

"Morgan" Teaches Us About the Responsibility of Having a Pet

The responsibility of having a pet is not something I have addressed seriously enough in past newsletters. However, after two incidences within the first couple of weeks of kitty season, I have decided it is time to address the subject!

THE FIRST WAS A CALL FROM A LADY WHO HAD A NINE-YEAR-OLD CAT she wanted to give up for adoption. She said and I quote, "She is a very sweet cat but she had a lot of allergy problems and has to be on special food. I have to take her to the vet a lot. It gets very expensive. The special diet costs about \$75 every three to four months. So I wondered if YOU would take her.....and by the way, I would like to get another kitty that is not so expensive."

The second call was about a six-to-eight-month-old kitty that had been hit by a car and found on the street. Dr. Rick Morgan from St. Francis Pet Hospital called me about the kitty, sharing that someone found a young kitty that had been hit by a car. The person was kind enough to stop, pick him up and bring him into the hospital. The kitty was not neutered so he had been out prowling around as unneutered cats do. In Dr. Morgan's view (and RESQCATS view, too)

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"Aikin Bones" aka Morgan



RESQCATS™

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

June 2010 Newsletter & Spring Fundraiser

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RESQCATS

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President's Message

I am proud to announce that RESQCATS began our 13th season in March 2010!

I RETURNED FROM A WINTER BREAK, at my home in Oregon, ready to meet the challenges of the year. As usual, there is no easing into kitten season! Within a week of my return, RESQCATS was responsible for over 20 cats and kittens. Some were even waiting for me when I returned.



Jeffyne with Soon-To-Be-Mom Shadonna.

"Lucy" had been found wandering the streets and came to RESQCATS from foster care the day after I got back. "Bogey" and "KeKe" wandered up to a ranch property in Santa Maria...fortunately, the property belonged to Suzanne Wells who has fostered several kitties for RESQCATS. We managed to find Bogey a home while I was gone. And KeKe found a home shortly after my return... guess there really is no such thing as a total vacation without kitties to help! The remainder of the kitties were rescued from "death row" at an area shelter. By the time this newsletter arrives in your mailbox, many kitties will have been rescued and there will be many stories to tell.

On March 23, 2010, I received an e-mail from a volunteer at RESQCATS listing the number of animals scheduled for euthanasia at a shelter in the area. She asked if there was any way I could take some of them into RESQCATS. Susan LeRoy, a RESQCATS volunteer and foster, and I made a trip to the shelter the next day and brought back two pregnant moms, a mom nursing four two-week-old kittens, and a five year old Scottish fold we named "Scotti." In addition we took a mother cat with four eight-week-old kittens along with her daughter from the previous year who had a single three-week-old kitten and finally four tiny ten-day-old kittens that needed to be bottle fed!

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Making A Difference

Isn't that what rescue is all about?

Does saving a cat in need make a difference?

And if it does...Who does it make a difference for?

Me? You? The cat? The person adopting it? Who?

What is it inside me that is so passionate about rescuing kitties?

What drives me to save as many as I can?

And how do I deal with those I cannot save?

Do I make a difference?

IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS, my mind has gone over and over these questions as I have listened to comments from people about saving cats and kittens from an area shelter that were scheduled to be euthanized due to overpopulation.

All kill shelters are terrible places. But the people working there are not to blame. Those individuals that have not taken proper care of their cats by having them spayed and neutered are to blame. Shelters all over the country are filled beyond capacity. When space runs out they make room for other animals that may have a chance of adoption by euthanizing those that have been in the shelter for as little as five days!

Those shelters hold cats that are pregnant, moms with newborn litters and moms with kittens that are already weaned. They include kittens of all ages and cats that are much older. There are full bred cats, cats that are frightened and hiding at the back of their cages and kitties that reach out between the cage bars to get your attention.

I cannot save them all...how do I choose? Which ones do I leave behind to face death if they are not adopted within five days of their arrival? How do I deal with that in my heart and conscience?

I have heard just about every comment you can imagine. "I couldn't do it. "You have such courage." "How can you do that?" "You must be pretty hard-core." "Thank you for doing what you do." "I could never choose."

I think all of the comments have been well-meaning. Some have hurt my feelings, but this is not about my feelings...it is about the cats. It is about what I can do. I cannot just stand by and do nothing. I am thankful for each person's reactions and expressed thoughts. They have enabled me to search into my heart and soul for answers that I owe only to myself but would like to share with you.

I realize I cannot save them all...but saving some is better than



not saving any. I do have meltdown moments about all those I leave behind that I know will be killed. The pictures of them in my mind are as clear as day and those visions haunt me if I let them. I have been blessed, however, with the strength and ability to look forward and "see the glass half full...rather than half empty." I am grateful that I can feel that I have done the very best I can at the end of each day.

I will share a story with you that I tell myself every time I go to rescue a kitty. It is a story about making a difference and it answers some of my own questions. It goes like this:

"An old man was strolling the beach one day. In the distance he saw a young boy and girl reach down, pick something up and throw it back into the sea.

Drawing nearer, he saw that the sand was littered with thousands of small stranded sand dollars. The children were patiently picking them up, one at a time, and returning them safely to the water.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Saving sand dollars," replied the children as they continued the job at hand.

The old man, somewhat jaded, thought the children's actions were futile as he said, "But the beach is littered with dying sand dollars. What possible difference can you make by doing this?"

The young girl bent over, picked up another one, and threw it with all her might. With a plop the sand dollar sank safely below the water.

She said, "I made a difference for that one." ♦

The Ten Commandments of The Gentleman Cat

(from *The Fur Person* by May Sarton)

1. A Gentleman Cat has an immaculate shirt front and paws at all times
2. A Gentleman Cat allows no constraint of his person, even a loving constraint.
3. A Gentleman Cat does not mew except in extremity. He makes his wishes known and waits.
4. When addressed, a Gentleman Cat does not move a muscle. He looks as if he hadn't heard.
5. When frightened, a Gentleman Cat looks bored.



6. A Gentleman Cat takes no interest in other people's affairs, unless he is directly concerned.
 7. A Gentleman Cat never hurries toward an objective, never looks as if he wanted just one thing: it is not polite.
 8. A Gentleman Cat approaches food slowly, however hungry he may be, and decides at least three feet away whether it is Good, Fair, Passable or Unworthy. If Unworthy, he pretends to scratch earth over it.
 9. A Gentleman Cat gives thanks for a Worthy meal, by licking the plate so clean that a person might think it had been washed.
 10. A Gentleman Cat is never hasty when choosing a housekeeper.
- And most important of all is the 11th commandment:
11. A Gentleman Cat becomes a Fur Person when he is truly loved by a human being. ♦

A Tribute to Greyco

A Stray Cat

Jeffyne wrote the beginning of this poem in 1996,
then finished it in 2010.

It was a cool night in December,
Just right before Christmas, if I remember.

We'd been out shopping and running about,
When dinnertime came, we thought we'd eat out.

We decided to eat at the Mesa Café,
Got out of the car and spotted a stray.

He was running around through the parking lot,
And a fear of cars he definitely had not.

I made up my mind right then and there,
To catch this cat, however I dare.

I got on my knees and crawled through the lot
Calling to him and hoped he would stop.

I rattled the bushes to entice this cat
"Til he came towards me and then just sat.

I picked him up and he started to purr,
A good-sized cat with short grey fur.

An owner at some point, he had had,
For this stray cat did not look bad.

"RESQCATS" is my calling in life,
Mitch just smiled and said, "That's my wife!"

So we took him home to our fur family,
Never suspecting how loving he'd be.

He fit right in so playful and sweet,
A nicer cat we never did meet.

But I knew all along in the back of my mind,
That his rightful owner I did have to find.

I started my search the very next day,
All along hoping that he'd get to stay.

For three weeks I searched and never did find,
An owner come forward to say that "he's mine."

