

President's Message

(written July 28, 2010)

I get so excited when it is time to sit down and write the President's Message for all of you. It gives me a chance to report in and let you know how things are going at RESQCATS and it allows me to think back over the last few months and reflect on all that has happened.

It is our 13th season at RESQCATS and it has, by far, been one of the busiest and most intense in our history. We began with three trips to an area shelter and rescued over 60 cats and kittens whose days were numbered...meaning they were all scheduled for euthanasia. Pregnant moms, moms with newborn kittens, kittens without moms, days-old kittens that needed to be bottle-fed, six-month-old kittens and adults, too. All had been turned into the shelter as strays, but it was obvious to me that they were not stray cats. The moms were friendly and loving unlike most of those that live on the street who are not accustomed to humans and are very skittish. I asked the lady at the shelter counter, "So, do you believe that all of these are really stray cats?" She looked at me over the top of her glasses and said, "Most of the people just say they are strays so they don't have to pay the \$20 relinquishment fee." In my mind they just dumped their lack of responsibility onto someone else's lap. They did not spay or neuter their cat so when they reproduce litters of kittens they think, "Oh, I will just take them to the shelter and they can deal with it and get them adopted!" They don't bother to ask what happens after the cats are turned in. Reality is that if they are not adopted in five days...they are put to death. If no one is available to bottle feed two-week-old kittens every three hours, they go straight to the back room and are killed. This happens all over the country.

continues on page 12



Jeffyne with Honey



RESQCATS

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



September 2010 Newsletter & Fall Fundraiser

What's in the Fall 2010 Issue...

Chloe's Corner.....	2
RESQCATS and Care4Paws Team Up for a Spay-a-thon!.....	2
The Unrecognized Hero.....	3
A Few Words from Mr. Jeffyne... Making a Difference.....	4
In Memory, Celebration and Honor.....	5
Letters To RESQCATS.....	6
RESQCATS Family Photo Album.....	8
My List of Very Special Thank Yous.....	10
Helping Hand Donation Form.....	15
Wish List.....	16
Dedication.....	16
Lavender Soy Candle (buy 'til end of year)..	16

So...Who Gets to Live at RESQCATS?

Many of you have visited RESQCATS and know that several cats live here permanently. I always give a tour of the facility when someone visits and explain that I have some cats that were mine before I ever started RESQCATS and then there are some that come as a RESQCATS kitty (meaning stray or abandoned) that are not adoptable for one reason or another. Some are too old, some are too shy or feral, some may have too many health issues or some may just decide this is where they want to live after such tough times on the street. Not a single unadoptable cat is euthanized at RESQCATS...they live out their life here having all they desire and are provided with any and all medical care that they require.

There have been several unadoptable cats over the years and sadly many of them have passed over the Rainbow Bridge along with many of my own cats. The unadoptable resident cats now outnumber my own personal cats. Don't misunderstand...they are ALL my cats once they stay...it is just I don't get to choose the ones I want to keep...there is always a reason for them to stay and not get adopted. Some of the resident cats have their own personal space because they do not get along with other cats and others are free to roam the entire cattery. Even a few live inside my house.

People come in and exclaim, "WOW! This place is wonderful! Why would a cat ever want to leave here?" I am always touched by that remark and ask them not to say it very loud so that no more cats get any ideas about staying here on a permanent basis!

What I don't share is this - I feel sad sometimes for the ones that live at RESQCATS. They watch me come and go at about 90 miles an hour working hard to get kitties to vet appointments, spay or neuter surgery and adopted to purrfect homes...and all the while they do not have my undivided attention. When a kitty is adopted from RESQCATS, they become the center of people's lives. I choose people like that because I think the stray and abandoned cats and kittens deserve to be part of a family and the center of attention. I cannot give that to the ones here with all I have to do following my passion for rescue. The

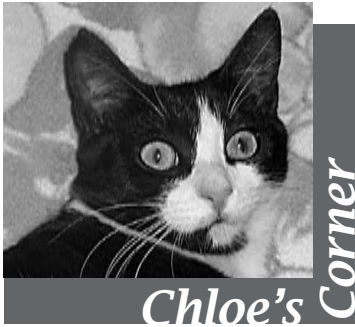
continues on page 13

RESQCATS

P.O. Box 3852, Santa Barbara, CA 93130

(805) 563-9424

www.resqcats.org



Hi! My name is Chloe.
I am a former RESQCATS
kitty who was adopted by
one of the volunteers here.

I ALWAYS HAVE SOMETHING TO MEOW ABOUT myself and my feline friends and am more than willing to let anyone listen to me. So, my slave, I mean, Mommy, let me put my paw to pen and jot down some of my cat knowledge. What you are reading is my new addition to the RESQCATS newsletter. I am going to fill my "corner" with interesting bits of cat trivia, which will include cats of the Rich & Famous, quotes from you humans about us cats, and anything that I find out about us that I want to share with you. *Read on...*

Cat Trivia -

- ☉ Julius Caesar hated cats (we probably would have hated him more!)
- ☉ Sir Isaac Newton created the swinging door for his cats (he must have been a nice man!)
- ☉ Austrians are the worlds #1 cat lovers; 30% of Austrian households have at least one cat (sounds like a great place!)
- ☉ When a cat died in ancient Egypt, its owners shaved off their eyebrows as a sign of mourning (they could have just sent cards and flowers to each other!)



Famous Cat Quotes -

"The man who sets out to carry a cat by its tail learns something that will always be useful and which never will grow dim or doubtful."

- Mark Twain



Famous Cats -

Morris the Cat's original name was "Lucky." He was named this by his owner because he was adopted at an animal shelter in Hinsdale, IL about 20 minutes before he was to be euthanized. He became famous as America's best-known cat food salesman and was the first animal star to ever be featured on *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*.

Word Play -

Did you know that the old saying: "Let the Cat out of the Bag" means to reveal the truth? It refers to an old con game that was played at country fairs in England. "A trickster would try to palm off a cat in a burlap bag on an unwary country bumpkin, claiming it was a suckling pig." If the victim figured out this sneaky trick and insisted on seeing the pig, the cat had to be let out of the bag.



Well, that's it for this newsletter. I hope you enjoyed purr-using through my meowy bits of information for you. I am hoping my stories will cat-a-pult me into some cat you look forward to reading.

Have a Purrfect Day, Chloe

RESQCATS and Care4Paws Team Up for a Spay-a-thon!

I KNOW THAT AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR, I put this chart in my newsletter. But it is so important to get the message out there about spaying and neutering. In fact, I feel so strongly about it that RESQCATS has committed to sponsoring several spay and neuter days with Care4Paws and we are committed to spaying and neutering 100 cats.

Care4Paws has been successful in getting several local veterinarians to donate their time to do the surgeries on several upcoming Sundays. They are also working on an extensive education program to expose people to the pet-overpopulation problem so that everyone can help solve it.

Where does RESQCATS come in? We are covering the cost of all 100 cats! And of course, all the cats and kittens that leave RESQCATS are spayed and neutered before adopters can take them home

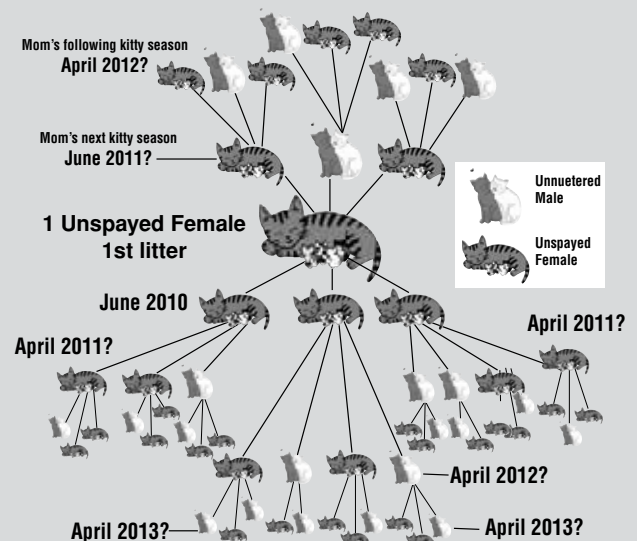
Thousands and thousands of animals are euthanized every year! I am saving as many as I can but it is going to take all of us to end the pet over-population problem in this country. So what can you do? Stand behind mandatory spay and neuter laws that come up in your area, educate people who have unaltered pets, help fund a low-fee spay/neuter clinic in your area and just get involved!

