



Little Mia

We're in the middle of Our 10th Kitty Season!

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



Newsletter and Fundraiser for September 2007

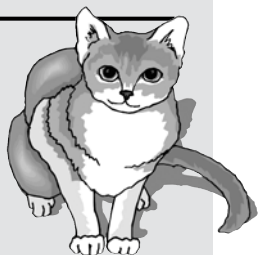
What's in this Issue...

Cat in Moonlight.....2
 Diary of a Pet Sitter.....4
 Some of **RESQCATS** Friendly Faces.....4
 "A Home At Last"5
 A Candle For The Cats6
 Letters to **RESQCATS**6
 In Memory, Celebration & Honor
 of Some Very Special Friends.....8
 For All Animal Lovers8
 Millions of Reasons To Spay & Neuter ..9
 Donation Form9
 Dedication10
 A Special Thank You.....10
 Wish List10

*(Adult) Cats are
Wonderful Friends*

Gentle eyes that see so
 much, paws that have
 the quiet touch,
 Purrs to signal "all is well"
 and show more love than words could tell.
 Graceful movements touched with pride,
 a calming presence by our side
 A friendship that takes time to grow
 Small wonder why we love them so.

~ Author Unknown



President's Message

WHEW! Finding time to get away from all the cats and kittens this Spring and Summer to write a newsletter has been tough. I hope you will forgive me for being late in keeping you up to date and for this newsletter being a little shorter in length this time. My priority has clearly been with the cats and kittens, but it is also my responsibility to keep all of you informed since your support is the backbone of RESQCATS. You have not been forgotten!

As of the writing of this letter, July 30, we are halfway through the season and we have placed 79 stray and abandoned cats and kittens. And of course, each one leaves here only after it has been to the vet for a health exam, has received a distemper vaccination and worming medication, has been tested for Feline Leukemia and FIV and has been spayed or neutered. We continue to screen potential guardians beginning with an informative phone interview and then proceed to adoption only if the person qualifies. It is so important to me that the kitties go to the right homes. People are required to agree to and sign a contract stating that their new kitty or kitties will always be indoors and that under no circumstances will they ever be declawed.

But placing the purrfect kitty in a home goes beyond that. It is important for me to know if there are children in the family, other animals, roommates, if the landlord has given approval if the person is renting, etc. All the information helps me in finding the right kitty for each particular situation. For example: roommates decide they want to get a kitten...whose kitten will it be when they are no longer roommates and move on? Another example: A family has a young toddler so it might be wiser to suggest an adult or older kitten. I do my best to inform people that they are choosing a family member and that it is a lifetime commitment to the cat. I have learned how important it is to explain to everyone about that lifetime commitment because I receive so many calls from people who do not want their cats anymore for one reason or another....none of which I understand. My standards are high, but that is the only way I can sleep at night....knowing that I have done my best to find a lifetime home for such special creatures.

We have seen three litters born at RESQCATS this year. "Isis" had six babies in March, "Vanity" had four in April and "Sugar" gave birth on July 24. It has been wonderful to watch them nurse and care for their babies and to see the babies grow up and make so many people happy when they adopt them.

It has been sad for me to see the moms left behind and I wonder how long they will have to stay before someone



Jeffyne gets personal loving attention from Mia, while Farrow enjoys receiving!

continues on page 3

Cat in Moonlight

*Through moonlight's milk
She slowly passes
As soft as silk
Between tall grasses.
I watch her go
So sleek and white,
As white as snow,
The moon so bright
I hardly know
White moon, white fur,
Which is the light
And which is her.
~ by Douglas Gibson*



Written on July 29, 2007...

Saying good-bye to one of the RESQCATS resident cats is never easy, but some just take a bigger piece of our hearts than we would have ever thought possible. I have spent the last three weeks since "Snowie's" death emotionally running from the hurt in my heart. The newness of her loss is still very raw and expressing my feelings in spoken words uncovers my stoic face and opens up such a vulnerable part of my being that I thought I would write about her in an attempt to face the loss, remember her, honor her and thank her for all she brought to many of our lives at RESQCATS.

Snowie arrived sometime in 2001 with four little white kittens that were all easily adopted. As usual, I was left fretting about what to do with her. She was an adult, between two and five years old, quite beautiful with thick white fur and golden-green eyes, but very, very shy. Finding someone to adopt her in the middle of kitten season proved to be very difficult. Even if she had been the kind of kitty that just wanted to crawl into someone's lap, her chances of adoption in any reasonable amount of time were slim...it's the same old story..."I just want a kitten....for all the usual and misinformed reasons!

I decided to see if she would do well at the local animal shelter where I thought her chances of a speedy adoption would be much higher since they do not operate by appointments as we do at RESQCATS. Perhaps someone would wander into the shelter and see her, fall in love and take her home to live happily ever after. I had a volunteer take her to the shelter to ask for their help in finding her that special home.

Evelyn Kert returned within an hour in tears. She was told that Snowie had skin cancer and it would take six months to clear it up. Snowie had already been to the vet for a thorough exam and there were no visible physical signs of any such skin cancer.

