

RESQCATS™

A non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to the care and welfare of stray and abandoned cats and kittens.



paws for the news



Summer 2017



BREAKING NEWS!

RESQCATS celebrates 20 years of serving the community!

President's Message

Written on May 1, 2017



Jeffyne and "Noodle"

Can you believe it? **RESQCATS** is celebrating our 20th season!

That is a major milestone! You will see several promotions in the upcoming months to honor almost the 2700 cats and kittens that have found homes since we began in 1997. And of course, we will be adding to that total adoption number as the season progresses.

In addition to adoptions, **RESQCATS** has also spayed and neutered hundreds more cats through our community outreach programs. We have funded programs for feral cats and aided other local organizations in collaborative spay/neuter efforts. I

am committed to continuing that very important work to help end the pet over-population problem.

But let's talk about this season and how it started. By mid-April, **RESQCATS** had over forty cats and kittens in our care. It seems like an earlier season than usual, so I expect it is going to stay very busy throughout the summer and into fall.

RESQCATS has taken in several pregnant moms that have given birth at the facility or are in foster care. We have responded to requests from owners for help placing kittens after they have followed our standard protocol, including spay and neuter surgery. In addition, we have covered the expense of spaying their mother cats so that more litters are prevented.

RESQCATS has committed to provide feral cats with vaccinations, Felv/FIV tests, worming meds, flea treatment and spay or neuter surgery on a case-by-case basis.

In addition, we answer Craigslist ads so that kittens are not given away or sold. In many cases, these kittens will never receive vaccinations or medical attention. Some people don't realize that their mother cat can become pregnant again while still nursing a litter. And others don't recognize that the kittens they are selling or giving away can start reproducing at six months old. Through education and offering assistance, we can prevent more unwanted litters being born.

I look forward to our twentieth year...and a special year for sure. But I realize that I cannot make a difference alone. It takes all of us working together.

I am counting on the volunteers to continue giving the precious gift of their time. Without their dedication and commitment, none of what we do at **RESQCATS** would be possible. They are the best group of volunteers ever and there are no words to tell them how truly appreciated they are. The volunteers are like family and have been especially supportive during the recent losses of my soul mate collie, MisJef, and a leukemia positive resident kitten named Liora. Their love and support are treasured gifts.

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And now...
 A Few Words from Mr. Jeffyne...
Creative Writing 101

When some people write, they edit every sentence and every word as they go. They write a few lines and go back to make sure it sounds right, that the punctuation is correct and that the “tone” is just what they want. That’s how I write...that’s the way that my mind functions...in short organized passages. (In fact, I’ve already gone back and re-edited this paragraph four times!)

And then there are other writers who can sit down at a keyboard or pick up their yellow pad and madly write away for hours. Their words and ideas are a continuous stream of thoughts and expressions that flow from brain to paper seemingly without effort. These people never look back at what they’ve written until their entire inspiration is down on paper. Their thought process is a constant river of phrases and ideas...that, by contrast, is how Jeffyne writes.

Whether she’s working on an edition of the **RESQCATS** newsletter, a posting on her Facebook page or a personal thank you note...Jeffyne can write continuously, without a break, seemingly for hours! She is totally engrossed in her thoughts and is often oblivious to the world around her. It’s at times like this that I don’t dare interrupt her...for fear of life or limb!

As many of you know, Jeffyne has been working on a book for many years...four years to be exact! It has always been her goal to write a book about her experiences at **RESQCATS**, but more specifically, to share a number of the more memorable stories of the cats and kittens that have come through the doors of the sanctuary over the past 20 years.

Now for those of you who only know Jeffyne from afar, perhaps by way of a phone call, her website or on Facebook, it might be difficult for you to appreciate this woman’s passion. Her enthusiasm is not only for the cats and kittens that she cares for; it’s an excitement she has for EVERYTHING in her life. Putting her drive into the most loving of terms...Jeffyne can become obsessed with whatever she puts her mind to!



Mitch with “Whisper,” “River” and “Fantasy”

Writing this book has not been an easy task for her. After all, Jeffyne does have a full time job of taking care of rescued cats and kittens for most of the year. During the height of kitten season, from mid-March to mid-October, it’s hard enough for the two of us to find time to simply talk or have a meal together, much less for her to focus on writing. By simple arithmetic, without the ten months of kitten season, she only has the winter period, specifically the time that we spend in Oregon, when she can sit down at her desk or at the dining room table and devote her undivided attention to writing.

During this four-year process, I’m sure that Jeffyne has often envied some of the more prolific professional writers who can park themselves in front of their computer and turn out a marvelous best-seller in just a couple of months. But, of course, they probably don’t have 40-50 rescued felines to care for! Nor, like Jeffyne, would they be donating 100% of the proceeds from their book to **RESQCATS**!

The basis for this 35-chapter book has been the many stories that Jeffyne wrote for **RESQCATS** newsletters over the last 20 years. At the encouragement of a number of close friends, she went back through all fifty-plus past newsletters and pulled out special articles that were particularly interesting and thought-provoking. If you have been a long-time **RESQCATS**

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newsletter reader, and you have the opportunity to read the upcoming book, you will probably recognize not only many of the cats and kittens from the past, but also at what stage Jeffyne was in her personal life's journey.

After re-reading all the original newsletter stories, she re-wrote each one of them, sometimes with a new slant or from an entirely different perspective. She enhanced them with interesting anecdotal episodes from her life both before and during her cat rescue years.