Following are the statistics of what happens over the years when one unspayed female and one unaltered male get together along with all their unaltered offspring!

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

Millions of Reasons to Spay and Neuter!

Get the message!



The Unrecognized Hero

By Nancy L. Aguirre

Who Do We Consider to Be a Hero in our Society Today?

Athletes in professional sports; Pop and Rap singers; TV and Movie idols? These are the one's that I know are recognized highly for that honor.

But Why?

Webster's Dictionary describes the definition of a hero as: any person, especially a man, admired for qualities or achievements and regarded as an ideal or model and any person, especially a man admired for courage, nobility, or exploits, especially in war. I guess I understand the part about qualities and achievements for the above list of "heroes," but those accomplishments are mostly about fame and money. I am not trying to take anything away from these people and their obvious skills at their professions, but why do we consider these things to be so special?

My Thoughts About Heros

I think, and hope, that the people we name as our heroes in today's world will be the individuals who either risk their lives to save another life, or the people who spend their lives trying to make this planet a better and safer place to live. Those people to me are doctors, firemen, policemen, and anyone in that area of selfless giving of care.

So with that in mind, shouldn't a person who dedicates their life to rescuing and caring for animals be given that same honor? I very strongly believe so. These people give their lives and hearts to the painful and often thankless task of taking over a job that really should belong to someone else. What I mean by that is—if everybody spayed or neutered their animals and took care of them in a responsible, loving manner, there would be no need for animal shelters and humane societies. But since that is not the case in our world, we do desperately need these places and the generosity of the people who either run them or volunteer at them.

And at these shelters, there are some pretty amazing things that the shelter people have to go through, put up with, and see every day; good, bad, and many times devastating.

Every year a single area animal shelter euthanizes approximately 10,000 cats. That number shocked me and made me sick to my stomach. That is just one shelter! Can you imagine that number totaled with all the shelters in this country that euthanize animals? Just do the math...it is in the millions! These are wonderful, loving animals that were unlucky enough to be born, mostly to irresponsible people who do not take the time or money to spay or neuter them. So pregnant cats, newborn babies, young kittens, cats of all ages and breeds are killed because there are not enough homes for all of them. I refer here to cats because I volunteer at a cat rescue organization in Santa Barbara, CA.

There are founders of "No Kill" shelters that try to save cats from county shelters that have no option except euthanasia because of limited space. They face the difficult job of picking cats and kittens to bring to their own shelter. They know full well that the ones that are left behind will most likely be euthanized. I cannot imagine the strength it takes to make the choice of which ones stay and which ones go; which ones live and which ones die. Those lucky cats and kittens who get a second chance at life journey to these shelters

and receive wonderful medical care to make sure that they are healthy before they are put up for adoption. They receive clean accommodations at their new temporary "homes" and the volunteers love each and every one of them, socializing with them so they are people-ready when their new families come to seek them out. And they have no time limit put on their lives...they remain in the no-kill shelter until they are adopted.

There are also cats that are found to have an illness, special needs or disease during their vet exams. Luckily, there are several rescue shelters that spare no expense for the cats that have been found to have a condition that is curable, and even considered incurable. I volunteer at a shelter where the founder so kindly puts it: "A life is a life," and whatever their needs are for survival—medications, surgeries, etc. these lucky cats get it, no matter what the cost is.



Some of the cats that come into the shelters are strays that have been found wandering the streets and have been lucky enough to have been rescued and brought in. These cats have been saved from the possibilities of being injured and/or killed by cars, coyotes, diseases and, sadly, purposefully inflicted injuries by humans (thus all the reasons why cats should live indoors). Others are from people who can no longer keep or want them. Many have simply been replaced by something "better" or their owners have grown tired of the responsibility of having a pet. Some of these cats were "impulse buys" from a pet store and once home, that impulse and desire for them is gone. Still, others have been given up because people are moving into homes where they cannot have a pet, or their

owner has died. And probably, most sadly, there are cats that are given up because they have gotten sick and their owners do not want to deal with their medical needs. I ask myself; would the human members of these families be sent away for getting sick? I do not think so. But then again, they are just cats, right? Wrong! They are members of the family that chose them in the first place and are completely dependent on those families to take care of them and give them what they need to stay healthy and alive. It is any and every pet's right to have those needs be met — especially if a family has taken on that commitment and promise bring them home.

With the high volume of cats being turned in to the shelters for whatever reason, it is not always easy to find homes for all of them. Sure, the kittens usually get adopted, but it is much harder to find people who want the older cats. Those beautiful cats are mostly overlooked when people come in to look for a cat. And then there are the people who are only looking for a certain color or specific type of cat. They have a list! They want something that rescue shelters simply cannot give them — a "to order" cat. It is sad that someone only wants a certain characteristic or has specific requests of how it should look! It makes me wonder if they will care about the cat itself! So, you get the perfect looking cat according to your ideal description, but what about the personality? What if your perfect looking cat does not fit to your personality, let alone your family's personality? Do looks really matter at that point? If

continues on page 11



And Now...

A Few Words From Mr. Jeffyne...

Making a Difference

Making a Difference is the name of the final story every day on the Brian Williams NBC Nightly news broadcast. For those of you who have never watched, this segment is usually a very simple story, typically about ordinary people who have performed extraordinary deeds by going above and beyond to make a difference in their neighborhood, their community, their state or even the whole country.

THE SEGMENT IS GENERALLY A WARM-HEARTED PIECE that leaves Jeffyne saying, "Wow, there really are a lot of good people in this country!" And then she often follows by saying, "The RESQCATS volunteers should be on the news...they're really making a big difference...every day!"

As we think about all the people who have been volunteers at RESQCATS over the last 13 years, the question comes to mind, "Why do people volunteer in the first place?" and then, "Why do they volunteer at RESQCATS?"

Well, there are lots of personal reasons why people volunteer...to help others, to help the environment, to assist at their place of worship or at a school or on a community project. Some people volunteer because they want to make someone else feel good, others because they have the extra time. Some students volunteer because it's a school requirement. However, the vast majority of the people who volunteer, especially those who volunteer at RESQCATS, whether they realize it or not, do so for one specific reason... because they want to make a difference!

While we have never kept an exact count of the number of people who have been volunteers since RESQCATS began in 1997, the number is certainly more than 100.

They have ranged in age from as young as 4 years old (our grandson, Hayden) to over 80 years young. The group has mostly been women but there have also been many men, teenagers as well as younger boys and girls too!

There have been students who could only volunteer on weekends and during school breaks. And there have been people with full time jobs who could only squeeze in a few hours each week. And there have been retired people who have made themselves available whenever they were needed.

But as with people who volunteer at other organizations, there's a common thread that has tied all of our volunteers together. It's the simple fact that they want to make a difference!

Jeffyne has always said that the people who take time out of their busy days (or nights) to volunteer their time at RESQCATS are really the backbone of this organization. She says, "I get all the recognition for what we do for the cats and kittens, but the real credit belongs to our volunteers...I couldn't possibly do it without each and every one of them...they're the ones who are really making a difference!"