So, now he's joined our menagerie,
We up to ten, my cat family.

That sounds like a lot, but there's more you see,
Each one is different and special to me.

Oh, one more thing you might want to know,
My found stray cat...his name is "Greyco"

(the following was written in April 2010)

For fourteen years Greyco did stay
And was part of our life each and every day.

A better cat could not be found
No matter how much one looked around

He made friends with every kind,
Including humans, dogs and other feline.

He lived in the cattery for most of his years
And many hearts he did endear.

He had a game he loved to play
I think he called it "steal away"



Greyco



Dedication

I dedicate this newsletter to you "Greyco."

You touched so many hearts...brought such laughter and joy to many over the years. And you left paw prints on our hearts that will never be filled when you journeyed to the Rainbow Bridge.

For any open door Greyco did pose
To slip right out right between our toes.

He loved to sneak passed a new volunteer
By slithering passed from the rear.

They'd worry and fret about his escape
But I'd say, a new volunteer he did just initiate.

He'd sit in my lap and show off, too
The talent and tricks that he could do.

He'd imitate playing the drums and guitar
Then swim forwards and backward, oh so far.
He was a special cat in so many ways
I wish forever he could stay.

He seemed to age just overnight
And asking him to suffer just didn't seem right.

Saying good-bye just broke my heart
But there's one thing he's been from the very start.

My "Mr.Grey" was a "purr" pleasure
And gave his love in endless measure.

For now, the Rainbow Bridge is where he'll be
Young again, frolicking and waiting for me. ♦

*"Thousands of years ago,
cats were worshipped as gods.
Cats have never forgotten this."*

~ ANONYMOUS



Angel Blessings *Tonka's Microchip Helped Reunite a Family*

Tonka's Rescue

TONKA WAS RESCUED FROM THE STREETS OF SANTA BARBARA when a kind lady noticed an injured cat and contacted Rebecca Branscome, a **RESQCATS** volunteer that she knew. When Rebecca saw that Tonka's tail was dragging behind her she called me with the concern that Tonka would be put down if she took it to the pound with such an injury. I gave her the okay and Tonka was immediately taken to the vet. The vet found that Tonka was doing well but advised that at some point the tail would need to be amputated due to the injury.

It was a blessing that Tonka had been micro-chipped and although, her chip had not been registered, it could be traced to the veterinarian that had placed the tiny chip in her body. Then it was just a matter of our vet getting some personal information about the owner from the veterinarian and clinic that had inserted the chip.

Sadly, our research revealed that Tonka's human guardian, Andrea Knott, had died a year before. And only Tonka knows what occurred between the time Andrea died and the time she was rescued a year later...almost to the day of Andrea's death.

The research did not end there! Susan Leroy, another **RESQCATS** volunteer, and Rebecca were able to trace Andrea's mother, Elizabeth, and brother, John, who were living in Reno, Nevada! One phone call to them by Susan and we knew this kitty was going home to them once she recovered from her surgery.

But we had to figure out a way to get her to Reno. Since winter weather was quickly approaching we decided to have Susan Leroy fly with Tonka in a carrier. I won't go into detail about the plane ride, but Susan says that Tonka would have much preferred to be seated in the chair next to her rather than in the carrier under the seat. And Tonka proceeded to try and do just that on the flight!

Susan met John and Elizabeth Knott, Andrea's brother and mother, who were anxiously waiting at the airport. It was quite an emotional reunion and Susan was invited to John's house to see where Tonka would live.

I hope Andrea is at peace and smiling down from Heaven at her beloved Tonka

and her mother and brother, knowing that Tonka is now safe and is helping to heal their grief. After all, John and Elizabeth now have a little part of Andrea.



John and Elizabeth Knott welcome Susan LeRoy.

mother answered and her routine instinct was to hang up on most unidentified numbers dismissing them as telemarketers. She answered politely, as we all do, affording the customary ten-second pitch by the caller. But this particular caller offered no sales pitch of switching long distance carrier or selling some other service. The kind voice on the other end spoke of an offer unlike anything we could have ever dreamed of.

"My name is Susan LeRoy of **RESQCATS** in Santa Barbara, do you recall Andrea's cat Tonka?" Andrea's heartbroken mother, Elizabeth, replied instantly, "Yes, I certainly do! What is this all about?"

"We have found Tonka here in Santa Barbara" said Susan.

"She is stable after getting hit by a car on Milpas Street, and suffered a spinal injury but she is safe now. Unfortunately the poor thing is going into surgery to remove her tail due to the spinal injury, but she can walk and she will be a beautiful bobtail. We at **RESQCATS** will take care of everything, we just want to place Tonka with a loving family and Andrea's family might be best." My mother's immediate answer was a resounding and thankful YES!!!

Susan LeRoy was obviously no phone jockey slinging snuggies, but a philanthropist for non-profit **RESQCATS** (www.RESQCATS.org), an organization that strives to find homes for cats in need of a home. Tonka was the proud feline belonging to my late sister Andrea Elizabeth Knott, a Santa Barbara local who unexpectedly passed away in October 2008. In Andrea's wake, there was a grieving family who was left empty and heartbroken at the loss of their dear daughter, sister, aunt, niece and friend in this city of trembling leaves, Reno, NV.

Thank you **RESQCATS**. Thank you for a lesson learned and a reminder of the simple things in life like loving a cat and returning her home. It is in their simple integrity, going above and beyond the call of duty in returning Andrea's cat Tonka to her family. They kept it simple and proficient...scanning a microchip Andrea had placed in Tonka's neck, persistently following that data to lo

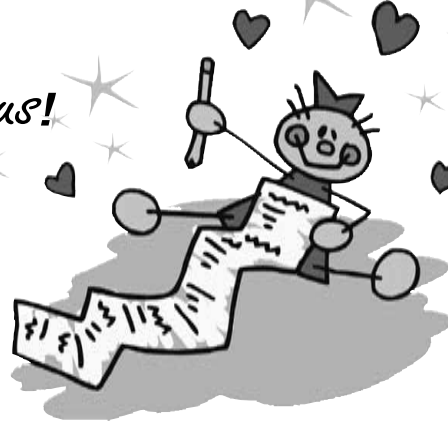


John, Andrea and Elizabeth Knott

John Knott Continues Tonka's Tale

THE PHONE RANG AT THE HOME OF A GRIEVING FAMILY in October of 2009. A kind, yet unfamiliar voice was on the line. My

♥ My List of Some Very Special Thank You's!



Thank you, Karen Wilson! She adopted "**Willy**" from RESQCATS 12 years ago when Willy was two years old. She has stayed in touch all of these years and sends a beautiful donation every single year with a sweet note and update about him!

Thank you Rachel *** for the wonderful toys and blankets that you knitted for the cats and kittens at RESQCATS! I bet you had a lot of help from "**Leila**" and "**Samar**," the kittens you adopted. The time you took to make all the things is so appreciated. It was like opening a box of rainbows!

A very very special *Thank you* to the "**Polar Bear Angels**," Paula and Melodie Haines. The **Polar Bear Fund** was set up several years ago for kitties requiring special medical care beyond the normal protocol at RESQCATS. **Polar Bear** was adopted from us by their father soon after he lost his favorite cat. Polar Bear required constant medical care and when he died and went to the **Rainbow Bridge**, a fund was established in his name. For years, Paula and Melodie work all year long making toys, blankets, pillows and putting wonderful gift baskets together for adopters. *Thank you* so much for all you do to make a difference...you are light, love, hope, blessings and miracles for all kitties here.

Thank you so much, Robert and Diana...for everything!

Thank you, Dr Rick Morgan at **St Francis Pet Clinic** for giving "**Morgan**" a chance and for all you do for RESQCATS!

Roger Smith hand delivers a beautiful donation every year with his visit on New Year's Eve for the kitties. He is a very special friend to me and he makes such a difference every year to so many kitties. How do I say a big enough *Thank you*, Roger!

