST, and one for the SWEETEST, but to include more of these adorable photos, we will pick a few more appropriate categories for the other great photos.

So have your digital cameras ready for the action. We look forward to the fun of picking the winners!

(Please note: We prefer to receive digital photos, that have not been adjusted, sent via email.)

**Thank you for your tremendous response! Keep up the GOOD work!**

## Some Special Thank You's!



**Robert and Diana Clark** made an extraordinary donation to RESQCATS that made them "Angels in Heaven" five times over. I actually called Robert, my long-time friend since Junior High School, to see if there was a mistake when I opened the donation envelope! I am still in awe of their generosity and grateful to them beyond explanation. They have no idea how many kitties they will help in 2006. Thank you Robert, Diana, Cathryn and Carolyn from the bottom of my heart!

**Denny and Bonnie Epperson** surprised RESQCATS when they sold their car and donated all the money from the sale to RESQCATS! They made the donation in memory of their dear elderly kitty, "Pasha" who went to Heaven suddenly but peacefully. Denny and Bonnie have been an integral part of RESQCATS through their volunteer work for many years. They have done so much to help and have been foster parents to many special kittens...a huge job that very few people are willing to tackle. But this gesture of compassion just blew me away! If half the people in the world had half the compassion and generosity that Denny and Bonnie have, we would live in a world of beauty and peace.

**Dr. Greg Haskell** gave "Patch", a special needs kitty, the purrfect home!

**Susan Leroy** fostered "Nemris" and "Miracle", a young mommy cat and her only surviving kitten even after the saddest of times when four other kittens died of "fading kitten syndrome" in her arms. She found the emotional strength and courage to nurture and love these two and even found an adoptive home for them... TOGETHER!

**Linda Higbee** took care of the RESQCATS residents (as well as my own personal kitties, collies and tortoisés) for almost three months while I took a much needed winter break.

**Denny and Bonnie Epperson** fostered "Katie", a pregnant mom who gave birth to EIGHT kittens in their bathroom! When Katie's hormones "kicked in" she went into "attack mode" the first few weeks after giving birth. Denny had to wear gloves, goggles and overalls to enter the bathroom and check on things in the "nursery." What a brave soul! Katie and her babies eventually moved to RESQCATS, the hormones subsided, Denny retired his "armor." All of the kittens have found homes now and one lucky kitten, "Lionheart," was adopted along with his mommy, Katie.

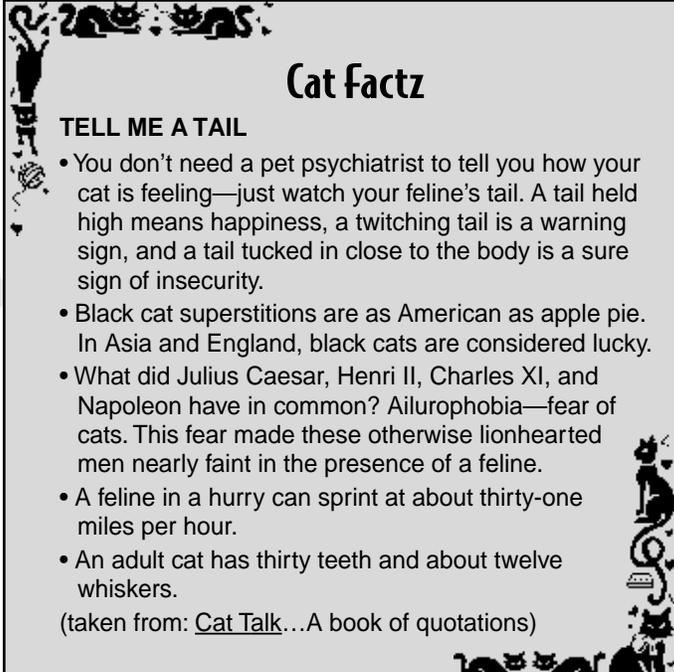
**Judy Mustard.** After losing her mother, Dione, last year, Judy donated part of her inheritance to RESQCATS. She cared for her mom's elderly cat for the last year but that kitty died one day before the anniversary of her mother's death. It broke Judy's heart all over again. That same day she showed up at RESQCATS with food and fluids for a resident cat who was on the same diet and fluid support. It amazed me that even through her pain, Judy could be so giving. She and her

husband, Arnie, are long time supporters of our work here and have very special places in my heart.