In fact, here's what Jeffyne wrote about how she felt about RESQCATS' wonderful volunteers all the way back in a 2002 newsletter:

Valuable is the work you do,
Outstanding in how you always come through.
Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer,
Untiring in your efforts throughout the year.
Notable are the contributions you make.
Trustworthy in every project you take.
Eager to reach your every goal,
Effective in the way you fulfill your role.
Ready with a smile like a shining star.
Special and wonderful – that's what you are!

For the past seven years, RESQCATS has acknowledged the invaluable contribution of our wonderful volunteers at our RESQCATS Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. This luncheon is planned to coincide with our spring Board of Directors meeting...usually within a few weeks of the opening of RESQCATS for the new kitty season. This year our luncheon was held on Sunday, May 2, 2010.

More than 80 RESQCATS volunteers and their spouses or significant others joined us for the celebration and received much-deserved "thank yous" for their past accomplishments and a look ahead to the challenges of the coming kitty season.

As Jeffyne prepares for this volunteer event each year, she always wonders, "What can I say to the volunteers so they will understand how important they are to what we do?" And, "How can I make them understand how much I appreciate them personally and as a group?"

And each year I tell her the same thing...simply tell them, as only you can, "thank you for everything you do!"

And just in case one of our volunteers didn't hear her, again, on behalf of Jeffyne...and Mr. Jeffyne...a heartfelt "thank you" to all the wonderful RESQCATS volunteers and also to all the rest of you reading this newsletter who are so important to RESQCATS...thank YOU for in helping us MAKE A DIFFERENCE!! ♦



***In Memory, Celebration and Honor
of Some Very Special Felines,
Canines and a few
Humans, too!***

In memory of "**Casamir**"

Love always,
Tricia Krout

Happy Birthday, **Mel Kyle!**

Love,
Julie Kaplan

I want to dedicate the enclosed donation to RESQCATS to my beloved "**Stimpy**," who left me in February just before his 16th birthday. I think about him everyday, he was a very gentle soul.

Diane Ledbetter

Happy Birthday **Jill Gass** and best of luck to you in your race across America to support and celebrate Santa Barbara's young girls at *GirlsInc.com*

In memory of "**Seacliff**"...a sweet gentle patriarch of a cat.

We deeply miss you, big boy.
Joyce and Alex Carasa



In Honor of "**Seacliff**"
RESQCATS volunteers



In memory of "**Dottie**"

Angels are never here on this Earth very long...but at just 13 weeks old you left us for the *Rainbow Bridge*...bless your little soul.

Jeffyne and all of us at RESQCATS

In memory of my beloved "**Betsy Rose**"

She was the sweetest kindest dog ever. She was rescued from a shelter at 5 years old and stayed with us until she was 13, then left quite suddenly, without suffering, for the *Rainbow Bridge* on June 28, 2010. She left a huge hole in my heart and I miss her so much.

Love,
Judy Malmgren



For "**Sebastian**"

A kinder gentler cat has never touched my heart so deeply.

Loving you fur-ever,
Nancy Aguirre

In memory of **Liz Zeller**...a woman with a zest for life that will be missed by so many of us!

young girls at GirlsInc.com

In memory of "Comet" and for Tracey and Patrick Pigatti

Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara

In memory of "**Bobby**" and for **Patti Brennan**

Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara



For "**Greyco**"

Going out the backdoor of the cattery will never be the same again.

Missing you always...
Nancy Aguirre

In honor of **Leslie Seimon**, DVM who takes such good care of our cat, 13 year old "**Sophia!**"

Trudi Cooper



Thank You For Staying In Touch!

Letters to RESQCATS

Jeffyne

Just a note to let you know our little guy is settled in quite well, using the litter box (and seems now quite healthy in that respect!) and adjusting to life in the city. He is most popular in my building, as handsome as the day is long, and takes the medication you sent home with him with no problems at all. He sleeps in the crook of my neck and we cuddle and purr ad infinitum upon waking.

Thank you so much for all you do. It shows in his personality and his adaptability. Hope you are well and with all the ups and downs of what you are involved in at RESQCATS. Rest assured that you have enriched hundreds and hundreds of peoples' lives with your love through these amazing animals.

No end to the appreciation,

Richard Schiweitz

Hey there!

This is Christina and Dave, just wanted to let you know how the little kitty was doing in his new home!

Attached is a photo of him nestled between the big cat and the dog, and they've all met and are getting along perfectly. The older kitty, "Ice Cream Sandwich" has really taken a liking to him and they've been playing non stop since they met. The dog, "Charlie" and he have been cuddling and Charlie loves giving him tongue baths.



Biscuit in his new home surrounded by Ice Cream Sandwich (top) & Charlie the dog.

Kitty is adjusting really well and really quickly to his new surroundings. Dave and I loved how your place was set up so much that we're thinking about building a kitty hut in the yard just off the side of the house, maybe, maybe not, but it's fun to think about.

Anyway, just wanted to let you know he's doing well, we're still discussing names but for now he's become "Biscuit." We're really in love with him and really glad we stumbled upon your place!

Thanks so much for everything!

Christina Deeds

Jeffyne,

Thank you so much for your help finding me a kitten. "Smidge" has adjusted wonderfully, and now she goes by the name of "Matilda!" She is exactly what I have been looking for.

Thanks again,

Love,

Amanda Carmon & "Matilda."

June 22, 2010

Hello Jeffyne,

We write to thank you for all the beautiful gifts you bestowed on us. We feel so grateful that you've provided yet another wonderful member to our family. We have named our fabulous kitten, "Kayan" a blend of our names...Kara, Maya and Susan!

He has been just wonderful these first few days. The girls and I just love him. They have been perfect caretakers. So far, Kayan has remained in his "safe" room and has yet to meet "Tia" (adopted from RESQCATS 12 years ago!) I think it will go well when they do get together.

Many thanks for your generosity, the great carrier, toys and food. We appreciate all you have done for us and all you do in your passion.

All the best to you all.

With respect and appreciation,

Susan, Maya, Kara Portier (the people) and "Tia" and "Kayan" (the kitties)

Dear Aunt Jeffyne

Hi! How are ya? Just wanted to send a quick note to say hello...from me and the boys! The boys are doing well. "Jackson" is still on the larger side but he is a total mama's boy and loves snuggling with me. "Kennicott" is my little shadow. He follows me around the apartment and is always ready to rub up against my ankles. Can you believe they are seven?! I don't know what I would do without my snuggles!

Big hugs,

Sarah Pedersen, "Jackson" and "Kenny"

Hi Jeffyne:

Hope you are having a good week so far. I just wanted to let you know that Raja is doing wonderful. He is very social and melts hearts with everyone he meets. He's already gotten so many compliments in the few days he's been home. He is definitely a little furball full of love and seems quite content with life. I can't tell you how happy he makes me and how glad I am that we found each other. It was destiny!



Huyen with Raja (aka Chip).

I tried to just pick one or two pictures to send you, but that's too hard so here's a million or so attached...heheee, and be prepared to be updated periodically with adorable photos.

Love you lots, and big hugs to the entire family!

Huyen

I will always remember the olive-eyed tabby who taught me that not all relationships are meant to last a lifetime. Sometimes just an hour is enough to touch your heart.

- Barbara L. Diamond

Dear Jeffyne, Mitch and RESQCATS volunteers,

This is a letter of thank you, not only to you, Mitch and all of your volunteers for the constant work you are always doing, for being our friend, for spreading the word of rescue and peace everywhere you go, for sharing your beautiful home with all of us for the Volunteer Appreciation, and just generally being who you are.

Paula and I (Melodie) feel so very small in your very large picture, but your outreaching encouragement makes feel the things we bring you are well worth our effort. We wish you continued health in mind and body. Both Paula and I will work diligently until our next December delivery to RESQCATS!