A very special *Thank you* to Suzanne Wells for taking in and fostering "**KeKe**" and "**Bogey**" when they showed up at her home in Santa Maria. She followed through on taking them to the vet for check-ups, medicating them for all they needed and was open to having Bogey adopted right from her home while I was away in Oregon. I bet she got a taste of what it is like to run a rescue organization and she did a purrfect job! I bet both kitties would have loved to stay with her!

Linda Higbee was charged with taking care of the resident cats this past winter while I took some time off! I can just close the gate behind me on the way to Oregon and not have a worry when she is there! She is the reason I can return rested and relaxed and ready to go for another season. There is not a *Thank you* big enough, Linda!

Thank you to all the volunteers who continued to come and help out at RESQCATS and care for the resident cats while I was away for several weeks before starting our **13th season**. You are all above and beyond the call of duty!

Thank you Sue and Cathie Sadler-Pare for being there at a moment's notice to foster "**Moonlight**" and "**Starlight**", a mom and her single newborn kitten.

Susan Leroy, how do I *Thank you* for taking on the challenge of a pregnant mom and bottle-feeding four newborn kittens that would have been euthanized at an area shelter. You are an angel to the animals and to me!

Thank you Rudy and Vicki Stuber for all you have made possible at RESQCATS!

Keith and Chris Flannery dedicated hours of work to put together yet another awesome newsletter! They have no idea the difference they make for RESQCATS by designing and producing the newsletter which is our major fundraiser. My hat is off to them for all the hours of finding just the right graphics and images to catch your attention and make it the best newsletter out there!

Susan Boesch put a lot of marketing ideas together to help get the word out there about RESQCATS, who we are and what we do which in turn will help with our adoptions!

She is a real go-getter and full of super ideas! She even set up RESQCATS on **Facebook**!

Thank you Lisa Remorenko and **Animal Adoption Solutions** (www.animaladoptionsolutions.com) for your time photographing the adoptable cats and kittens. She posts the photos and videos on **Craigslist**, **Petfinder** and other sights and has made a huge difference in finding homes for so many!

Thank you Janet Dewey for making the cattery and new isolation area look absolutely beautiful. She painted the floors and enclosures in the cattery and even added little paw prints that guide you through the facility. She did a beautiful job... painting the new isolation area in rainbow colors...and you all know how I love rainbows!

Thank you Donn Leroy! I know you did not sign up to be a volunteer with RESQCATS, but you really are such a part of it here. From Susan (his wife and a long-time volunteer who has fostered many litters and moms with babies) I hear how much you help out "behind the scenes." Donn, I think you are great!

Thank you Mitch, for being my husband, my best friend, my biggest fan and most of all...for always being there to help in so many ways. I could not follow my passion to rescue if it were not for all your emotional support along the way. You always seem to know when I need a hug, you are there to listen when I need to talk and you hold me up when I need to cry. You are an amazing man and I love you.

A Volunteer's Story
***I Want to
 Make a Difference...***

Story by Nancy L. Aguirre



THAT WAS THE TITLE AND TOPIC OF THE SPEECH that Jeffyne gave at the Volunteer Appreciation Day luncheon she and Mitch gave for the volunteers on May 2nd. It was my first luncheon and this is my first year volunteering at RESQCATS but I feel as though I have found my forever home here.

For many years I have felt that same feeling that Jeffyne talked about – wanting to make a difference. I know that I won't find a cure for cancer or solve all the problems in the world, but I do want to leave this earth having made a difference in some small way – to have made a change to someone or something. I just didn't know how I was going to do it, or where, but I knew it had to be with animals. I've always had an extra sensitive spot for animals. Everyone has always kidded me that I would rather be with animals than with people – if they only knew how right they were!!! I remember when I was a child, cutting out the "Pet of the Week" pictures from the newspaper and saving them in old cigar boxes of my Dads because I thought if the pictures got thrown away, the animals would get their feelings hurt – that nobody loved them. And I just knew that if I cut out and saved their pictures, it sent a message to them that I loved them.

My husband and I never had children. It was a conscious decision we made before we got married. We decided to have cats instead. We've been married almost 10 years but have been together over 20. Our cats are "our children" and we love them with all of our hearts. Last year we lost all three of our cats within six months of each other. The first to leave us was our beloved Bloo who died in my arms at the age of 17. Cassie died from a difficult struggle with cancer two months later at the age of 8. Then, four months after that, at 18 years old, Maxx joined his sisters on the Rainbow Bridge.

It was shortly after we lost Bloo that I picked up a *Mesa Paper* one day while out running errands, and saw an ad for RESQCATS volunteers. It was completely by chance as I had never looked at this paper before. I wanted to call immediately but was really nervous about doing it—I had great fears about volunteering at shelters. I guess I'd seen too many of those commercials from the HSUS and other Societies on TV where they show those horrible and sad pictures of the unwanted, abused animals while they ask for money to support their cause. Somehow I associated those animals with animals in our shelters that needed homes—animals that were just waiting for someone to take a little time out of their day to come to their shelter and help them heal, nurture them, play with them, pet them, and/or give them a little love and compassion. I'd never volunteered before because I was afraid that it would hurt my heart too much to hear their stories, their cries, to see their sad faces, to fall in love with them and not be able to take them all home with me at the end of the day. I didn't want to face that kind of reality. So I never did anything – I suppose I did what many people do. I closed my mind to it and hoped someone else would take care of them. But something about this ad called out to me and this time I decided to listen. Jeffyne and I played phone tag for a few days but we finally met and I'll never forget that day.

I met Jeffyne at her door and she took me on a tour through the entire RESQCATS property and we talked and laughed and I showed her the pictures of my cats and there were tears as well. I couldn't believe what an amazing place these cats lived in! Each cat has a basket with a heating pad in them, indoor/outdoor enclosures that are built around Avocado trees, climbing structures inside that reach to the ceiling, and better toys than I had when I was a kid!

All my fears of sad, lonely, deprived shelter animals flew right out the window and I knew I would be happy here. I knew I could give love here and I knew I could find love here. I think we both knew I was home.

In her speech, Jeffyne spoke of the cats at the Bakersfield shelter reaching out of their cages to get attention – to be seen and heard – needing to be saved.

I guess in a way, when we met, I was in my own cage reaching out with my hands and she took them and she saved me that day and there are no words that I can come up with to thank her for all that she has done for me. I guess I need RESQCATS as much as RESQCATS needs me.

My husband and I have rebuilt our family again with three wonderful rescued cats whom we love dearly and wouldn't have now if it weren't for Jeffyne and RESQCATS. I get to come in to the cattery twice a week (and sometime's more!) to play with kittens and cats and get loved and give love and I can't think of a nicer place I would rather be. I also realized that shelters aren't a sad, depressing place to avoid, but are happy, loving places to spend time and the animals are so grateful for every minute that you spend with them that there really is no greater gift that you can give them.

I also have to say something about the people who volunteer at shelters. We all have a common goal in mind – to care for and love the animals and see them go to wonderful, loving, forever homes. The reason that we donate our time to come and play with the animals, or clean enclosures, etc. is because we know of the horrors that go on in the world and want to help out in any way that we can. There are those who can't afford to donate money, or even adopt an animal where they live, and that's okay because they can do something else – they can give their time to a shelter. All that an animal asks for is a gentle touch, a soft voice, and a true heart. The volunteers that I have met at RESQCATS are all such amazing people, that I am not surprised they have all been hand-picked by Jeffyne herself. I am also hoping to become friends with some of them outside of the "workplace".

The Volunteer Appreciation Day was really a very special day for me for numerous reasons. Maybe it was because it was my first one. Or, because I finally got to see the inside of that grand house? Was it because of that gorgeous view? Could it have been that deliciously sinful cheesecake that Linda made (BTW – I want the recipe!!!)? Partly for all of those reasons, but it was really because we were all welcomed so wholeheartedly into Mitch and Jeffyne's home and treated so much like family. I felt like I was at a family reunion even though I was new and didn't know but a very few people. That is how relaxing and welcoming the experience of the feeling was for me.