**Jim and Jenny McKenna** gave a home to "Cameo" (aka "Tibby"), a five year old kitty that had been attacked by two dogs and required major surgery to survive. I had breakfast with Jim and Jenny while visiting San Diego last November and told them about "Tibby." I shared that it would be difficult to find a home for a solid black five year old cat because everyone just wants kittens. I didn't think too much of our conversation as I walked back to the hotel. But, by the time I got back to the room, I had a message that Jim and Jenny would love to give her a home...sight unseen and they said they would take my word on just how sweet she was. I couldn't believe my ears and played the message over again just to make sure. Tibby went home with them in January after healing from her surgery and Jim says "It is a match made in Heaven." She even gets to travel between their two homes in San Diego and La Quinta, CA.

**Paula and Melodie Haines** (the Polar Bear Angels) donated handmade cat toys, flannel pillows they made for the cat baskets, treat bags, litter and so much more to RESQCATS in order to help the 2006 arrivals. They work all year-round making toys and such and deliver it all with their big smiles in memory of their cat "Polar Bear." He was a special needs kitty adopted from RESQCATS several years ago for their dad. It is in honor of Polar Bear that the special fund is set up to help kitties with special needs care beyond our normal protocol.

**Hayden Telson**, my 10 year old grandson, spent his entire Spring break volunteering at RESQCATS. He helped with all the morning and evening chores of cleaning, feeding and medicating the cats. He assisted in painting all the floor boards and doors, organizing the cabinets, drawers and storage areas and spent a lot of fun time with Katie and her eight kittens. He never asked for anything in return...only a couple of trips to Starbucks. He is a hard worker who makes work a lot of fun! Thank you so much, Hayden! I love you!



### Cat Factz

**TELL ME A TAIL**

- You don't need a pet psychiatrist to tell you how your cat is feeling—just watch your feline's tail. A tail held high means happiness, a twitching tail is a warning sign, and a tail tucked in close to the body is a sure sign of insecurity.
- Black cat superstitions are as American as apple pie. In Asia and England, black cats are considered lucky.
- What did Julius Caesar, Henri II, Charles XI, and Napoleon have in common? Ailurophobia—fear of cats. This fear made these otherwise lionhearted men nearly faint in the presence of a feline.
- A feline in a hurry can sprint at about thirty-one miles per hour.
- An adult cat has thirty teeth and about twelve whiskers.

(taken from: Cat Talk...A book of quotations)



## In Memory, Celebration or Honor of Some Very Special Friends and Family (human, feline and canine)



✿ In memory of my Dad, Dalton Munger who died on April 10, 2005 and for Katie's kitties. I miss them both.

*Patty Fry*

✿ For your wonderful work and in memory of "Blackie."

*Betty Oberacker*

✿ In memory of "Sleepy" for Petra Gammons

*From Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ For "Socks" and Lara Polito

*From Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ My donation is in memory of Maggie, Chuck and Erin's, "Puffy"—who died this summer ...and For Denny and Bonnie Epperson's "Pasha"

*Nancy Foley*

✿ Remembering 18-1/2 years of sweetness from my little "Chelsea".

*Susan Leroy*

*We are all with you, Susan. From RESQCATS*

✿ Remembering "Bogie" and his people Danielle and Andrew Spitz

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ In honor of "Chloe," a kitty we adopted from RESQCATS

*Alex and Joyce Carasa*

✿ This year's donation to RESQCATS is in the name of my daughter, **Suzanne Wells**. I am so fortunate to have her as a daughter...she has such a big kind heart.

*Alice Harper*

✿ In loving memory of "Mandy"

*Janice and Bob Contons*

✿ In special memory of the four little RESQCATS kittens that play in Heaven:

*"MacKenzie," "Blackie," "Snowball" and "Josephine"*

*Susan Leroy and all of us at RESQCATS*

✿ Thinking of "Terri" and Janet and Bill Lunt

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ Always in my heart...in memory of "Moocher"

*Roger West*

✿ Always missed and loved...in memory of "Pasha"

Thinking of Denny and Bonnie Epperson.

*Everyone at RESQCATS*

✿ For "Winston," whose heart beat ever so strongly for his four short years on Earth with two beautiful guardians, Pam and Rudy Perez.

*The volunteers at RESQCATS*

✿ For "Tacker"—remembering the spirit you had for life.

*The Sacks family and the Telsons*

✿ Remembering "Noni" and Lisa Johnston

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ For "DaSheng" and Juanita and Steve Carney

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ In memory of "Lotus" and for the people who loved her..Valeria and Jackson

*Thinking of you...Jeffyne*

✿ Thinking of "Sampson" and his people, Tracey and Dave Messner

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ In memory of "Doris Day" and thinking of April Howard

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ For "Misha" and Michelle Holmes

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ In memory of "Penny" and Barbara and John Frair

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ In memory of "Chelsea." Even 18-1/2 years is not long enough. Thinking of you, Susan Leroy

*From all of us at RESQCATS*

✿ Thinking of you and your wonderful spirit..."Tacker"

*The Sacks family and the Telsons*

✿ For "Tiger" who was blessed to have Donna and Bill Higbee as her guardians. You are so missed.