Love,
The "Polar Bear Angels"

Paula and Melodie Haines

~~~~~  
(Paula and Melodie work all year making hand-made toys, blankets, pillows for the cat baskets, give-away baskets, and many other surprises for a December delivery. They have done this for many years. They have no idea how much we appreciate all the time and work that goes into their effort and how much the kitties enjoy the fun and comfort of their work!)

Hi Jeffyne,

Hope this finds you well and happy. I was just letting you know that our "Rufus" is doing so well, growing smarter, sweeter and taller each day! He is as curious as can be and into everything in sight. He's almost done with his toilet training and way ahead of the curve with only one miss in all the time! Soon you'll have a photo to prove how smart RESQCATS' cats truly are!

I come home from work or any errand and inevitably there is a small crowd of people gathered around the front window talking to him as he sits there looking handsome and playful. I've met many neighbors due to this so I would have to say he is uniting our little street even closer!!!

And everyone who asks where he came from gets a great story of you and your incredible facility. I've given out your card to many who are now my good friends.

Well again, I hope this finds you well and you know I'll always appreciate the happy little guy you connected me up with.

Have a great day  
Much Love

**Richard Schiweitz**

*When we love a cat, and touch its life,  
we exercise that faculty that could,  
if so directed, enable us to love others,  
and to touch their  
lives as well.*

— CHARLES BURKE

*Thank you ResQCats,  
for giving your heart  
to these cats so we  
have them to love.*



***In Memory, Celebration and Honor***  
*continued from page 5*

In memory of "**Bobby**" and for **Peter Cohen and Tammy McCarthy**

***Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara***

In memory of "**Buddy**" who was adopted nine years ago from RESQCATS by **Darlene Wilson**. Our thoughts are with you, Darlene.

***All of us at RESQCATS***

For **Seacliff** –

Whose welcoming voice will echo off the wall of the cattery forever. You are missed so so much, my friend.

xoxo,

**Nancy Aguirre**



In Honor of **Seacliff**

In memory of "**Tango**" and for **Nancy and Jesus Aguirre** who opened their home and their hearts to this tiny little kitten as his health declined... because as Nancy said, "he needs me and I will be there for as long as he needs me."

Tango knew love and a home from this special couple before he left for the *Rainbow Bridge* on July 23, 2010 at only 3-1/2 months old. May his spirit fly, his body be strong and healthy enough for him to romp and play with the others he joins on the other side.

And may Nancy and Jesus find peace in their hearts and know that they gave Tango the greatest gift of all...a chance at life and love.

Love,

***All of us at RESQCATS***



For "**Tango**"

To celebrate "**Zuki's**" 7th birthday!

**Marian Jean**

To Our Tiny Angel, "**Tango**"

In the 2 weeks you were with us, you gave us tremendous joy and love. You also taught us many lessons about life. As Daddy said: "For such a little guy, he sure left a big footprint." Tango, you and I finished our dance and because of you, your fellow RESQCAT, "**Daphne**" and I are now having our long awaited dance. Thank you for your many gifts...you will be forever missed.

For as long as you need me –

All our love,

***Mommy & Daddy (Nancy & Jesus Aguirre)***

In memory of "**Andre**" and for **Laura and Olivia Corrigan**  
***From Jeffyne***

Not a day goes by... "**Miejek**."

Love,

**Jeffyne**

**PHOTO CREDIT**

Many thanks to all of you who have adopted and shared photos of your favorite kitties with us. I would also like to give credit to **Nancy Aguirre**, one of our RESQCATS volunteers, who spends hours and hours getting some of these beautiful photos of the kitties.



**Puck & his new buddy** adopted by **Jerry & David**



**Camille** adopted by **Lynne Ven Der Kamp**



**Drew Westwick** adopted brothers **Blizz & Kane**



**Chloe** adopted by **Nancy & Jesus Aguirre**



**Bubbles and Bo** were adopted by **Meg Jette**



**Iris** was adopted by **Inge Green**



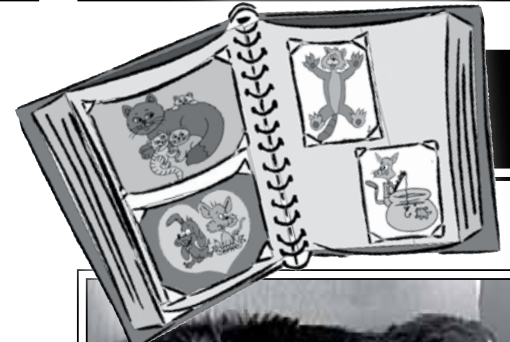
**Clint** adopted by **Chris & Jennifer Foster**



**Daphne** went home with **Nancy & Jesus Aguirre**



**Aura** adopted by **Suzanne McNeely**



**Francie**, adopted by **Theresa Perisco**, curls up with 100 pound **Oliver**



**Raja** adopted by **Huyen Nyugen**



**Aiken Bones** adopted **Nancy & Jesus Aguirre**





*Freckles* was adopted by Susan Farber



Laurie Mason adopted *Gable*



*Hollister* – adopted by Susan Portier

## RESQCATS • FAMILY ALBUM

*Welcome New Family Members & Some Familiar Faces*



*Piper* adopted by Ellen Fitzgerald



The Angels: *Charlie, Farrah & Kate*



*Rufus*, the kitten, adopted by Richard Schiweitz



*Sharm* & her daughter *Shayna* went home with Karen Ansberry



Happy 4th Birthday to *Tank & Mini*, adopted by Michael Kew



Kaleena Quarles couldn't resist *Frankie*



Mary Schlesinger adopted *Tigger*



*Zorra* adopted by Candy Hernandez



*Zorro* adopted by Heather Register

## My List of Very Special Thank You's!

*Thank you, Susan Leroy...*

for always being there and for fostering kitties non-stop for the first four months of kitten season at RESQCATS! We started off the season rescuing so many pregnant moms, moms with young litters and kittens from an area shelter that were all scheduled for euthanasia. My car was loaded with what I thought I could handle and more just kept coming in as we tried to leave the shelter. You said, "Jeffy, I will be there to help you if we can get more out of here before their time is up." And you have been there...the whole time. You are always there...you are a gift to the kitties and to me!

*Thank you, Leanne Kaulbars* fostered her first litter for RESQCATS this season...and just did a fantastic job caring for five darling little kittens. *Thank you...* so much for helping in a pinch, Leanne...and it will not be the last time I call on you! You are terrific!

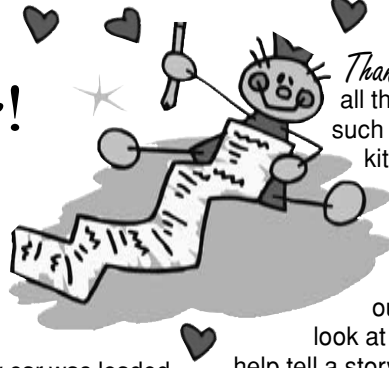
**Sue and Cathie Sadler-Pare** fostered several litters so far this kitten season and are always ready to help – just a phone call away. They have taken in moms with newborns and committed to caring for them for weeks until they are old enough to come to RESQCATS and be adopted. That is quite a commitment...and they live up to every expectation of purr-fection! *Thank you...*

**Nancy Aguirre** fostered and adopted "**Tango**." She and her husband **Jesus** loved him and gave him the comfort of a real home for the short life he had here on Earth. There are no words to express how much I admire them for their open hearts when Tango needed them. *Thank you...*

**Suzanne Wells** rescues kitties in the Santa Maria area, is always available to foster them until there is room at RESQCATS for them...she has the biggest, kindest heart and I love working with her! *Thank you...*

**Nancy and Jesus Aguirre** adopted "**Daphne**," a kitten who sat at RESQCATS for almost four months waiting for all of us to realize that she had chosen Nancy as her lifelong human! Daphne suffered some sort of emotional trauma before coming to RESQCATS at only eight weeks old. Her mom and her three siblings were just as sweet and social as could be...but Daphne had such an attitude about her sometimes that no potential adopter ever wanted her...except Nancy who spent hours with her every week. Daphne was deemed unadoptable. Yes, she could have stayed at RESQCATS, but I always worried that once she came out of her enclosure to join the others...she would disappear into the outdoor tunnels and never be open to human approach and touch. Now, she will have a real life, in a real home with room to romp and play and make up for some of her lost kittenhood! *Thank you...*

**Adobe Pet Hospital** has worked with RESQCATS for many years. **Dr. Greg Haskell** and his staff are always there, above and beyond the call of duty, and work hours to help in any situation or emergency. I must say a special *Thank you* to **Kendra** for being there for "**Shadonna**" and to **Rinata** for all your care with "**Tango**."



*Thank you...* **Susan Boesch** for all you do to help get all the kitties adopted...your marketing skills have made such a difference this season in helping get so many kitties adopted. I am not sure how it ever happened before you!