So, while I'm sitting here listening to Jeffyne giving her speech (my husband made a CD of it) the tears are streaming down my face as I realize how grateful and thankful I am to have found this wonderful place. She is talking about the doctors who have performed thousands of spays and neuters this past year, thus saving multiple thousands of lives and possible deaths; about the wonderful foster parents for the tiny kittens; the generous Polar Bear Club and all they do; she individually thanks each volunteer and tells them why they are so special to her; and she lovingly reminds Mitch that no matter what, he is the most important person in her life and if it wasn't for him, she would not have any of this. Jeffyne gives everyone so much acknowledgement and appreciation in her speech. She takes nothing and no one for granted.

It is at this point I realize that in the middle of all of this is me. I am a part of RESQCATS now too. I am also involved in saving lives and making the world a better place for those who are already in it. I am a part of the title of her speech and in that my dreams are coming true too. I am making a difference. ♦



And Now...A Few Words From Mr. Jeffyne... Welcome to Seacliff

FOR THOSE OF YOU who have visited RESQCATS some time in the last several years, you may recall seeing the "WELCOME TO SEACLIFF" sign at the foot of the driveway that leads to the cattery.

In addition to displaying the name of our property and welcoming you to RESQCATS, the sign also displays the diverse population that resides on our bluff. Today those numbers are: cats 17; dogs 9; tortoises 15; people 2 and other "?".

That "other" designation continues to raise a lot of eyebrows. In fact one of our volunteers always thought it referred to her since the "people" category clearly accounted for Jeffyne and me!

Actually, the "other" group is a designation for the vast array of other species of animals who have inhabited our Seacliff property from time to time...raccoons, skunks, opossum, gophers, tree rats, lizards, an occasional fox, a white owl, a lone coyote, lots of birds and a long-departed peacock!

The remaining population categories on the sign are much easier to interpret...dogs, which, of course, should have read "collies" because collies have been the only breed of dog that has ever lived here. In fact, we have had 21 collies over the years...starting with Wolfie, a collie/shepherd that Jeffyne inherited when we got married, up to and including Adonis, our newest rescue.

In between, the sign could have been populated with our other collies...Traveler, Miejek, Spirit, Triton, Angel, Poseidon, Destiny, Starr, Charity, Harmony, Joy and Triumph who have now all passed to the rainbow bridge and Apollo, Faith, Misjef, Ares, Orion, Journey, Whisper and Adonis who live here with us at Seacliff.

Notice the pattern of the dog's names? After Wolfie and Traveler, all our boys are named for Greek gods...Triton, Poseidon, Apollo, Ares, Triumph, Orion and Adonis. What can I say, Jeffyne has an affinity for Greek men!

Our female collies name's are less tangible and evoke more of a "feeling." First there was Miejek, pronounced "Magic," (Jeffyne's Perfect Dog who I wrote about in the last newsletter), then came Spirit, Angel, Destiny, Starr, Charity, Harmony, Joy, Misjef, Journey (because the road stopped here!) and last year's little deaf girl that we got from Houston, Whisper.

This canine list does not include the stray greyhounds that "followed Jeffyne home" or Henry, the pit bull that we found on the highway in Weott, California or the two immense bloodhounds that found us in the Albertson's parking lot late one night. Fortunately, we were able to find the rightful guardians for all those rescues and they never became permanent residents nor appeared on the Seacliff sign!

Another specific animal category noted on the "Welcome to Seacliff" sign is tortoises. And guests to the property ask more questions about this group than the "dogs," "cats" and "others" combined. People frequently ask, "Where did the tortoises come from?" "How many are there?" "Do you adopt out them out?" "Do they make good pets?" "What part of the country or the world do the tortoises come from?" "Do you breed them?" And the most frequently asked question, "What are tortoises doing at a cat rescue sanctuary?"

Well, for those of you curious about the tortoises, I promise to answer all these questions and many more in a future issue of the

RESQCATS Newsletter. Because, just as Jeffyne tells me when I distract a prospective kitten adopter to one of the tortoise enclosures, "Sweetheart, this is about the cats not the tortoises!" (You may remember me sharing in a previous article that while Jeffyne loves all animals, her real affection stops at the reptile house!!)

To satisfy your basic curiosity, the sign says we have 15 tortoises. They are actually, giant African sulcata tortoises. They range in size from 10 to 115 pounds and are all about eight to ten years old. Under good conditions they can live 100 years and grow to the hefty weight of between 150 and 250 pounds!

The main facts are: Sulcata tortoises are big, they're friendly, they eat like horses, they grow like weeds, they're as strong as a small elephant and if permitted, will re-produce like rabbits! They are wonderful pets but are ABSOLUTELY not for everyone!

The major sign designation (and the reason I built the sign in the first place) was to highlight the cat population at RESQCATS. Initially, my plan was to list all the cats residing on the property. That would include our personal pets (cats that Jeffyne and I adopted prior to the inception of RESQCATS), permanent RESQCATS' residents (cats and kittens deemed unadoptable for social or medical reasons, or as Jeffyne refers to them "our neurologically damaged, special needs, unadoptable group"), as well as all the cats and kittens available for adoption to the public.



Seacliff (April 1995 – May 22, 2010)
When Mitch & Jeffyne moved to Seacliff, they named their first adopted kitty in their new home "Seacliff."
Sadly, Seacliff left them for the Rainbow Bridge just before this newsletter went to print.

However, several years ago when total adoptions exceeded 1000 cats and kittens and a single season generated more than 170 adoptions, I quickly realized that we could keep a full time RESQCATS volunteer busy just changing the sign numbers to stay abreast of adoptions. So, we elected to list only our cats and the other permanent residents of RESQCATS on the sign.

As of today, the cat population...six who live in our house and ten who live in the cattery...total 16...but that number has been as many as 27!

By the way, if you're interested, we chose Seacliff as the name of our property because that is the name of a motel in Gualala, California where we stayed on one of our coastal road trips many years ago. We always tried to get a room on a cliff where we could hear the crashing of the waves. But this facility was extra special because in addition to the ocean sounds, the room

came with a cat who was the motel mascot. And that cat chose to spend the night with us!

Oh...his name? Well, of course...it was Seacliff!! ♦



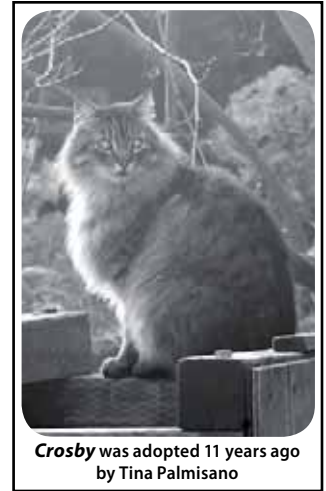
Asya
adopted by Violetta Hatigpogly



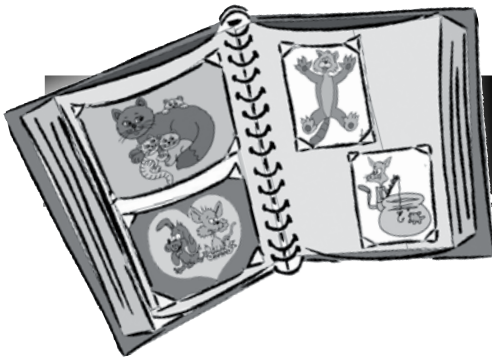
Maya
adopted by Nancy & Jesus Aguirre



Cali hiding in the laundry
adopted 10 years ago by Barbara Schmidt



Crosby was adopted 11 years ago
by Tina Palmisano



RESQCATS • FAMILY ALBUM

Welcome New Family Members & Some Familiar Faces



Gwinnie
adopted by Laura & Nathaniel Courtens



Whisper
adopted by Keith & Chris Flannery, 2000



Bryce in his winter socks
adopted by Sue & Cathie Sadler-Pare



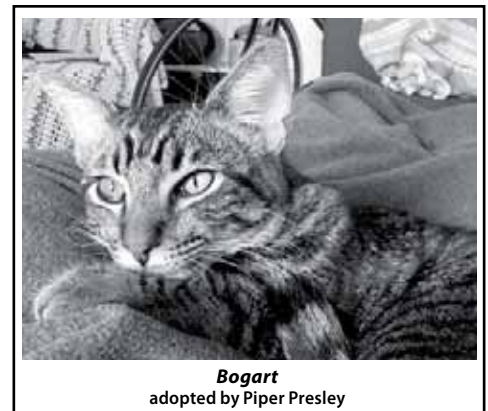
Hezekia was formerly Samantha
and is doing well with her health