*From Linda Higbee*

✿ In memory of my mother, **Dione Mustard** and for her cat, "Gray"

*With love from your daughter, Judy*

✿ In memory of "Richard" Ed Brailzil for Yvonne.

*Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara*

✿ Always with us in spirit and never forgotten... for "Bonnie"

*Sheryl and Ed Fierro*

✿ Wait for me on the Rainbow Bridge...in memory of "Miejek"

*Jeffyne*



## Ten Reasons why Two Kittens Are Better Than One

*The decision to adopt a kitten is an exciting event, but not to be entered into lightly. Kittens require an enormous amount of care, which, of course, is compensated by the extreme pleasure of watching them grow and develop. Sometimes, it is better to adopt two kittens, whether this is your first cat or an addition to a feline family. I put the challenge to my forum members to explain why two kittens are better than one. They came up with some very solid and creative arguments for two kittens.*

### Reason #:

#### 1. You're saving two lives instead of one.

"If it's kitten season, that's one more kitten that will get a home instead of growing into an adult which will decrease its chance of getting adopted." It is entirely true that kittens are much easier to place than adult cats, and the 15-month-old cat you see in the shelter today is very likely a holdover from last year's crop of kittens. Another way of looking at it is that it's better to get all the kittens adopted out right away, to give the older cats a better chance at finding homes.

#### 2. One kitten can become lonely

A kitten left alone during the day can become lonely and bored, which sometimes can lead to mischief. Two kittens will never be lonely, especially if they are siblings. In fact, you'll often find situations in shelters and rescue group adoptions where a cage will contain two kittens with a sign, "These kittens may be adopted only as a pair." Shelter volunteers recognize that siblings really need to stay together. And since shelters are often frightening, unfriendly places to small creatures, unrelated cats often form close bonds that should be respected when adoption time comes.

*Two cats can live as cheaply as one, and their owner has twice as much fun.*

~LLOYD ALEXANDER

#### 3. One kitten can just drive an older cat nuts.

Although it might sound contrary, an older, established cat will probably accept two kittens better than one. One kitten will seek out the older cat as a playmate, or worse, tease and pester the senior cat which can cause stress to an older cat. The kitten in return, will be "rewarded" for his playful efforts with hisses and swats. Two kittens will expend their energy in play with each other, leaving their older "uncle" to relax in peace.

#### 4. Two kittens will "self-train."

Kittens learn by copying. If one kitten is quick to learn appropriate litter box use, the other will be likely to copy. They also help each other with grooming and washing-up after meals soon becomes a ritual with two kittens.

#### 5. They help each other burn off energy.

Even the most devoted human caregiver can quickly become exhausted by trying to keep up with the energy of a single kitten. Two kittens will wear each other out, leaving their human parent free to just enjoy watching them. The downside to this, of course, is you sometimes have double trouble, too.

#### 6. Fewer behavior problems with two kittens.

Many people who experience behavior problems with kittens find that some of them go away when they adopt another playmate. What may be perceived as mischief is often just the result of boredom. Much like their human counterparts, kittens sometimes misbehave because "negative attention is better than no attention."

#### 7. Curiosity overcomes "food finicky-ness."

If one kitten is finicky about food, the belligerence is often overcome by curiosity at what its *sibling* is eating. (Feed one cat Same Old, the other cat New Stuff, and they both end up tasting the new stuff.)"

#### 3. They act as pillows for one another.

Kittens will often play so hard that they simply flop where they are, and more likely than not, they will flop next to (or on top of) each other. There is no sight so endearing as two kittens curled up together for a nap. Their peaceful innocence can soften the heart of even the grumpiest curmudgeon, and the sight of that blissful moment will wash clean the slate of their previous misdoings.

#### 9. Having two kittens is insanely fun.

They're just so much darn fun to watch!

#### 10. They will each have a friend for life.

Two kittens who grow up together will almost always be lifelong friends. Although they will sometimes have their little squabbles (what friends don't?) you will more often see them engaging in mutual grooming, playing together, and sleeping with their best pal.

*If you are considering adopting a kitten, think about your best friend and consider whether you would deprive your kitten of the enrichment a friend brings to life.*



## Custom Pet Enclosures

Many of you who have visited **RESQCATS** have commented about the outside enclosures for the resident cats. Some of you have asked who built them and said that you love the idea and showed interest in doing the same thing for your kitty. Well, I have my own personal builder...his name is "Mr. Jeffyne," ...some of you may also know him as my husband, Mitch.