**Keith and Chris Flannery** take so much time from their busy schedule to create the best newsletter out there for any rescue organization! Each time I look at one, I see all the special graphics they create to help tell a story, or a border that makes a title purrfect. It is not something that just happens overnight! It takes hours, creativity and commitment...and it all shows Keith and Chris! *Thank you...*

**Huyen Nyugen** adopted "**Chip**," a leukemia positive kitten. He had such a bad attitude when he came to RESQCATS that we named him CHIP...like having a "chip on your shoulder!" Lots of love and socializing turned this little guy into the most playful, loving kitten anyone could want...but no one did...because of the Leukemia. There is no chance of the virus reversing – it has entered his bone marrow. Huyen showed up one Sunday afternoon with her boyfriend, Ross Fisher and said she was considering giving Chip a home. He has a new name of "**Raja**" and a great life for however long that may be. I think she is a miracle in human form! *Thank you...*



**Raja** formerly **Chip**

How do I begin to thank all of you at **St. Francis Pet Hospital** for all you do to help so many kitties that come through RESQCATS. You always keep door open for them with such compassion, caring and expertise. You are all awesome! *Thank you...*

A heartfelt *Thank you...* to **Dr. Andrea Wells and your staff** for giving "**Tango**" a chance for life and for all the compassion you have shared with all of us who miss this little angel.

*Thank you...* to the **Santa Barbara Humane Society** for allowing RESQCATS to use your clinic for the majority of the spay and neuter surgeries and for micro-chipping the cats and kittens...you have helped with well over 1400 in the last 13 years!

A very special *Thank you* to **Don Neal** for the wonderful donation of cat toys, supplies, cat beds, crates, food and so much more for the cats and kittens at RESQCATS. You cannot imagine how very much your generosity is appreciated!

*I would like to extend some very special and heartfelt Thank yous...to adopters who have given homes to an adult cat and/or a mom along with one of their kittens. It is so hard to find homes for the adult cats as everyone seems to want only the tiniest kitten due to their misguided perception that they can mold their personalities. About the time I reach the end of my rope hearing this, some special people step forward and take home an adult that really needs a home!*

*Thank you. . .each and everyone of you!*

**Carrie Grabenauer** adopted "**Tattoo**," a sweet mother cat of five, who watched all her kittens leave and then just watched and waited for Carrie to discover her. *Thank you...*

**Maddie Smith** gave one-and-a-half year old stray, "**Bogey**," a home! *Thank you...*

**Karen Ansberry** came to adopt an adult cat and left with a mother cat named "**Sharma**" and her only daughter named "**Shayna**." *Thank you...*

**Dan Kepl** gave a 5-year-old "**Lucy**" a home. *Thank you...*

**Nancy and Jesus Aguirre** adopted a six to eight month old kitty that had been hit by a car and required major surgery. They saw "**Aiken Bones**" through his recovery and now he rules their house. *Thank you...*

**Jaime Heer and Jestin St. Peter** gave "**KC**" and her son "**Blaze**" a home together. This pair was so bonded that RESQCATS just did not want to separate them! Our wish came true when Jaime and Jestin decided to take them home. *Thank you...*

**Laurie and Melissa Van De Werfhorst** adopted eight-month-old brother and sister kitties. *Thank you...*

**Cecilia Berry** fell in love with "**KeeKee**" when she was about 10 months old. *Thank you...*

**Kayce Daniels** adopted five year old "**Scotti**" knowing that she may have a long history of veterinary care since she is a full-bred "**Scottish Fold**." *Thank you...*

**Idalia Gomez** adopted a beautiful mother cat named "**Bella**" along with her daughter "**Vivian**." *Thank you...*

**Cindy Ganesh** gave a one-year-old mother cat named "**Lilly**" a home where she could heal and blossom from her life on the streets. *Thank you...*

**Dede Georgen** fell in love with "**Tuscany**" and gave her a forever home. *Thank you...*

**Inge Green** fell in love with "**Iris**," a one-year-old calico that had raised three kittens. She leaves wonderful messages on my answering machine saying how much she loves Iris and that she is the perfect cat for her! *Thank you...*

**Donna and Gabriel Ibarra** had a huge heart when they decided to adopt "**Miss Scarlett**" and her daughter "**Luna!**" *Thank you*

*Thank you...* **Thetis Sammons** for adopting a beautiful mother cat named "**Cat-Tina**" and her son "**Cruiser**."

**Laurie and Melissa Van De Werfhorst** adopted eight-month-old brother and sister kitties. *Thank you...*

**Cecilia Berry** fell in love with "**KeeKee**" when she was about 10 months old. *Thank you...*

**Eric and Maureen Lehman** adopted two-year-old "**Whisper**" and her one-year-old daughter "**Moonlight**." That has **never** happened in the history of RESQCATS. *Thank you...*

**Dion Cherot** gave "**Shadonna**" a home after her EIGHT kittens found homes! *Thank you...*

**Caitlin Beaman** gave "**Cleopatra**" a home when she was found roaming a canyon in Santa Maria after being abandoned. *Thank you...*

### The Unrecognized Hero

*continued from page 3*

you are adopting a child, will you choose them according to their looks? I don't think so. You will want the one who best fits in with your family.

Shelters and their founders and volunteers cannot perform miracles to meet everyone's list of specifications. The rescuers are the bridge between saving lives and finding the perfect human families for the cats they save. Once those families are found, their job should be finished and they should be able to move on to the next one. But that is not always the case. Shelters receive calls from people who adopted a cat that is having health or behavioral problems years after the original adoption. The callers expect the shelter to pay for their medical needs or take the cat back because it is not adjusting to the new baby, the new boyfriend is allergic, and a host of other excuses. If the cat was healthy when it was adopted, then it is up to the owner to be responsible for anything and everything that cat needs for its entire lifetime. When do these owners actually believe that their responsibilities begin?

In addition, there are the cats who do not get adopted as tiny kittens (people tend to want the tiniest and youngest ones about 90% of the time). The older ones that are not picked stay in the limited enclosures and space. Thus more precious lives are unable to be brought back from those shelters that do euthanize into the ones that don't because of lack of space.

I have shared only a small window of the daily happenings at a Rescue Shelter, the people that run them, and the animals that live in them. And I do mean daily. The cats need to be fed and litter boxes cleaned multiple times everyday. Cats get sick and need care at all times of the day and night just like people. Luckily for these rescued cats, the people that run the shelters and their volunteers have chosen to put the needs of these wonderful, beautiful and very lucky creatures above their own.

I cannot think of very many people in this world who would be willing to do that; let alone put up with the battles that I have written about here...every day...and sometimes during the middle of the night, as well. We are fortunate that these dedicated individuals do make such sacrifices, because, without them we would not have our beloved cats with us today.

Rescue shelters create families within their own organization with volunteers with everyone working together. But, most importantly they facilitate creating complete families for those that adopt from rescue. There is no greater joy in our lives than to be part of a family. We all want that. And we all deserve to be loved and cared for.

And that is why I believe Rescue Shelters and their founders and staff deserve to hold the title, definition, and honor of the word "hero." ♦

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



**President's Message***continued from page 1*

I have always tried to save as many as I can. I have endured comments like, "I couldn't do that," "How can you choose?" "What about the ones you didn't take?" My feelings were hurt by some of the comments, but this is not about my feelings...it is about the cats...and making a difference. Believe me, I realize I cannot save them all and I do think about and see the faces of the ones I cannot take. I am fortunate, however, because I am blessed with the ability to look forward most of the time and concentrate on the ones I do save, perhaps because of all the work it requires to care for them properly. It does not mean that I don't cry or feel sad...I just deal with all those emotions when I am by myself.