Maddie and Oliver
Maddie was adopted by Kate Bechtel



Gatsby
adopted by Joanna Haynes in 2000



Bogart
adopted by Piper Presley



Silas was "Second Chance" at RQC adopted by Julie & Bill McGeever



Savannah was adopted by Bri Allen & Brooke Stockwell



Bogart e-mailing RQC adopted by Piper Presley



Cali found her bed adopted by Barbara Schmidt



Hardwin adopted by Chantal Marie



Gump adopted by Laura & Nathaniel Courtens



Bogey found his home with Maddie Smith



Meeka adopted by Nicole Comella

*I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid
and self-contain'd, I stand and look at them long and long,
They do not sweat and whine about their condition,
They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins,
They do not make me sick discussing their duty to God.
Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented with the mania of
owning things.
Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that liveth
thousands of years ago,
Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth.*

~ WALT WHITMAN



Gwinnie, adopted 4 years ago, now helps Nathaniel Courtens with the RQC website.



Hezekia (formerly Samantha) adopted by Bri Allen



Elijah - mamma's boy adopted by Joanna Haynes

Thank You For Staying In Touch!



Jeffyne,

The felines in Santa Barbara must be the most blessed in the world!! You and your caring volunteers at **RESQCATS** have certainly enhanced my life and that of my kittens, "**Ben**" and "**Chloe**" that are now 1-1/2 years old.

They were born to a feral mom in horse stables and with your tips and help on taming, training, health care and indoor living they are healthy and happy.

They adore "**Echo**," my older female tabby from ASAP, and although she has been an outdoor cat, she now prefers the indoor life with the kittens. They have a cat walk (wire tunnel) from a window in the house that leads to two separate protected outdoor rooms. The indoor-cat concept was new to me before Ben and Chloe. I now consider myself a crusader/advocate for keeping cats indoors.

Many people visited my garden and are intrigued with the outdoor cat rooms. Some have returned with friends, hopefully inspired as well.

So again, thank you all from my heart and those of the many feline innocents you've helped to find loving homes!!!

With love,
Diane Dunhill

Hi Jeffyne and kitties at **RESQCATS!**

Just wanted to say 'hello' and let you all know how much my family and I think of you!

This is me and my favorite toy lamb. I hope you like my latest picture!

Lots of snuggles from "Asya" and Violetta Hatipogly



Asya

Dear Jeffyne,

John and I are hoping we can share some of "**Tonka's**" luckiness in being returned to us after Andrea's passing in October of 2008. We have enclosed a donation to help you continue giving sanctuary to others like Tonka.

You and Susan (Leroy) prove that traditional loving and humane individuals are among us! Words cannot express our gratitude for your tender loving care. Your sacrifice causes John and me to feel Andrea's continued presence.

Tonka is home!
RESQCATS perseveres in giving comfort to the heart-broken.
Love,
Liz Knott

Dear "Auntie" Jeffyne,

Here is a donation for my friends at **RESQCATS**. It is the allowance I made for helping mommy (Nancy Aguirre) make the bed and do laundry and finish the milk in her cereal bowl. But I want you to have it because you were so good to me when I lived with you at **RESQCATS**.

Maya Aguirre (the cat)

Good Morning,

We just wanted to express our gratitude to you and all the hard work you did taking care of "**Stoli**" (formerly "Brunswick") while he was a baby. He makes our family complete. We wanted to let you know he is a very happy and well rounded out kitty...

He has gotten so big, he is already bigger than our other kitty. They get along great...Sometimes he can be a little aggressive but we are working on that.

Hope you have a wonderful Holiday and New Year...

Lolita and Krista



Stoli

Jeffyne,

I've been meaning to write to you to give you an update on the kids. We are all doing just great. The kids both know I'm their human. "**DeeDee**" is starting to treat me a bit like her Mother and "**Daley**"...Well, it will be a while before he thinks of me as Mother. DeeDee does sleep in my lap often and I like that. Daley will come over and lay right next to me on the sofa but only if DeeDee is there first. He does, however, sleep on the sofa often but at "his" end. Ha-ha!

All have adjusted to the routine. It's so cute on work days as they wait outside the door for me to get out of the shower so that we can go downstairs and play "fishing pole." These kids would play this game all day if possible. Daley still loves his Mardi Gras beads and I don't fear that he will swallow them. He has not broken one necklace...and he has about 6 of them. DeeDee chases anything that's in the middle of the living room...she is a silly girl...and I love her.

Anyway, we are all doing well.

Marca Rowley

Hi Jeffyne,

Can you believe that "**Willy**" is 14 years old and that 12 years ago we found each other at **RESQCATS**?!

He is still going strong and is enjoying his cushy indoor life. My life would be truly empty without him.

Happy Holidays,
Karen Wilson

Dear Jeffyne and everyone else at **RESQCATS**,

Wanted to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a great New Year!

It has been about seven months since "**Leila**" and "**Samar**" (aka "Porsche" and "Hummer") adopted me and I just love them!!! They crack me up. Leila has facial expressions for every occasion and Samar is constantly purring and chasing (sometimes non-existent) things around the room.

Here are a few toys and blankets that I knitted for the cats and kittens at **RESQCATS**, and I hope they all find loving homes!

Lots of hugs, purrs and laughs,
Rachel, **Leila** and **Samar** Ross

My name is "**Teddy**" Branch. You were so good to me six years ago when I was at **RESQCATS** that I wanted to help the other cats with a donation!

With love,
Teddy (the cat) and Debbie (the human) Branch

(See "Believe in Miracles...A Second Chance" in the December 2009 newsletter before reading this wonderful letter. You can find it on our website at www.RESQCATS.org)

Dear Jeffyne,

This letter has been a long time in coming [written Dec 3, 2009]. First, Bill and I wanted to wish you and your husband the best of the holiday season. I hope it is a joyous one for all your family.

Second, we wanted to thank you for bringing us "**Silas**" (aka "Second Chance"). As I watch him play with the low-hanging ornaments of his first Christmas tree, I realize that I couldn't imagine life without him.

When I picked him up and brought him to our house, Silas made himself at home within hours of arrival. Within a day he was completely at ease with his surroundings (even the dog). It didn't take long before we weren't sure who was the boss. He now has us wrapped around one long fingered paw...and liking it.



Silas

In some ways he has the temperament of a dog. There is nothing he likes better than to flop in front of the fire, play tag with Jett's tail, drink the dog's water

On Thanksgiving, he found that the turkey giblets were just the best thing ever (they were SUPPOSED to be for the gravy!) That skinny little mite has filled out and continues to have an astonishing appetite (and is as regular as any animal I have seen!)

Bill and I are still amazed that a kitten that had gone through so much, was just so willing to be loved. The first few days he ran back and forth between the two of us just to make sure we were sticking around. He also decided that he was sleeping nowhere but our bed for the first few months. Now, he's got the teenager thing going, and is quite happy to spend at least a couple of hours a night on his own perch. When we have our coffee and read the paper in the morning, we now have two animals crowding us for space instead of just Jett, our dog. The luxury of their sprawl is quite funny. You would think we were lucky enough to be invited into THEIR bed.