I was shocked by how I felt Evelyn had been treated. The idea that I was sending Snowie to the shelter due to her medical condition was something I needed to clarify with their personnel. I decided to visit the shelter right then and there.

To make a long story short...I brought Snowie back to RESQCATS. It was one of the few times I have dealt with the shelter... and one of the last.

A few weeks later, Snowie was adopted to a sweet, older lady...but it only lasted a week and she was back at RESQCATS to stay.

Keeping so called "un-adoptable" cats was not something I had ever considered when I started the organization in 1997. Most shelters euthanize a kitty such as Snowie and that may have been her fate if I had not gone back to get her that day at the shelter.

It is a huge commitment to care for a resident cat for its entire lifetime both emotionally and financially...maybe that is why so many shelters don't make that commitment. But there was not a question in my mind or a hesitation in my heart that Snowie could stay at RESQCATS forever!

BJ Hawley promised to provide a lifetime of albacore tuna in water and as many "bouncy" balls to play with that Snowie wanted if she could stay. I still have the "contract" that she gave to me with her pledge!

We started to see some problems with Snowie about a year after she took up residency.

Unfortunately, the first years of her life had been on the street and she did seem to love the sun. She loved to sunbathe in the overhead tunnels that connect to the outdoor enclosures. It didn't matter how much shade cloth I put on the tunnel runs, she sought out even the tiniest sunny spot to park her little pink nose and white ears. The amount of cumulative sun from her years on the street finally caught up with her and we began to see small scabs and sores on the tips and edges of her ears.

The vet exam revealed skin cancer on her ears and her eyes were infected. No antibiotic seemed to give her any relief. Upon closer examination, the vet discovered that she had an eyelash that grew inward and severely irritated her eyes. The vet said he could surgically do a little "nip and tuck" under her eyes to turn the eyelash outward but neither of the two choices I was given about the skin cancer on her ears was pretty. If nothing was done, the cancer would continue and she would be miserable... or we could have surgery done to amputate the flaps of her ears and save the future suffering. I opted for the surgery.

I remember visiting Snowie at the hospital immediately after her surgery. Seeing her there made me feel awful. Her entire little head from what had been from ear to ear was nothing but stitches and she also had sutures under each eye to help with her entropic eyelashes. She was on heavy medication for her pain...but that certainly was not going to help with the pain I felt for her.

I went home in tears and called the volunteers to forewarn them that she looked very different without her ears and that it would be a tough couple of weeks for her ahead.

Snowie came home the next day with an Elizabethan collar to protect her from scratching the top of her head and tearing out her stitches plus several days worth of pain medication.

BJ showed up at 6:30 every single morning for the next two or three weeks to remove the Elizabethan collar so Snowie could have her albacore tuna and baby food if she felt like eating. All the volunteers visited and told Snowie how beautiful she was without her ears. As the days passed she seemed to really look forward to their visits and all the attention. She recovered beautifully over the next month both physically and emotionally. She loved belly rubs and was quick to roll in her basket from side to side if she thought you missed a spot! She humbled us all with her stoic recovery and ability to feel just as beautiful without her ears. She looked like a little white seal peeking over the edge of her basket with her jewel-like eyes. Her fur was as thick as a polar bear so brushing her could go on forever.

Once Snowie was fully recovered, we opened her enclosure door and let her return to mingle with the other cats. Although she kept herself at a distance from some of the other cats, they sensed Snowie's shyness and several took her on as their personal mission to intimidate. She hesitated to come into the weather proof part of the cattery to eat and we often found her sitting in one of the tunnels or outdoor enclosures in the rain. She was also clumsy and could not always get away from any altercations. We even wrapped all the driftwood ramps with rope so that she wouldn't continue to fall. It didn't seem fair for this sweet soul to be so frightened all the time so we built an indoor enclosure just for Snowie with an overhead trail that connected to her very own outdoor enclosure. The outside enclosure sat in the midst of several avocado trees in a very shady spot and

continues on next page

Cat in Moonlight

continued from page 2

we covered the sun-exposed part of her tunnel with shade cloth. She spent most of her time in her basket in the outdoor enclosure always seeking the most amount of sunshine to peek through the trees. Her inside driftwood ramp was double in width to accommodate her clumsiness and we wrapped it with rope as well. Now she was comfortable, away from the other cats and came inside to rest in her enclosed basket on a heating pad during the cold or rainy days.

Over the next few years, Snowie required several more surgeries to remove some pre-cancerous spots from her nose and forehead. As she got older and surgery and anesthesia became more of a risk, we tried some alternative creams to help with the cancer spots. Treating her skin cancer was an ongoing part of Snowie's life that required check-ups every six months and continuous treatment. She accepted it all with grace and understanding.

Snowie captured the hearts of several of the volunteers over the years who all made special time to visit her, brush her and give belly rubs: BJ Hawley, Evelyn Kert, Linda Higbee and Vikki Taylor miss her and I am sure it is hard for them to come to RESQCATS some days and see her empty outside enclosure.