At the Volunteer Appreciation Day in May, I shared these thoughts with the volunteers. It was part of my presentation to them on "Making a Difference." I told them a story that I would like to share with you.

*A man was walking down the beach one day and saw a little girl in the distance throwing sand dollars into the ocean. The beach was covered with hundreds of sand dollars. As he approached, he asked the little girl, "What are you doing?" She replied, "I am saving the sand dollars." He looked up at the long stretch of beach covered with sand dollars and then back at her and said, "but there are hundreds of them, you can't make a difference." The little girl picked up a single sand dollar, threw it into the water and watched it sink.*

*Then she looked at the man and said, "I made a difference for that one!"*

Need I say more.

Caring for this group of over sixty cats and kittens has required a long commitment of time and money. Some are still here at RESQCATS. Most of the remaining ones are mother cats that have been left behind as adopters have come to adopt their kittens. There have been several "angels" that have given some of the moms homes and some have even adopted a mom and kitten! For them, there is not a thank you big enough.

RESQCATS has also taken several litters that were being given away by people when their cat had kittens. I panic when I see an ad for "free kittens." The kittens most likely go to homes where they are not spayed or neutered and in six months, they will still be kittens, but they will get pregnant and giving birth to their own litter when they are only eight or nine months old! RESQCATS contacts the owner and we offer to pay for a physical exam for their mother cat, test her for Feline Leukemia/FIV, have her vaccinated, de-wormed, spayed and micro-chipped. All we ask in return is for the owner to relinquish the kittens to us so that they can follow our medical protocol including spay or neuter surgery before we adopt them to qualified homes. Some people take us up on our offer and some never respond. But for every female we spay and every kitten that is given away and not spayed or neutered...we avoid a lot of unwanted births. (see "Millions of Reasons to Spay and Neuter," page 2)

Cats and kittens come to RESQCATS from the Santa Maria area which is overwhelmed with so many. Suzanne Wells live in a canyon area where cats can barely survive and kittens have little or no chance. She is always there to help rescue and save as many as she finds in the canyon area where she lives.

In addition we help Catalyst for Cats – an organization that traps, spays or neuters the feral cats and then returns them where they will have a feeding station set up. Many of the kittens are young enough to socialize, so we take them into RESQCATS as often as room allows.



The volunteers have been wonderful this season. Many of them are working many extra hours to make things run smoothly. Susan Leroy has had a one week break from fostering this entire season. Sue and Cathie Sadler-Pare foster at the drop of a hat and I often fill their bathroom with a mother cat and her litter. Nancy Aguirre is busy taking photos to post for hopeful adoptions. She also writes a biography about each kitty to post on their enclosures so that potential adopters can learn a little bit about each kitty. Susan Boesch takes care of posting photos and descriptions on our website and has great marketing skills. And I hate to think of how many kittens Denny Epperson has helped me bath. Jim Hurnblad runs so many errands for RESQCATS, repairs and helps with any maintenance that needs to be done and is always available to load and unload my deliveries of 100 bags of litter and 90 cases food each time! And that is just to mention a few of the volunteers! I am fortunate to have many new volunteers that work hard and fit right into our family here. And then, there are the long-time volunteers like Erika Sacks, Linda Higbee and Evelyn Kert...just to mention a few. All the volunteers are wonderful people making a difference in the world through RESQCATS!

To date (August 24, 2010) we have found homes for 97 cats and kittens since we opened in April for our 13th season and we are well over 1646 total adoptions. Every single kitty that passes through our door receives a full vet exam, is tested for Feline Leukemia and FIV, is vaccinated, de-wormed, micro-chipped and spayed or neutered before we find the purrfect home for them.

Many of the cats require additional medical care and we do that, too. Morgan had to be put back together, after being hit by a car and left to die on the street, at a cost of over \$1400. Shadonna suffered an infection that went into her brain when her eight kittens were only five weeks old. Her hospital stay was close to \$3000. Whisper and Moonlight needed extra blood work done to insure that their heart murmurs were not likely to progress into heart disease later on.

I also feel it is important to take care of the medical costs for those unadoptable cats and kittens that do get homes with people that adopt them because they want the kitty to experience a loving home for however long they have on this Earth. For example: Samantha lives with Bri Allen and Brooke Stockwell so that she will know love in a real home environment and RESQCATS covers her follow-up heart ultrasound and heart medication. I think that if one of our special needs kitties can experience that kind of love from someone who is willing to give their heart and soul to them for however much time we are blessed to have them, they deserve to have that. It may extend the life of the cat! I am grateful to these special adopters and happy to cover the medical costs. I would be doing that if they were living at RESQCATS!

We can do all the things we do because of all of you who open your checkbook and write a donation made out to RESQCATS! Yes, it is a tax deduction, but I think most of you do it out of the kindness of your heart and because YOU also want to make a difference! I want you to know that every dollar makes a difference here, so I am asking you once again to help us continue to do all the special things we do at RESQCATS by getting that checkbook out again. My thank you, as always, comes from the bottom of my heart.

Tonight, after you have written that check...go to the mirror...look in it...and say, "I made a difference today!"

Most sincerely,

Jeffyne Telson  
President, RESQCATS, Inc.

**So...Who Gets to Live at RESQCATS?**  
continued from page 1

cats do seem happy here...I just wish I could give them what all of you do when you adopt.

***I Thought it Might be Fun to Share Their Stories!***

**Blackie** is the most popular kitty at RESQCATS and she makes everyone feel like THEY are her favorite! She was one of the first RESQCATS kitties 13 years ago and was adopted by a family who wanted to wait until they got into a new home before bringing her home. By the time they were ready, she was six months old, bonded to everyone here at the time and I said "no" when the family finally got around to picking her up. And besides, she pees on everything...but she gets away with it because she is so cute and talks back to you whenever you speak to her. She is not the brightest cat in the world but that sure doesn't matter here! We tease that her motto is; "If I only had a brain!"



**Krystal** was saved by a Chihuahua when he discovered her at two-weeks-old in his backyard. I bottle-fed her until it was time to find her a new home...but by then my husband, Mitch had fallen in love with her and wanted to keep her. Being a single "found" kitten, she did not develop social skills with other cats so when one particular cat came into our home to stay, she got so upset that she acted

out by peeing on everything in the house. After many months of trying to get these two to get along, I reluctantly moved Krystal into the cattery. To my surprise, she was immediately so much happier. She is a "queen" cat...not "princess"...but "queen" and that is how she sees herself. She sits high above all the other cats on her perches as if to say...admire me for my beauty and status! So we all do...cats and humans alike!