Silas still comes up and puts out a paw to touch my face when I least expect it. I am not sure if it's a "I can't quite believe that I have a forever home, people and a dog all my own," or if it's more that "yeah, I got you babe," type of thing! Probably the second, He has become quite sure that we need him as much as he needs us.

I attribute Silas' ease, ability to trust, and his confidence to all the effort you went through to save him, not once, but twice, making him well and loving him as your special little foundling. He listened when you said that you were going to find him the right family for the second time around. When we showed up at RESQCATS, he knew before we did that he was coming home with us. Watching how you run your operation, I can just imagine that most cats would be quite happy to stay at your house for the duration, so I guess we were lucky that he was willing to take a "chance" on us.

The work you do is not wasted on either Bill or me. Given that we are also in a care-driven industry, it is quite inspiring to see someone like you do what you do with all your heart. The world needs more of that. Especially now.

Thank you for rescuing Silas (twice!), treating his giardia and malnutrition, and for showering us with gifts of medication, toys and food for those first weeks. I am enclosing a contribution to RESQCATS in appreciation for what you did for us, for Silas and for many others. Please keep us on your mailing list and I will make sure we continue to support your organization.

Cheers!

Julie and Bill McGeever

Aunt Jeffyne,


Hi! We just wanted to send you an email and say Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year! We had a great Christmas with Mom...she got us some fun new toys! We are just loving life...getting bigger every day! Mom thinks we are just the best ever! Our morning routine is to sit on the tub ledge (between the shower curtain and the cool "clear" liner that Mom has) and watch her take a shower...every now and then we fall in....it's purrrfect...just a little warm shower water to help us when we lick ourselves and each other! We are looking forward to our big trip in May to the east coast for 10 days!! Mom's sister has two cats and we just know we'll make fast friends! We'll keep in touch!



"Sharon" & "Cecelia"

Love,

Sharon & Cecelia



We really appreciate the letters and photographs, but we occasionally get photos that we can't use because they are too small or low resolution. To be able to use these images they have to be at least 600kb. We love to put all the photos you send into the newsletter.

Dear Jeffyne,

We have been meaning to email you and tell you about our adventures with "**Bogart**" (formerly Diaz). He is such an adventure and light in our lives. We love him so much and cannot imagine our lives now without him, plus he has quite a personality! He loves his laser pointer, feather toys, head butts (we call them kisses), stealing pillows in the night, and new people, but best of all he loves streaming water. It is not uncommon to have Bogart (we call him Bogie too) join us in the shower. He doesn't even mind how wet he gets as long as he gets to play in the shower! Just imagine a dog playing with a hose...

We have been training him to do tricks too. He is target trained and has high-five and jump (as high as 5 feet!) down pat. We are working on shaking hands with new people, stay, and jumping through a hoop :-).

He still has some respiratory issues and in talking and visiting with Bogie's vet, we think he has a little asthma and is gradually healing with some scar tissue in his lungs. He has gotten so much better now compared to his first weeks with us and is continuing to improve greatly! We monitor his health and keep to a routine for him to help him continue to be the healthiest kitty he can be.

We would like to thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to have the best furry family member ever. We have the smartest, sweetest, and coolest cat on this planet, and we can't be convinced otherwise! I have attached some fun photos of Bogart and his life with us.

Best regards,

Piper Presley, Kyle Luker & **Bogart**



Bogart keeps Piper's head warm.



In Memory, Honor and Celebration of Some Very Special Friends and Family of the Feline, Canine and of the Human Purrsuasion, too!

- * In memory of my beloved **"Moocher."** I still miss you every day.
Roger West

- * In celebration of Julie Kaplan...
Becki and Jay Eaton

- * On behalf of Julie and Bill McGeever and remembering
"Ferguson."
Rosemarie Harris

- * In memory of **"Tucker"**...may his journey be a happy one!
Barbara Hill and Bill Vollero

- * In honor of **"Sydney"** and **"Pinot Noir"**...two RESQCATS
adopted by Brenda Lee and Lisa Givan
From,
Dodi Gauthier

- * To honor my adopted Mom and Dad, Becki and Jay Eaton. I feel so
blessed to be a part of their family.
Julie Kaplan

- * In memory of our **"Sebastian."** He spent his
"ninth life" at RESQCATS. It was a wonderful life
considering when he arrived in July 2009, he
was anemic, weighed 5 pounds, had hyper-
thyroid disease, suffered from a heart condition
and was Feline Leukemia Positive (see story
in Holiday 2009 Newsletter). He had suffered
a terrible life on the streets for who knows
how long. Although, he had only a few short months with us
at RESQCATS, he knew so much love, compassion, comfort
and he received the best medical care he could possibly have.
His journey on Earth ended on December 31, 2009. He was
surrounded by Josh Rios, Yvette Pozzato, (the couple who found
him) as well as Jim Hurnblad, Linda Higbee, and myself.



Sebastian

Sebastian, you touched all our hearts at RESQCATS and we will
never, never, never forget you.

Love,
Everyone at RESQCATS

- * In loving memory of **"Triumph"**...he chose Mitch
and never left Mitch's side until May 3, 2010
when he went to the Rainbow Bridge.

Love,
Jeffyne



Triumph

- * In memory of **"Catalyst"** and for David and Claudia Chapman.
Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara

- * In recognition of Mel Kyle and Rebecca Branscome for the endless
work they do for all critters in need. We often talk of man's best
friend...well, they are two of "animal's best friends"
Julie Kaplan

- * To honor the Same Day Surgery nurses at Community Memorial
hospital for the amazing job they do day after day. It is a privilege
to volunteer in their unit and they took great care of me after
surgery.

Julie Kaplan

- * In memory of **"Madi"** and for Beth and Carl Gwinn
Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara

- * In memory of **"Joey,"** age 21 and beloved pet of
Sheryl and Ed Fierro.

Debbie Hobler

- * In memory of **"Fifi"** and for my husband, Mitch.
Love,

Jeffyne



Fifi

- * In loving memory of **"AJ."**

Love,

Donna Abboud

- * For **"Chico"** who was adopted from RESQCATS almost eight
years ago!

Pat Pellino

- * We will always remember **"Greyco"** as the character who tested
us to see how many times he could escape! And how fast we
had to move to catch him! In cat's Heaven, we
know he will be laughing.

Love,

Joyce and Alex Carasa

- * In loving memory of **"Greyco."** How do I even
begin to say good-bye to you. Just too much
for my heart to bear, my special friend.

Love,

Jeffyne



Greyco

- * In memory of **"Theo"** and for Carol Peterson.
Pet Sitters of Santa Barbara

- * In memory of my **"Blackie."**
Yvonne Muirhead

- * In honor of Dan and Nancy George that share their love of cats with
us.

Mary Lou and Jon Sorrel

- * For **"Sweet Pea"**...one of a kind.
Lynne and Buddy Borderre

- * To honor Mary Lou and Jon Sorrel

Your friends,

Dan and Nancy George

- * For ALL *the kitties!*
Marcella Young

- * In celebration of Evelyn Kert and her 80th birthday!
Jamell O'Tolle

- * In honor of my daughter, Janice Contons!

Love,

June Stoner

- * In memory of **"Alexandria"** and all that Sandie Owens gave to her up to her 18th year!

Helen Morris

- * In loving memory of **"Harry."**

Margaret Hennessy

- * In memory of **"Katie"** ("Kate Be Fast")—who **Cooper**, my tuxedo cat, says is the best greyhound ever! Cooper was Katie's "wingman" the last six months—he never left her side when the two of them went outside and he never let her go outside alone.