My visits with her were something I didn't talk about much. I feel vulnerable around people when they witness the softness and gentleness that she brought out in me as I am supposed to be tough and strong enough to handle all that RESQCATS requires of me. In secret, I whispered to her about how beautiful she was without her ears and hoped she forgave me for having them removed. That is a burden I have always put upon myself...Snowie never did. She humbled me and allowed me the chance to just

breathe and slow down for a while with our evening visits.

Very suddenly Snowie's heart failed on July 5, 2007. Her ultrasound the next day was not good. I did not want her to suffer each time her chest filled with fluid from a failing heart. I did not think trying to find the right dosage of three different medications twice a day with many follow up trips to the vet to monitor her heart and kidneys and de-hydration level and all the other medical "stuff" was fair for Snowie. That would only separate her from us.

On July 6, 2007 at 7:00 in the evening I called Dr. Haskell at Adobe Pet Hospital to see if he was still in the office and if he would be willing to euthanize her so that I would not have to sit in the emergency hospital until they "had time." He was. By 7:30, Dr. Haskell and his wonderful staff said goodbye to this sweet kitty. Through my tears, I asked Dr. Haskell, "Do you think Snowie will get her ears back when she gets to Heaven?" He looked at me and said, "If she wants them back, she will get them."

Every vision that anyone has had of her since her death has been a vision of her basking in the sunshine WITH her ears.

I haven't said goodbye to her yet...I haven't spent time in her outside enclosure where she spent most of her time either. I will need just a little more time. I do find such beauty in the twig heart and angel that watches over her – it hangs on her door and came from Vikki, the flowers BJ has planted where her basket used to sit, and in the little urn with some of her ashes hanging next to a "Remember Snowie" sign that my husband Mitch made.

Maybe writing this to honor and remember her will help me to move in the direction of healing and not running from the loss and I hope also that this will bring me closer to sitting in her enclosure and saying goodbye. Maybe that too will come soon for me.

I know it is never really goodbye...there is the Rainbow Bridge...and she will be there....ears and all! ♦



President's Message

continued from page 1

notices that the moms need homes, too.

It is a challenge finding homes for the adults—be sure to read about our "A Home At Last" program and how we are facing that challenge creatively.

We have helped several people that have pregnant cats. Sugar showed up at a family's house and they decided to give her a home. Upon taking her to the vet it was determined that she was pregnant. With a family vacation coming up, there was no ideal plan for her at their home. So Sugar was brought to RESQCATS, had her babies last week, and she will go back to the family after she has weaned the three babies and been spayed!

A RESQCATS volunteer was visiting a local pet store and found a man giving away five week old kittens....eight of them! Unfortunately, he had already given away four but she was able to get him to give her the last four. According to the pet store manager, it was not his first time to sit in front of the store giving away kittens. Rebecca Branscome was able to rescue all three breeding females at the man's house and he relinquished them to RESQCATS realizing he could not care for them and all the kittens they were having. "Mia" or "Farrow" was the mother of the eight kittens being given away. Mia or Farrow is also the mother of "Guilietta" who has five of her own kittens. And we are not sure if Mia is Farrow's daughter...or Farrow is Mia's daughter... or if Mia and Farrow are sisters!

The point is that they are at RESQCATS, the moms are spayed and will not be producing more unwanted kittens. And, the kittens will not produce kittens next year since they are all spayed and neutered before going to a new home.

We allocate much of our budget towards spaying and neutering. The kittens can go to the Humane Society to be

spayed and neutered, then come home as active in the afternoon as they were in the morning before their surgery!

But I feel strongly that the mother cats need to have fluids during their surgery since they are under anesthesia for much longer than the kittens. In addition, they are sent home with pain medication for 3–5 days. That kind of care requires that mother cats go to a veterinary hospital and at a much higher cost. Each mother cat's surgery, vet exam, pain medication and Feline Leukemia/FIV test costs RESQCATS about \$200. It is the most comfortable way for them and I think they deserve it. Obviously, our \$85 adoption donation does not cover that. It also doesn't cover the cost of litter and food for the kitties or any extraordinary medical costs a kitten or cat such as "Pearl" may need (see A Candle for Cats).

The purpose of this newsletter is two-fold: to keep you informed as to what is happening at RESQCATS...and that is why I love writing about it. The other purpose is a little more difficult for me...and that is to ask for your support. It is the time of year when funds are needed the most. I hope you find it in your heart to help us once again with your tax-deductible donation.... and I will thank you from the bottom of mine!

Sincerely,


Jeffyne Telson



Vanity, a mom kitty looking for a home.

Diary of a Pet Sitter

By Karen Lee Stevens

Karen is a professional pet sitter, writer, and the founder of ALL FOR ANIMALS, Inc. (www.allforanimals.com), a pro-animal, educational organization based in Santa Barbara. She can be reached at karenleestevens@cox.net.

I'm not just a writer/pet columnist/animal advocate; my love of animals goes much deeper than that. I also clean cat boxes and walk dogs for a living. In other words, I'm a pet sitter. Think of me as a cross between Cesar Milan (the Dog Whisperer) and The Nanny, à la Fran Drescher.