**Sampson and Delilah** got to stay by sheer luck. Delilah is Sampson's mother. Sampson suffered from a severe upper respiratory infection as a kitten and it took a long time to get his litter healthy. By the time Sampson was well enough to pursue an adoptive home he had grown into a five pound kitten and no one would look at him because he was not a tiny baby. Taking him and his mom was never considered by any adopters. I had lost so many of the cats living here due to old age and illness in the cattery that it seemed empty. Many of the volunteers shared my sadness. One day, three of the volunteers commented that the cattery needed some new young life and happiness running around again. So we opened the door and let Sampson and Delilah out of their enclosure into the main cattery and they have been running around ruling the place ever since!



**Smudge** came to RESQCATS 12 years ago when she was rescued from a construction sight. She was about two years old at the time and was adopted out. But she returned a month later when the

adopters said she was not happy at their house. I could not imagine...she was belly up for me in her basket, purring and "making biscuits" within an hour of her return. I tried to find a home for her again...and again...and again! But each time I introduced a perspective adopter to Smudge she just laid in her basket like a "dead brick"...no response, no making biscuits, no belly-up...at least not until the hopeful adopter LEFT! So after four months of that and telling her she could not stay because I did not start RESQCATS to keep any cats...she won! She is the resident who has been here the longest time!



**Zultan** – Honestly, I never intended to give this little guy up after bottle-feeding him from the time he was only four days old! This brown tabby is not interested in the other cats here...he loves me...I am his world and have been since his rescue off the sidewalk! He is a character...he eats holes

in all the beautiful blankets in the cattery because he did not have the luxury of nursing his mom just to nurse for gratification. I bottle-fed on a schedule which is all you can do when you have tiny kittens and are trying to be a mommy substitute. Most often Zultan is the big lump you see under the blankets in the cat baskets or you can find him inside one of the cupboards sleeping. He is always the first to check out the newest fleece bed or condo. Zultan's biggest talent is acting as my assistant during adoptions...always there to help people fill out adoption papers...sometimes he is SO helpful, he gets to go spend time locked up in the front room of the cattery!

**Jake** was scheduled for euthanasia because he was semi-blind and had a "quirky" personality. The hospital that had cared for him for three months when he was found wandering the streets emaciated refused to let that happen. They called me and asked if I would foster him and try to find a home for him. I replied, "You want me to find a home for an eight or nine-year-old semi-blind cat with a quirky personality! I cannot even get people to look at a one-year-old loving mother cat that just wants to sit in their lap! People would rather have a hissing, spitting, hiding kitten because it is little and weighs two pounds!" On September 13, 2004, I adopted Jake....that would have been my father's 74th birthday and I wanted it to be a happy day of remembrance, not a sad day. My dad's name was Jake...that is how this special cat got his name!



**Endora** was adopted out as a kitten but came back after about six weeks. I took her out of the returned carrier and she sat in my lap and purred up a storm as if she was glad to be home. The poor girl that had adopted her left in tears saying, "I have not been able to touch her in three weeks!" Endora was adopted again the very next day but one day later she was returned after lunging at her new owners! The man said, "She is the

**So who gets to live at RESQCATS?***continued from page 13*

meanest cat I have ever seen." Once again, Endora curled up on my lap and purred. She had already made up her mind that this was where she wanted to live...and she has for many years now. You won't ever really see her—she is a small black cat that hides in her outdoor enclosure...it is her own private jungle and she appears to love it. She comes into her indoor space only to eat or get out of the rain, and never allows us to do anything but admire her from afar! She has not allowed me to even touch her in many years. So, obviously I have no photo of Endora!

*PS! We found Endora enjoying her life and she let us shoot a photo at the very last minute!*



**Precious** – Oh how did you ever get that name! She hates all other cats and liked only one person when she was turned into the Humane Society with that name and a personal history about how she did well with dogs, cats and people! Maybe she just stayed mad because she was turned in by her owner. Precious spent a year looking for a home through the Humane Society before coming to RESQCATS. I took her immediately when they asked...the Humane Society of Santa Barbara

has done so very much to help RESQCATS over the years. I had just lost a resident cat that required his own enclosure, so the timing was meant to be. Precious and I had a little chat on her first day here...I told her she needed to get along with me...that was an absolute! I have never had a problem with her...I adore her. And she has even picked several of the volunteers to be her friends, too.

**Houdini!** I just love his story. Houdini was apparently on his own and passed by RESQCATS, took one look, saw a free meal and decided to break into the cattery through the outdoor enclosures and help himself to dinner. Then he disappeared leaving his break-in sight wide open! Greyco and



Seacliff decided that was great, found the opening in the outdoor enclosure and decided to roam "the real world." Greyco often found his way to my front door or out in the backyard with his dogs. I had no idea at first how he had escaped. Then one day, I walked into the cattery and saw a black and white cat scurrying down the way and I thought, "Who on earth is that? That is not one of my cats?" It took several weeks to figure out what was going on as this cat appeared and disappeared based on his appetite! We did manage to trap him and get him neutered but that is the closest we could get to Houdini. It got to be a joke around here. "Is he in or is he out?" That is why he is named Houdini! We finally discovered how he was coming and going. I looked at him from afar and said, "Houdini, I don't care if you come or you go, but it is not a revolving door around here!" We repaired the outdoor enclosures so he could not escape or let anyone else out! It took Houdini eight months to ever enter the front room where all the comfortable beds and condos are...and it took a year and a half for him to ever let us begin to touch and pet him. Now, Houdini has been here almost five years, sits in full sight during adoptions and demands pets and head-butts from us all!

***There are Several other Kitties that Live in the House!***

**Miracle** was brought to me many years ago and only weighed



a few ounces at six weeks old...he was suffering from malnutrition and the vet said he would never live. I ignored that comment and went to work and hoped for a miracle to save his life. Hence, the name Miracle! He is almost 13 years old, is semi-blind and is a bit "off" in disposition and personality. I remember taking him on a vacation road trip with Mitch...we did not

want to leave him with the house sitter because he was not doing well. Traveling with him was a challenge...he passed gas due to the medication he was taking and it made our eyes water in the car. Mitch said he could not believe THAT came out of such a tiny kitten. Miracle stayed stuffed in Mitch's jacket as we toured places up and down the California coast on that trip. At night, we sneaked him into the motels with us. Each day he got better and better, and at night he just wanted to play more and more because he was feeling better. Miracle got so active that he got to spend the last night of our vacation in the car so we could get some sleep! We call Miracle our "neurologically damaged, special needs, unadoptable kitty." But we love him!