Love,

Paula and "Cooper" Schmitz

- * In memory of **"Sebastian"** and the special time I spent with him while he lived out his ninth life at RESQCATS.

Love,

Nancy Karlin

"Driver" 9/8/1994 – 1/20/2008

- * Forever loved; never forgotten; always in my heart. May he stay forever "out of the box."

Love,

Sara Kvaas



Driver

- * For your birthday, a gift in the memory of **"Calvin"** and for you, Lori Lewis!

Love,

Kathleen Fox, Stephanie Fry, Terri Villegas & Jane Endacott

- * In loving memory of **"Maxx"** and for Nancy and Jesus Aguirre... a cat could not have a better home than with you... you are angels on Earth

Jeffyne and RESQCATS

- * In honor of Margaux.

Love,

Judy Murphy

- * In honor of Jeffyne! God bless the work you do.

"Pumpkin" (the cat) Kaplan

- * This donation is "dedicated to LIFE! LOVE! and FRIENDSHIPS! that last forever!"

Love,

Sara Kvaas

- * In memory of **"Maxx"** Aguirre.

With fondest memories,

Loretta Wilson

- * Everyday and forever... **"Miejek."**

Love,

Jeffyne



Miejek

ARTIST: DEAN HAVEN

"Morgan" Teaches Us...

continued from page 1

he should never have been outside. Fortunately the owners were located but they were not prepared to pay for the medical costs for the surgery required to save their kitty. Surgery was estimated around \$2600.00. So, sadly, but a lesson learned I hope, they relinquished him to the vet clinic.

One of the many reasons to keep kitties indoors is because they can get hit by cars. This poor little guy had a broken pelvis, his lungs were full of fluid and he had a huge hernia that needed to be surgically repaired due to the impact of the car.

Dr. Morgan really wanted to give him a chance...he said his pelvis was broken in such a way that cage rest would allow it to heal so no worries there. But he did need surgery to fix the hernia and whatever else might be injured inside his body. He said, "Jeffyne, I just cannot imagine that someone would not fall in love with this little kitty. He is so sweet and after all your losses last year, you might even fall in love with him and want him. He is on pain medication now and has surprisingly just purred from the time he came into the clinic."

I did not hesitate for a moment and said, "Yes, I will take care of it and he can come to RESQCATS when you think he is ready."

Many of us at RESQCATS know Dr. Morgan because he has helped so many of the kitties that come through here. So in honor of him and all his compassion and concern to help each and every kitty, we decided to name the kitty "Morgan" after Dr. Morgan.

Our new little Morgan had major surgery to put everything back together. Dr. Morgan and Dr. Faoro opened him up to discover that his abdominal wall was split open and many of his organs were misplaced—all those organs were put back into place and then the muscles were sewn together. His incision was no less than six inches long. He was given antibiotics and pain medication for the next week.

Morgan came to RESQCATS and was under the care of Linda Higbee, a volunteer, until I returned from Oregon. She did a wonderful job of caring for him, I might add! She had set up a dog cage for him with enough room for him to move around and to get to his food and litter box. She made him a nice soft bed with a heating pad so he would be comfortable. He could not be in a regular RESQCATS enclosure because he was not allowed to romp or to run up and down driftwood ramps jumping from shelf to shelf...it was strict cage rest for six weeks!

Morgan was lucky! Many cats in his situation are euthanized when an owner is not prepared to provide medical. Dr. Morgan or any other vet cannot be expected to take on pets that irresponsible people cannot provide for properly. We adopt the animals because we want to love them and loving them is also being able to provide medical care for them. Pets cost money...just like having children costs money. I don't see people turning in their kids when they need expensive medical care. And Morgan's experience could have been avoided if he had been neutered and kept inside! Like I said, Morgan was lucky! He was given a life by Dr. Morgan and a chance for it by RESQCATS.

Morgan's good fortune did not stop once he came to RESQCATS! One of the volunteers had already fallen in love with Morgan by the time I returned from Oregon. Nancy Aguirre and her husband, Jesus, adopted Morgan, saw him through the remainder of his healing time and cage rest. And Morgan is helping heal their hearts from the loss of two of their kitties within a year. He even got a new name... the idea for it came about because of his broken pelvis...it is "Aikin Bones!" ♦



Jeffyne gives Morgan healing hugs.

*God made the cat in order to give humans
the pleasure of petting the tiger.*

~ ANONYMOUS

President's Message
continued from page 1

Two weeks later I returned to the same shelter and brought eight-month-old siblings and three mother cats nursing kittens to RESQCATS. A third trip added four more moms and their nursing kittens. All these kitties were scheduled for euthanasia that very day! That made over 60 kitties we saved in-the-nick-of-time and that number does not reflect what the pregnant moms are expecting!

It was back to work immediately following the RESQCATS medical protocol. All the cats and kittens receive vet exams, are tested for Feline Leukemia and FIV, are wormed, receive their distemper vaccination and are spayed or neutered before they go home. Many of them needed extra medical attention. Scotti had blood work and a urinalysis because she was so thin...we wanted to make sure she was not hyper-thyroid and that all her kidney and liver functions were good. She was put on antibiotics for a while to help with a possible urinary tract infection. She was back and forth to the vet several times having follow up blood work, ultrasounds, urinalysis tests and medications to make sure we were sending her home in the best condition possible. Scotti probably came from a breeder that did not want to care for her medical issues. Most Scottish Fold cats have medical issues due to irresponsible breeding. She is one of those kitties that will always need special medical attention. She went home with all her medical records, lab results and a full report of her medical treatment at RESQCATS. We wanted to ensure a new adopter that Scotti was on a healthy journey. There will be follow up medical care for her, but her new guardians, Kayce and George Daniels are prepared for that. I think they are purrfect for her.

"Whisper" required a special blood test to rule out heart disease, then she was spayed, had her teeth cleaned and a broken tooth checked while she was under anesthesia.

RESQCATS felt it was important to do fecal exams on all from this group of rescues because we had no idea of the history and wanted to make sure that we treated them for any parasites that would not have been taken care of with the usual worming protocol.

"Morgan" had been hit by a car, had a broken pelvis and required major surgery to put all his little organs back into place and the hernia that resulted from the impact of the car needed to be repaired. His owners could not afford to do anything for him so they relinquished him to St. Francis Animal hospital. Dr. Rick Morgan called and asked if RESQCATS could cover the costs of the surgery and assured me that Morgan would fully recover from all his "broken-ness." I was happy to help. (We actually named the kitty after Dr. Morgan!) Morgan was at RESQCATS when I came home from Oregon and was already on the road to recovery. He required six weeks of cage rest so that his pelvis could heal. He completed his recovery with a volunteer and her husband, Nancy and Jesus Aguirre, who also gave him a permanent home!

In addition, for the first time in the history of RESQCATS, all these kitties were micro-chipped before going home!!!

RESQCATS has recently added micro-chipping for each and every cat before they are sent home with their new guardian as part of our protocol. The added expense is worth the piece of mind knowing that they may find a home even if somehow they should escape their indoor homes. (RESQCATS requires that adopters agree to INDOORS ONLY for the kitties' lifetimes.) The adopter is given all the chip information and all they have to do is register the cat with the micro-chip company. (See the story about "Tonka")

AND our isolation area for sick kitties has been totally re-designed so that all cats coming into the facility will spend time in isolation to make sure there are no underlying upper respiratory problems or any other medical issues that could be contagious to other kitties.

I am so grateful to all the volunteers for just getting right back into the swing of things to help with the cat and kitten explosion that does seem to happen every year. Some even worked extra hard while I was away doing things that always need to be done but are

often things that time just doesn't allow during kitten season. For example, Janet Dewey painted the entire cattery floor and added the cute touch of little paw prints meandering through the cattery. Jim Hurnblad painted the outside and re-did the outside enclosures and many other maintenance jobs. Together, they painted a tribute to "Greyco" on the back door of the cattery (which was his escape route into the "real world" anytime any of us went out the door). "Greyco" was one of my personal kitties that left me for the Rainbow Bridge in December 2009 after 15 years of "purr" pleasure.