Lest you think that pet sitting is, well, an excuse to sit around, I assure you that there's a lot more to it than simply playing with pets. A typical week goes something like this:

Day 1: Entered my client's house and immediately stepped on a squishy blob of something wet and hairy. Uh oh, another hairball. Proceeded to the bathroom. P-U, what's that smell? Better clean the litter boxes pronto. Trudged back to the living room. Three bright and eager faces greet me with melancholic meows as if to say, "Forget the cat boxes, where is breakfast already?"



Day 2: Entered the house and immediately stepped on a squishy blob of something wet and hairy. Note to self: Remember to turn on the light before walking inside. Cleaned the litter boxes in record time. Served breakfast and then proceeded to comb the cats while sitting in the sun. Collected a fistful of fur and turned it into a collage reminiscent of my childhood art classes. Contemplated the fact that I might have too much time on my hands. Brought in the newspaper and mail and wrestled the trash barrel to the curb.

Day 3: Entered the house; no squishy blob in sight. Splendid, all that combing seemed to lick the hairball problem. Peeked into the den. What's that on the floor? Oh no, someone's dinner didn't agree with her. Went in search of a mop. Couldn't find it. Ended up using a roll of paper towels to clean up the half-digested food. Whew, no stain on the new hardwood floors. Wondered to myself how cats manage to look picture-perfect first thing in the morning. Went home and spent the rest of the morning slathering on makeup and styling my hair.



Day 4: Entered the house wearing socks. Big mistake. Slid across the polished hardwood floors and landed on my can. I can see the headlines now: "Pet nanny lands on her fanny; story at 11:00." Gingerly checked for any broken bones and slowly got to my feet. Cleaned the litter boxes and gave everyone breakfast. Checked the floor for any more "surprises." Finding none, I limped outside to retrieve the trash barrel and put out the recycling barrel. Did a little jig when the sprinklers unexpectedly sprang to life as I was retrieving the newspaper.



Day 5: The pet parents are coming home today. Wrote out a report card detailing the activities of the week (leaving out my embarrassing faux pas). Watered all the indoor plants, brought in the mail, recycling barrel and newspaper (blessedly, the sprinklers stayed silent) and gave the kitties extra treats and hugs before heading out the door.

I have a little break now before my next assignment begins on Labor Day. For two weeks, I'll be sitting for two terrific tabbies in a humongous house in the hills. The views go on forever, the cats are sweet and there will be plenty of time during the day to soak up the sun and work on my writing. Pet sitting is definitely the cat's meow! ♦



Some Friendly Faces at ResQCats



Guilietta, adopted by Alex & Joyce Carasa



Mercedes - ready for adoption



Little Mia & Willow nap together, top. Little Mia asleep and in a playful pose.



Leonidas, adopted by Romina Murillo



Mercy & Leonidas



Mercy, adopted by Carol Cranney



Sugar waiting for her babies to be returned to her



Rosebud, one of our resident cats



Guilietta's litter is just about ready for adoption

"A Home At Last"

We are proud to announce a new RESQCATS program designed for kitties that may be more difficult to adopt.

We call the program "A HOME AT LAST"



The "A Home At Last" program is designed for kitties at RESQCATS that may be a little more difficult to adopt. It is usually the mother cats that fall into this category.

Every year I hear all the same things repeated when I dare to suggest adopting an adult or a kitten along with his or her mom: "No, I just want a kitten" or "I really want it to bond with me, so I want the smallest and youngest kitten you have." It doesn't matter to most people if the kitten hisses, hides or is shy....as long as it is a kitten! I have watched as prospective adopters entered enclosures that held sweet mommy cats who purred instantly and curled around their feet just waiting for them to sit down so they could hop into "lap" position.

Most people don't even notice the cat...only her kittens! So we proceed with the adoption process and they go home with a kitten. The mommy is left behind.

Sometimes I follow up with the new guardian of a kitten to find out how things are going. Often I hear comments like: "It keeps me up all night," "It bites me while we are playing," "It climbs my drapes" and so on. I kind of chuckle, but think to myself: "Well, you wanted a kitten and that is what kittens do. You could have taken the kitten's mom also and it would have additional entertainment besides just you. Or you could've avoided all that by giving the mommy cat that just wanted to sit in your lap and cuddle, a chance!"

The "A Home At Last" program offers added incentives to promote consideration for adopting adult cats. Gift baskets with extra toys, bedding, kitty blankets and a six-month supply of dry kibble go home with the adopter. They usually have no additional vaccinations to follow up with because they have been at RESQCATS for so long that we have taken care of them. We decorate their enclosure in some sort of cat theme that will draw attention to the fact that they need homes, too. They are often featured as the Pet of the Week in the local newspaper and special flyers are distributed all over town to entice adopters. I was saddened by the last Pet of the Week ad that featured a beautiful mom named "Vanity" when I received only one phone call about her. If a kitten is featured as the Pet of the Week, I have received as many as 53 calls for that one kitty!