And while Mitch isn't available to build your enclosure, the good news is that **RESQCATS** has located a "Mr. Jeffyne" that may be able to help you build that enclosure. His name is Steve Kloppenberg and he builds custom pet enclosures to fit your individual needs.

Although, I have not had the opportunity to have Steve build enclosures for **RESQCATS**, we do share the same philosophy about providing a safe environment for your cats if they are going to have access to the outdoors. A protected outside enclosure does just that.

Steve will design an enclosure for your specific needs and budget. I am enclosing a brochure that features some of his work. If you should decide to pursue having a custom pet enclosure built by Steve, please be sure to mention that you learned about him from **RESQCATS**. He will also make a donation to our organization!

## Believe in Miracles

*continued from page 3*

Despite her sadness, Susan found the emotional courage to continue to foster Nemris and her baby, "Connor." I'm not sure how she found the strength in her heart to do it...I think her compassion, determination and willingness to give are her strengths and they took over in her time of sadness and devastation.

She decided to rename the only surviving kitten. From that day on, she was called "Miracle." And that she was. She had beaten the odds!

I don't think it ever even came up in conversation or that there was ever a question in any of our minds that Nemris and Miracle needed to be adopted together. As Miracle grew, Nemris regained all the kitten qualities that she had lost during motherhood. She and her daughter romped, played and even slept together like siblings rather than mother and daughter. It was beautiful.



**Stephanie with Nemris and Miracle**

BJ Hawley, one of our volunteers, wrote a heartwarming story for the Pet of the Week ad in the newspaper. Once everyone saw the picture of Miracle, the calls started coming in faster than the phone could be answered. But we needed that special person who would take both Nemris and Miracle. Susan screened each caller and I have a feeling she was even tougher than I can be on the telephone interview! Finally, the purrfect person called. Stephanie Rounce became Nemris and Miracle's new guardian. I know it took a piece of Susan's heart when they left. But knowing that these two special kitties found such a wonderful home with Stephanie has helped our hearts to continue to mend after such loss.

Susan was granted a "Miracle" when that little kitten survived despite the odds...and I was granted a Miracle when Susan joined RESQCATS.

## Some More of Our Very Special Kitty's



**Shadow**



**Snow**



**Winnie & Betsy McCall**

# RESQCATS.

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

My Tax deductible donation is enclosed:

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: \_\_\_\_\_

## How Do You Spell Volunteer?

**Very special people who**

**Offer**

**Love**

**Unconditionally and**

**Never cease**

**To amaze me with their**

**Enthusiasm to help out and their**

**Empathy in caring for**

**Resqcats**

**Stray and abandoned cats and kittens.**



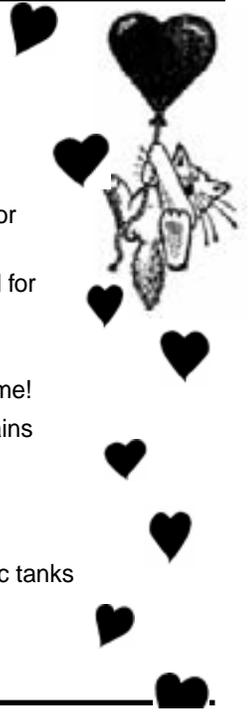
The heart and soul of **RESQCATS** are our volunteers. They are responsible for everything from cleaning enclosures, fostering kittens, building new areas for the kitties as well as repairing existing ones, designing the newsletter, writing and placing ads in the local paper, socializing kittens and so much more. They are the backbone of RESQCATS!

Each volunteer offers something special and unique to the organization. Some of them have become the best of friends as they show up to help year after year. Their compassion for the kitties, support of me and willingness to help is unbelievable. I sometimes wonder how I ever got so lucky to have them as part of my life. It is hard work here... physically and emotionally. But they show up year after year eager to go!

I want to thank all of you that have "stuck with it" all these years and a hearty "welcome" to all our new volunteers.

## Wish List

- 🐾 Cat teaser toys to send home with the kittens and their new guardians
- 🐾 Scoopable cat litter
- 🐾 Nutromax canned kitten food—chicken or turkey flavor
- 🐾 Friskees, Fancy feast, etc. canned food for some of the feral residents
- 🐾 Small cat condos
- 🐾 New cardboard carriers for the ride home!
- 🐾 Simple Solution (gallon size) for cat stains and odors (found at Petco)
- 🐾 Petco gift card
- 🐾 Bleach for sanitizing
- 🐾 Laundry detergent that is safe for septic tanks
- 🐾 Dryer sheets
- 🐾 Small fleece or flannel baby blankets



Newsletter Design Donated by  
Keith & Christine Flannery

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