Linda Higbee "held down the fort" while I was away for several weeks so that I could rejuvenate and return energized and ready to go. Other volunteers continued to visit the resident cats and maintain the cattery, too.

By the time you get this newsletter, we will be well into kitten season. 2009 was a challenging year with so many sick kitties and several that required a lot of special veterinary care beyond the normal protocol. I hope this is an easier year, but I am prepared to meet each and every challenge.

I feel good in my heart that if a cat needs to have an ultrasound or major surgery or special blood test that we can provide that to him or her. If a cat needs to have a dental checkup before going home, we can make that happen so that a new guardian goes home with a "purr-fectly" healthy kitty. I think the type of care we provide and ability to do so is what makes RESQCATS special.

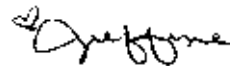
I have said many times, "I may not be able to take care of as many kitties this way because healing little bodies does take time and patience and love but I can assure you that no shortcuts are taken here...I do it right!" I cherish each and every little life that passes through the door of RESQCATS. I can honestly look in the mirror each night and say, "I did the very best I could today."

You are part of the reason I can say that. Your financial support since we began 13 years ago is why we can provide for the cats the way we do. Without your help, 1578 stray and abandoned cats and kittens (our total adoption number as of May 23, 2010) would have lived short lives and suffered greatly.

Thank you so much for all you have done. I hope you will continue to help RESQCATS with your tax-deductible donation—it has made such a difference in the past and it will help us be successful again this year.

I send back to you all that you give to RESQCATS with your donation...light, love, hope, blessings and miracles.

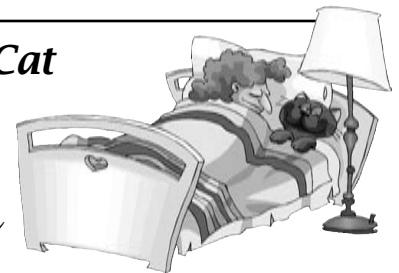
Most sincerely,



Jeffyne Telson
President, RESQCATS, Inc.

I'm Only A Cat

I'm only a cat, and I stay in my place... Up there on your chair, on your bed or your face!



I'm only a cat, and I don't finick much... I'm happy with cream and anchovies and such!

I'm only a cat, and we'll get along fine... As long as you know I'm not yours... you're all mine!

~ ANONYMOUS



**ResQCats Wants to Remind Everyone that...
MOMS NEED HOMES TOO!**

These sweet mommy cats watch all their kittens being adopted and taken away to new homes while they are left behind just because they are not tiny kittens. Many of the moms are only about a year old and never really had a chance to be a kitten—they got pregnant at just a few months old. They all just want to remind you that "MOMS NEED HOMES TOO!"



"There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats."

~ ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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.

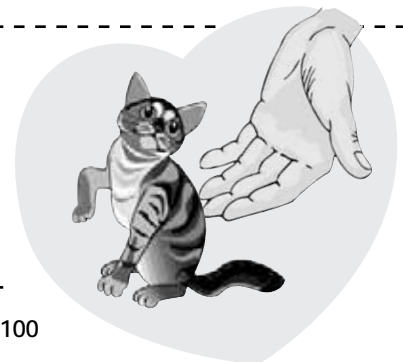
Make your check payable to:

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

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____



Give a Helping Hand!

Letters to ResQCats

continued from page 11

Hi!

We continue to adore "Romeo" (adopted in 2008). He's a funny little personality and we hate to leave him when we go away even for a short time.

Hope everything is well at RESQCATS!

Fondly,

Dianne and Bob Miles

.....

Jeffyne,

Happy New Year! My 2010 is going to be wonderful because I am blessed with two of the cutest kids of all. "DeeDee" is still the cutest thing and she now likes to rub my bare legs in the morning when I get out of the shower. She is quite a distraction, wrapping herself around my ankles, while I try and run a brush through my just washed, wet and tangled locks. I find I just have to put the brush down and bend over and pet her which leads her to lie down in the middle of the bathroom mat and ask for more. It's all I can do lately to get to work on time...haha.

"Daley" (formerly "Dallas") is coming out of his shell more and more. This morning he even gave my ankles a single pass. I looked down expecting DeeDee and, low and behold, it was Daley. He even climbed up the sofa and walked behind my head the other night...and he let me touch him while there. That was a very brave move for him. Yesterday morning I awoke to find my bed covered in paper. It seems the little rascals opened the pantry door, no doubt trying to get one of the little furry mousies that slipped under the door, and knocked down a package of napkins. One of them, Daley I suspect as I've seen him shred tissue wrapping in an instant, carried a napkin upstairs and onto the bed and tore it to pieces. Oddly, I was not awakened by the antics.

This morning the alarm went off to a nice catchy tune and I sat up and there, down by my feet, were my two beauties sleeping arm in arm (legs in legs?). I've been smiling all day just thinking about it.

I expect you are back in Oregon and I hope you are enjoying a relaxing time. The weather in Santa Barbara is likely the same as you are experiencing up there. But, I thank God for the rain.

When you return to SB, and before you are up to your arse in cats, perhaps you could come to Carpinteria and visit the kids. I'm sure they would know you in an instant. When I talk to them I typically refer to you as "their first Mother."

Well, that's about it for now. Till next time!

Marca Rowley

.....

Hi Jeffyne,

My name is Jo Goodman and I adopted my two cats from RESQCATS. They are "Bagheera" (Cassanova) and "Cali" (Shelby), and they are two and three years old now. I wanted to send you a picture so you can see how well they are doing. I genuinely appreciate the two of them so much! Thanks for all that you do, and have a wonderful day.



Bagheera and Cali

Sincerely,

Jo

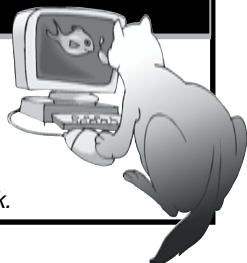
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Visit our beautiful ResQCats website
www.RESQCATS.org

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.



Wish List

- ★ I wish that all the mommy kitties at RESQCATS will get to go home with one of their kittens.
- ★ I wish there were no more homeless animals.
- ★ I wish that each one of you reading this newsletter will do something nice for someone everyday...and when someone does something nice for you...pay it forward. It will make for a better world!
- ★ I wish for light, love, hope, blessings and miracles for you and for the animals.
- ★ I wish to make a difference in the world!



RESQCATS "Believe In Miracles" Lavender Soy Candle

Elizabeth Nicholson of Basil Essentials has created a lavender soy candle just for RESQCATS. It is a wonderful way to help support RESQCATS! The following is an excerpt from her website about the candle and RESQCATS...



The RESQCATS Pure Soy glass Pillar titled "Lavender Bud" is scented with pure Lavender essential oil sprinkled with dried lavender buds. Lavender helps create an emotionally calming, relaxing and balanced atmosphere, while also healing the soul, providing relief for nervous tension and slight depression." The "Believe in Miracles" candle is specially designed for RESQCATS and the label indicates that a donation was made to RESQCATS with the purchase of each candle.

A great gift for friends and cat lovers.

"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 \$17.00 goes to support RESQCATS and their amazing work to save the lives of our beloved cat and kitten friends.

Elizabeth has helped raise over \$3500 for RESQCATS!

This is your LAST CHANCE to visit

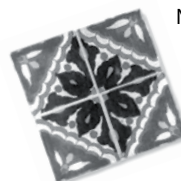
BasilEssentials.com to order the

RESQCATS candle – it is being discontinued.

Help us make a difference for the kitties!

ALL NATURAL
Basil Essentials
 Candles · Soy · Fragrance
www.BasilEssentials.com

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



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