So I would like to introduce our "A Home At Last" kitties:

"Vanity" arrived at RESQCATS in mid-April and gave birth to four kittens only a week after she arrived. She is a 2-3 year-old long-haired tabby beauty with eyes that capture your soul. She is a gentle lap cat who also loves to play. All of her kittens have been adopted but she is still waiting for her purrfect person.



"Vanity"

"Mia" & "Farrow" are "two peas in a pod!" We are not sure if they are mother and daughter or if they are sisters, but we do know that they are inseparable! They are short-haired dilute tortoiseshell girls that groom each other, play with each other, eat together and greet me with stereo meows every time I enter their room.



"Mia & Farrow"

"Bakey" is a medium to long hair solid gray kitty that decided to move into someone's garage to give birth to two kittens. She is a doll...sweet, playful, and loves to play with her son. She is an "instant gratification" kitty in that she will not take long to adjust to a new home. RESQCATS would love to see her go home with her son, "Biloxi," if he is still available. ♦



"Bakey"



RESQCATS has been working with Lisa Acho Remorenko, executive director of Animal Adoption Solutions.

She has been in the animal sheltering business since 1995. She worked at the Michigan Humane Society in Detroit for nine years before moving to California. Lisa now heads up her own non-profit to help animal shelters market their animals. She has been wonderful in helping with Vanity, Bakey, Mia and Farrow by creating flyers, news articles, and placing them on www.Petfinder.com.

For more information on Animal Adoption Solutions go to www.animaladoptionsolutions.com.

And thank you, Lisa for all you do to help the animals! ♦

A Candle For The Cats

I recently had the opportunity to work with a wonderful kindred spirit in the kitty world. Her name is Elizabeth Nicholson. She is fostering a special needs kitten named "Pearl." Pearl suffers from seizures of unknown origin. RESQCATS, along with Elizabeth's cooperation as a foster, is seeking the medical advice of several veterinarians to determine what is wrong with this tiny kitten. She has received a full blood panel, x-rays, and her first acupuncture treatment on July 30. She is scheduled for additional and more extensive blood work in addition to her second acupuncture session the first week of August. Obviously, kittens that require such care and extensive diagnoses are very expensive. Elizabeth has offered to make a special candle for "Pearl" with the offer that 100% of the profits will go to RESQCATS to help with her medical needs. Here is some excerpt from Elizabeth's website where she wrote about RESQCATS and this special candle...

"100% of the profits from this Pure Soy Glass Pillar will go to support RESQCATS and their amazing work to save the lives of our beloved cat and kitten friends. We have worked with RESQCATS several years now and they are such an incredible, caring, and motivated organization. They truly are miracle workers, and have made a difference in the lives of so many. If you are looking for that special cat to keep you company, RESQCATS mission is to find your "purrrfect" match.

The RESQCATS Pure Soy Glass Pillar titled "Lavender Bud" is scented with pure lavender essential oil and sprinkled with dried lavender buds. Lavender helps to create an emotionally calming, relaxing and balancing atmosphere, while also healing the soul, providing nervous tension relief and relieving slight depression. The benefits of Lavender are symbolic to what RESQCATS does everyday with our feline friends, as well as to the way a loving pet can help you in everyday life.

Support earth friendly and healthy living, support those loving cat and kitten lives like "Pearl" that need our help."

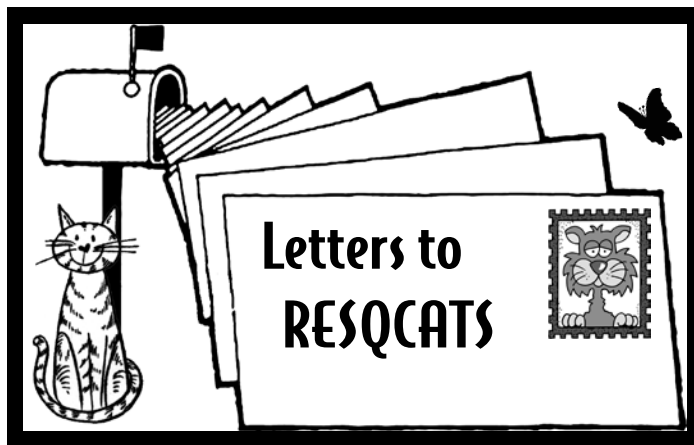
Visit the RESQCATS web site at www.RESQCATS.org

Make a difference for RESQCATS and visit Elizabeth's website at www.BazilEssentials.com and order the RESQCATS candle to help Pearl ♦



"There are people who reshape the world by force or argument, but the cat just lies there, dozing, and the world quietly reshapes itself to suit his comfort and convenience."

Allen & Ivy Dodd



Dear Jeffyne,
Hello! I hope you are well and making a little time for yourself amidst all the kitties! If I were there, I would bring you a Frappuccino from Starbucks! Anyhow, just wanted to say hello and let you know that the boys are doing great. "**Jackson**" is still HUGE (currently on "cat-kins" diet) and is really happy. "**Kenny**" purrs all the time. They both show off by sleeping on their backs! Miss you and I'm very thankful for my boys!