**Hope** was one of three kittens along with a mom that I fostered for the Humane Society several years ago. She was only a day old when I set her up with her siblings and her mom, "Fifi," in my office bathroom. When she was about four weeks old I noticed she had trouble keeping her balance when she walked. She looked like she was marching with those front little legs sticking out so far and stiff with each step...then boom!...her back end would just fall over! It was determined that Fifi had been vaccinated while she was pregnant and Hope had been affected by the vaccine while she was still in the womb. The message from her brain to her spine gets interrupted, to put it simply, so if she tries to walk and do something else at the same time, she falls over. When she can manage to somehow jump onto the couch each morning when I have my Chai Tea, she looks at me as if to say "Wow! How did I do that?" We just say that Hope cannot "multi-task"! Knowing she



would need a special home, we were granted the privilege of keeping her and, as always, Mitch fell in love with her mother so they both stayed.

**Buckey** is my shy cat in the house. I don't get to touch her unless I corner her to trim nails and then it is so stressful for her that I feel terrible. She was not always that way...she came to



me through one of my vets...her owners "had a bad feeling about her" and wanted her euthanized. She was a love when I accepted her. However, she had terrible diarrhea and I just did not know what to do after trying everything to help her. So, the vet said, "let me have her and see if I can help. She was still a tiny kitten at the time and spent two weeks at the vet hospital. She left me as a sweet little angel kitten and returned traumatized beyond repair. It is sad for me...but she seems happy hanging out in the guest room with Miracle and Hope. She is beautiful...long white and taupe fur with blue eyes...I get to see her every once in while when she gets the nerve to walk through the living room!

Let's see if I can get a photo of her! Oh there she is under the

covers on the guest bed I did get one!

**Suga' Bear and Honey Bear** are my little boys...well, they are four years old now. I cannot believe how the time has passed. They live in the house upstairs. Both are special needs kitties. They were from a litter of five kittens with no mom (she had been hit and killed by a car). A well-meaning rescue woman put those five kittens with a mom who was nursing three of her own kittens. The woman told me they were all able to eat on their own – the litter of five were about 10 days old and the mom's three were about two weeks old. I immediately saw that all these kittens were way too much for this mother cat who had an upper respiratory infection. Her own kittens had antibodies to fight off the infection with the help of antibiotics and supportive care, but the extra litter of five did not. They got so sick. One died on the vet's exam table and Suga' Bear was close to being not far behind him. Suga' Bear was hospitalized for a week...spending daytime at the vet and coming home with me at night so I could bottle feed him and keep him monitored and warm. It was a long, long week of many ups and downs, but he made it! Luckily he was left with only a bad eye (that later required surgery) and some intermittent upper respiratory problems. I did not think anyone would want to deal with that...and I was so attached to him by now that I couldn't give him up.



a mega-colon kitten...his muscles and nerve endings do not work well enough to push his bowels...so he is on medication for his entire life, twice a day. As far as I know he was the youngest kitten to be diagnosed with this problem, one usually sees this condition in older cats. Honey takes his medicine every day...morning and night like a real little trooper. I love these brothers. I end each night spending special time with them before I call it a day. Mitch calls them the "Bears"!

**Buddah Bear...** We had to name him something "Bear" because he lives upstairs with Suga' Bear and Honey Bear! A couple of weeks after he was born, on April 11, 2009, his mom collapsed due to an allergic reaction to something (many of you have read about his mom, Haley and his grandmother Jackie in past issues). Buddah was the runt of the litter and we were not sure why he was so slow at maturing and always kept to himself while his five brothers and sisters grew and played and romped. He went to several foster homes and everyone loved him, but he was slow to develop. In addition, he began having trouble going to the bathroom and pooping...just like what I had seen in Honey three years prior. So guess what! Another mega-colon kitten! But Buddah has TWO medications he must take, twice a day, everyday. I tried to find a home for him, but when people have the choice of a kitten that has no issues and one that does...I don't even have to say it...Buddah stayed! He loves Suga', Honey, and all my dogs and has brought so much life into my house.

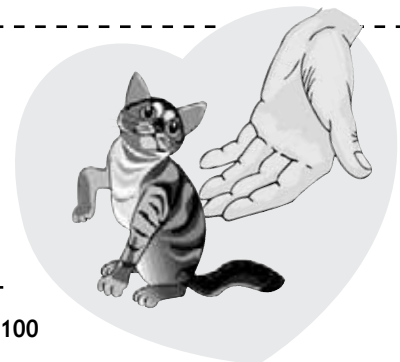


Honey Bear is Suga's brother (we call him Honey for short) and has his own set of issues. He just could not go to the bathroom and poop without straining and crying...I cannot tell you how many enemas this poor little guy had to have. It was determined that he is

I usually share with people that it is my job is THIS life to take care of the unadoptable, neurologically damaged, special-needs kitties...but in my NEXT life I want to be just like them! I want to be able to go into a shelter and pick anything I want! Then I started thinking as I wrote this article... I think in ANY life...I would still give a home to the unadoptable ones...it feels right in my heart and soul. ♦

# 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Wish List

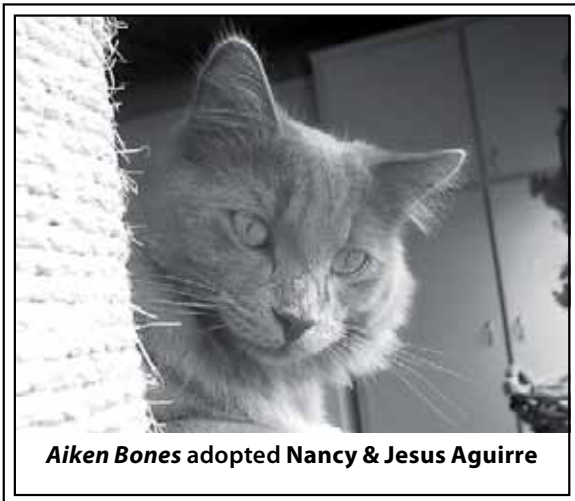
- ★ I wish for homes for the adult kittens at RESQCATS!
- ★ I wish to make a difference in the world.
- ★ I wish to encourage others to make a difference, too.
- ★ I wish for each reader of this newsletter to do something nice for someone today.
- ★ I wish for peace, light, love, blessings and hope.
- ★ I wish for "MIRACLES."
- ★ I wish to be able to look in the mirror each night and say, "I did the very best I could today."



## Dedication

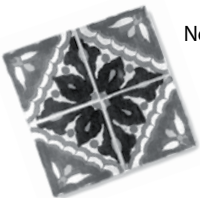
This newsletter is dedicated to all the "unrecognized heroes" who dedicate their lives and time to helping animals and people in the world.

*Our Heros...  
Rescue Shelters  
Around The World*



**Aiken Bones adopted Nancy & Jesus Aguirre**

WE ARE PROUD TO DONATE OUR TIME & DESIGN SKILLS TO SUCH A WORTHY CAUSE!



Newsletter Design & Production by Keith & Chris Flannery

FLANNERY  
Design & Graphics

805 . 966 . 2445  
art@montecitomag.com

## RESQCATS "Believe In Miracles" Lavender Soy Candle

*Order now...they are only available  
until the end of the year!*

Elizabeth Nicholson of Basil Essentials created a lavender soy candle, just for RESQCATS, a few years ago in memory of a special kitty named "Pearl."

Elizabeth sold Basil Essentials a few months ago, but the new owner of the company has agreed to continue making the candles until the end of the year. At that point she will begin helping charities in her own part of the country in Oregon.



This is one of the last opportunities you will have to order these beautiful candles and wish for your own miracles or give a candle to someone who needs a miracle!

It is also a wonderful way to help support RESQCATS! Following is an excerpt from Basil Essentials website about the candle and RESQCATS:

The RESQCATS Pure Soy glass pillar titled "Lavender Bud" is scented with pure Lavender essential oil and sprinkled with dried lavender buds. Lavender helps create an emotionally calming, relaxing and balancing atmosphere, while also healing the soul, providing nervous tension relief and relieving slight depression." The "Believe in Miracles" candle is specially designed for RESQCATS and the label shares that a donation was made to RESQCATS with the purchase of each candle for those friends and cat lovers that you may want to give it to as a gift.

"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."

Each candle can be purchased for \$22.00 and \$14.00 goes to support RESQCATS and their amazing work to save the lives of our beloved cat and kitten friends."

This makes a great gift for anyone who loves animals or who loves the scent of lavender!

Order at [www.BasilEssentials.com](http://www.BasilEssentials.com)

*Help us make a difference for the kitties!*



Visit our beautiful ResQ Cats website  
[www.RESQCATS.org](http://www.RESQCATS.org)

You can read past issues...  
the heart-warming stories or  
see the entertaining photos.

**Nathaniel & Laura Courtens**  
are the designers.

*Thank you for all your hard work.*