Love,
Sarah Pedersen

Dear Jeffyne,
Thank you for the beautiful kitty cards. I gave them to my grandma because she likes to send letters and cards more than I do. I hope I can make and send you more blankets for the kitties soon. I am glad that two of your cats went all the way home with your mom to Texas and that two of my blankets went with them. I hope that the blankets I made go and help many more cats get adopted.
I really want to volunteer to help you and I really want to meet you. Hopefully I can come up to visit during the summer. I would love to volunteer there and help the world be a better place for everyone and everything. Do you allow 10-year-olds to volunteer? I have a donation for you from my allowance. I cannot write checks yet so my mom wrote it, but the donation is from me.

Love,
Jackie Wax
(age 10 - \$18 donation to help the kitties from her allowance!)
-Thank you, Jackie

Dear Jeffyne,
How can I ever put into words the happiness you brought to me during my visit with you and all of yours. I loved visiting—every minute of it. And then, you filled my heart with these two beautiful little kittens, "**Tattoo**" and "**Tabu**," when you let me take them all the way back to Texas. They have filled such an empty spot in my heart after losing "**Cricket**" at sixteen years old. How adorable the boys are and how quickly we are getting to know each other. You should see **Tattoo** and **Tabu** when we have "brush" time; they think I am playing "brush"...everything is play right now but I want to get them into a little routine as time goes by.
I'm so glad that I took home these two little brothers. I doubt I would be able to jump from couch top to couch top, under the couch, on the couch and over the couch to play kitty.
I sometimes wonder how many heart memories a heart can hold...many were added to mine when you let me bring these little boys back to Texas!
I am filled with pride that you are my daughter...I just adore you.
Love always,

Your Mother (Novva Milton)

Dear Jeffyne,

We shall always remember you as our first “people” love. Our mom here in Texas spoils us to death. You know, just like she spoiled you!

The vet’s office thinks we are from outer space because we are so special when they pick us up. We are just waiting to become real tigers when we are not sure about what they are going to do to us. They took our temperatures in the you know where...and, we didn’t fuss...but that was then and this is now, so we’ll see.

We have gotten so big since we left **RESQCATS** that it is difficult for us both to fit into the bathroom sink anymore.

We love Texas, but WOW! It was tough just getting on the plane after your mother had to take us out of our carrier and hold us to pass through airport security in Santa Barbara.

Heart memories for all of us.

Bye and love always from your brothers,

“**Tattoo**” and “**Tabu**” (my cat brothers!)

Hi Sister,

My, we are giving our Mom a run for the money. We get into everything we can find...and she lets us.

Thank you for keeping us until we could continue our life in Texas.

We love it here...no longer known as the “California Cats”....we are learning how to be “Loud Texas Meow Boys.”

By the way, you should see our Mom try to brush us....it’s a hoot!

Sooooooo, Happy Mother’s Day...and know we will always love you because you gave us this beautiful life.

Hugs and paws,

“**Tattoo**” and “**Tabu**”

Jeffyne,

I just want to thank you so much for “**Lommi**.” She is one of a kind. She’s so smart and has {stood her ground very well} with the other two cats. She loves to run around the house with her tail all flared out. She is just a love bug. Ron and I love her so much.

Thanks again,

Lori Keifer

Hi Jeffyne,

I just thought I would give you an update on “**Stella**” (aka: **Oreo**). She is doing great. I think she loves it here and she is definitely my baby. She is the sweetest little angel...always purring and full of licks. She is getting along fine with our older cat, “**Sam**.” They love to play and Stella never lets an opportunity go by to bat at Sam’s tail. Thank you so much! You are a bright light for these loving animals and your compassion is truly amazing.

Thank you,

Tammy McCarty

Jeffyne,

I have been meaning to write and send pictures since our two adorable kittens turned one year last month and now officially are no longer kittens. They have developed in so many ways since I brought them home last June. (2006)

“**Bella**” is delicate and dainty – a finicky eater, she likes to be slim and agile so she can catch every stray moth or fly who is unlucky enough to fly into our house. She has quite the acrobatic talent, especially when going after the feather toy. She still has the same incredible sweetness of disposition that I noticed in her as a kitten that first day. She shows her feral heritage sometimes with others when she is very skittish and stand offish, but with me she could not be more loving and gentle. She has warmed up to Steve considerably, too, but it is clear that, as far as she is concerned, I’m her mother!

“**Peeka**” is her opposite in so many ways. She is chunky and sturdy and loves to eat! **Peeka** is a people cat. She is friendly with just about everyone. She is quite talkative and is an absolute

terror in the morning—in a lovable way, of course! She purrs more than any cat I’ve ever been around and has such an intelligent and inquisitive personality, I’m not quite sure she is all cat! She’s been known to play fetch as well as pick up her empty food bowl and bring it all the way across the house to show me. And best of all, the two of them still love each other—sleeping together, grooming each other, playing together. I rarely see **Peeka** and **Bella** in separate rooms...they love to be with each other and with us at all times.

So, thank you once again for bringing these two into our lives. It has meant so much to us and brought so much life and laughter to our house.

I hope all is with you. I think of you often, the wonderful work you do at **RESQCATS** and the difference you have made in so many lives—both human and feline.

All the best,

Krista Harris

Hi Jeffyne,

I thought I would make all the cats and kittens toys. Whenever I crochet something, my cat, “**Mr. Dakota**,” sits and watches me until I make him a ball of yarn. It is his favorite toy. I had some extra yarn and decided to make your sweet little kitties something to play with. Of course, **Dakota** sat and watched until I made him a new one, too. I also went to Petco and got them a little something extra. I have included a check to help out as well. Keep up the great work and keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Toni and Neil McCarty

Speck makes friends. **Smudge** sure is feisty and full of energy. He seems to have two modes:

- 1) full speed ahead...attack anything that moves!
- 2) crashed and sleeping!

He is coming right along, eating well and no problem with his litter box. We already have him on file with our vet!

Erik and Ali

Jeffyne,

What you and the volunteers are doing at **RESQCATS** is beyond outstanding. **RESQCATS** is paradise to me. If I lived closer, I would love to be a volunteer.

We have “**Crystal**” (formerly “**Sheba**”) and “**Jonny Gray**” (formerly named “**Marcus**”)...we just love them. My husband and I are so glad they have come to live with us. We will be good to them—VERY good!

They are in their room now and soon we will open the door so they can be exposed to more rooms. They are such good kitties. **Crystal** is so funny, pretty and friendly and **Jonny Gray** is so sweet and handsome!

Thank you so much for everything you gave to us. I appreciate it all so very much. It is a lovely gesture...your gift pack (as part of your Home At Last Program) and all the goodies! How dear you are and we are so glad we met you.

Thank you, Jeffyne.

Love, Carol and Jack Beckett



Crystal



Jonny Gray



“In Remembrance, There is Life”

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

We who choose to surround ourselves with lives even more temporary than our own live within a fragile circle, easily and often breached. Unable to accept its awful gaps, we still would live no other way. We cherish memory as the only certain immortality, never fully understanding the necessary plan...

~ From “The Once Again Prince,” by Irving Townsend

✱ For “Snowie”

You always came into your “spot” when you heard my voice calling your name. Our “meow” sessions of you talking and me brushing you are with me always”

A tree has been planted in honor of you in the National Forest near Yellowstone.

Love, Evelyn Kert

✱ Remembering “Gus” and for Elaine and Bob Toledo

from Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara

✱ For “Snowie”

I seldom send cards when we lose a RESQCATS resident cat because I just don't know what to say. I was so saddened to hear the news about “Snowie” and I can only imagine your pain. We know that there is a Heaven and a Rainbow Bridge. Snowie lives there now without pain and with her ears (if she chooses to have them back) but we will miss her here. My thought and prayers are with you.

Love, Patty Farmar

✱ In remembrance of Snowie, “tender in heart and pure in soul”—thank you for teaching us to be more gentle, more patient and more forgiving.

Love, Auntie BJ

✱ In memory of “Tawney,” friend of “Suga’ Bear” and “Honey” and Jeffyne.

Love, Walt and Evelyne Chezum

✱ In honor of the first anniversary of “Bogie” & “Bella.”

from adoptive Mom, Debbie Adams

✱ Remembering “Sophie,” a wonderful cat and for Keith and Betty Gehr.

Love, Sara Kvass

✱ For “Jack,” my tabby cat and for all the RESQCATS babies.

Bill and Sara Guthrie

✱ For Jeffyne: “She DID get her ears back!”

Love, Linda Higbee

✱ For “Lullabye” and her mom “Sugar” — born July 24, 2007 on earth and crossed immediately to the Rainbow Bridge.

✱ For “Butterfly” and her mom “Sugar” — born July 24, 2007 and joined Lullabye on the Rainbow Bridge on July 31, 2007.

✱ For Mijek, for always...Love,

Jeffyne



For All Animal Lovers

A man was riding his horse down a road, his dog running alongside. The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him he was dead. He remembered dying and that his horse and dog had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading him.

After a while he came to a high, white stone wall along the side of the road. It appeared to be fine marble. At the end of the wall, atop a large hill stood a tall arch glowing in the sunlight. Below the arch was a magnificent gate of mother of pearl which led to a road that looked like gold. He nudged the horse toward the gate. As he drew closer, he saw a man seated at a desk on one side.

He called out to the man, “Excuse me, where are we?”

“This is heaven, sir” the man answered.

“Wow! Would you happen to have some water?” The man asked.

“Of course, sir. Come right in and I'll have some ice water brought right up.” The man gestured and the gate began to open.

“Can my friends,” waving to include his horse and dog, “come in too?” the traveler asked.

“I'm sorry sir, but we don't accept animals.” The man thought for a moment and then turned his horse back toward the road and continued the way he had been going. After another long walk and at the top of another large hill, he came to a dirt road that led to a farm gate that looked like it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he ap-



proached the gate, he saw a man leaning against a tree reading a book.

“Excuse me!” He called to the reader. “Do you have any water?”

“Yes, sure, there's a pump over there.” The man pointed to a place that couldn't be seen from outside the gate. “Come on in.”

“How about my friends here?” The traveler asked.

The reader replied, “There should be a bowl and a bucket by the pump.” The traveler and his horse and dog went through the gate

and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl and a bucket beside it. The traveler filled the bowl and took a long drink for himself, then gave some to his dog while he filled the bucket for his horse. When satisfied, he led his horse back toward the man who was standing by the tree waiting for them. The dog followed faithfully behind.

“What do you call this place?” The traveler asked.

“This is heaven,” was the answer.

“Well, that's confusing,” the traveler said. “The man down the road said that was heaven, too.”

“Oh, you mean the place with the gold streets and the pearly gates? Nope that's not heaven that's hell.”

“Well,” said the traveler, “Doesn't it make you upset when they use your name like that? “Nope. I can see how you might think so, but we're just happy they screen out the folks who'll leave their best friends behind.” ♦

~ Anonymous

Millions of Reasons to Spay and Neuter!

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

According to the Arizona Humane Society Education Department, an unspayed female cat, her unneutered mate and all of their offspring, producing two litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter will produce:

- 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

Many of you have asked me about the outrageous number of kitties that originate with just one unspayed female and one unneutered male. Here's a Santa Barbara story that really happened and illustrates this concept.

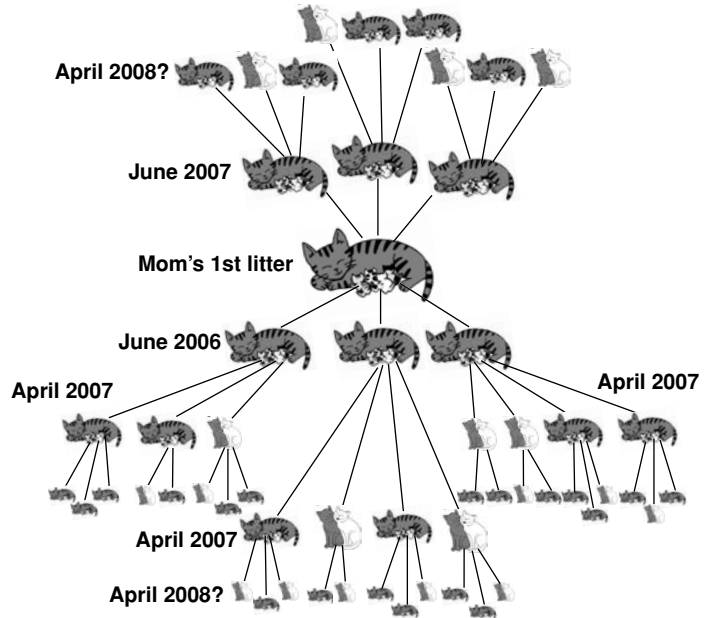
It begins with "Anabelle." In addition to the six litters she had in past years, she gave birth to three daughters in 2004.... "Lexy," "Cookie" and "Isis." In 2005, Anabelle had three more daughters, Lexy had two daughters and one son, Cookie had two daughters and two sons and Isis had two daughters and two sons. Just imagine this...Anabelle, Lexy, Cookie and Isis would all have at least one more litter in 2005. In 2006...not only would each have two more litters, but all the offspring from 2005 would have litters. That is 12 females each having two litters in 2006 and all the males impregnating other females.

See how it adds up! We have tried to illustrate this in the next column.

This is how it gets to be over 80,000,000 in ten years. Luckily, thanks to RESQCATS, this won't happen with Anabelle and all her offspring.

Your support of **RESQCATS** can help change these numbers. In addition to paying for vet exams, leukemia tests, vaccinations and deworming, the medical protocol for all the cats and kittens at **RESQCATS** includes spaying and neutering. Thanks for making a difference.

The number of stray and abandoned cats left on the streets to produce litter after litter of unwanted kittens seems insurmountable, but you can do something to help.

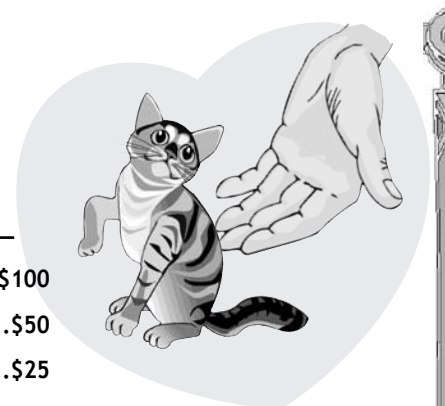


The very sad reality is that some of these moms and their kittens are euthanized!



RESQCATS

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



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!

Dedicated to the special people who make the day-to-day operation of RESQCATS possible:

THE VOLUNTEERS!



Newsletter Design contributed by Keith & Chris Flannery

FLANNERY
Designs & Graphics

805 . 966 . 2445
art@montecitomag.com



Wish List!



❖ A home for "Vanity"



❖ A home for "Bakey"



❖ A home for "Mia & Farrow" together



Visit our new ResQCats website
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.



RESQCATS™

PO Box 3852
Santa Barbara, CA 93130