You will find that some of the stories are funny, and, hopefully make you laugh; others are very emotional and may evoke a few tears. Some provide insight into the mind of a woman who has dedicated her life to rescuing animals, and some, in not-so-subtle terms, deliver the message of how important animals are to Jeffyne's life. But regardless of the theme of the stories, as you read the book, you will clearly see that every narrative conveys a positive message about how animals can and do influence our lives...some in the most profound and uplifting ways.

To paraphrase the African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child." That certainly has been true for Jeffyne's book. There were so many people who had a hand in the work... from its inception, through its development, and hopefully, for its success. She so appreciated the help of four different editors who looked at her manuscript with an eye for style, flow, spelling and punctuation...their assistance has been invaluable.

And, of course, I got to spend much of our time in Oregon these past few years helping Jeffyne as well. We worked together editing, re-editing, and re-editing again...every chapter, page, paragraph, sentence and word. We exhausted many an afternoon arguing about factuality versus literary license...but facts always prevailed. Jeffyne felt, from the very beginning, that she wanted to write a book that was real...about real cats, real animals and real experiences.

Editing often took us over an hour a page... sometimes longer...as we searched for just the right word or phrase or nuance. They were long, frequently very emotional afternoons as every reading evoked a round of fresh tears. The whole process was so emotionally difficult for Jeffyne that she promised she'd never do it again!

But I feel quite the opposite. Jeffyne's writing experience has been an inspiration for me to pen my own book...something that's been on my bucket list for many years. However, I expect my book will be very slow to develop. It'll sure take me a lot longer than four years to complete...after all, I'll probably just write a paragraph and then go back to re-edit every line...and most likely lose my train of thought!

Oh, and the subject of my book...I'm sure you can guess. Think about it for a second and you've figured it out...it'll center on the animals of my world...*My Life with Dogs!*

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I work with a wonderful group of veterinarians who are willing to help with simple medical cases as well as the most challenging ones. I ask so much of St. Francis Pet Clinic, Adobe Pet Hospital, La Cumbre Animal Hospital, Animal Clinic of Santa Maria and Dr. Ruth's Vet2Pet. They are always there to offer expert advice and treatment. I count on the specialists at Advanced Veterinary Specialist for cats that need cardiologists, internal medical doctors, orthopedic surgeons and more. The Santa Barbara Humane Society spays and neuters the majority of cats and kittens that come through **RESQCATS**. I am privileged to be able to work with these vets and specialists.

And I count on all of you. Your support of **RESQCATS** makes it all possible. I realize that there are many organizations to consider when giving your hard-earned dollars to a tax-deductible non-profit, so I consider every donation an honor. I hope you will join me in making this special year a success. I promise to work every day to save lives and provide the best medical care possible, but I need your support. Together...we can make a difference.

Most sincerely,




Jeffyne Telson
President of **RESQCATS**, Inc.




One of our 2017 kittens,
"Spoon!"

BELIEVE IN MIRACLES

Serendipity 

Jan. 25: The day I was found. I weighed nine ounces.



Later that day, part of my tail was amputated and I received my first cast!



On January 25, 2017, a one-week-old kitten was discovered on the conveyor belt at the Santa Maria Recycling Plant. Fortunately, she was spotted by one of the pickers and removed before she reached the end of the line, so to speak. Her body was cold and she was barely alive.


Fortunately, someone who worked at the plant knew one of the **RESQCATS** fosters, Deanna Koens, and contacted her. Deanna called me and the kitten was taken into **RESQCATS** care.

Deanna brought the kitten to her home and spent the next several hours warming heated rice packs and placing them around her to get her temperature to ninety-nine degrees, the minimum required to feed a kitten so that they can digest formula. Then it was off to the veterinarian.


At this point, Deanna and I had talked several times. I suggested that she name the kitten "Serendipity,"...it means the act of finding something valuable or delightful when you are not looking for it. A perfect name!

Serendipity weighed nine ounces and fit in the palm of Deanna's hand. She had a broken tail and the blood supply at the end had been cut off, so that part had to be amputated. In addition, her foot was broken and was put in a cast. She also had a major gash inside her thigh and a few minor cuts.

When a cat or kitten needs help, I immediately leap into action. I go into emergency mode and can think of nothing else but getting whatever medical care is needed. I feel my adrenaline rush and my mind focuses on hoping that I am in time to save the cat or kitten. But once there is a treatment plan in place, I have time to



Jan. 27: Starting to feel better!



Feb. 2: My first beauty shot.



Feb. 3: Showing off my new cast!



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Feb. 4: Can you tell I'm spoiled?

Feb. 7: I weigh 13 ounces now!



Feb. 9: 14 ounces and I already can't wait to explore!

think about what has just occurred. I wondered how such a tiny kitten ended up on that belt. Had she been discarded into someone's recycle bin? Who on earth would do that? Was she thrown away with all the plastic bottles, cardboard boxes and newspapers and then picked up by the recycle truck? Were other peoples' recycling bins unloaded on top of her? How did she survive dumping the contents from the loaded truck at the plant? And what about the tractor that scooped her up and cast her frail body onto the recycle belt? I will never know what really happened; maybe it is better that I don't.

Deanna spent the following days bottle-feeding Serendipity, tending her wounds and loving her with all her heart. It takes commitment, medical care and unconditional love to heal bodies and souls...

sometimes it also takes a miracle.

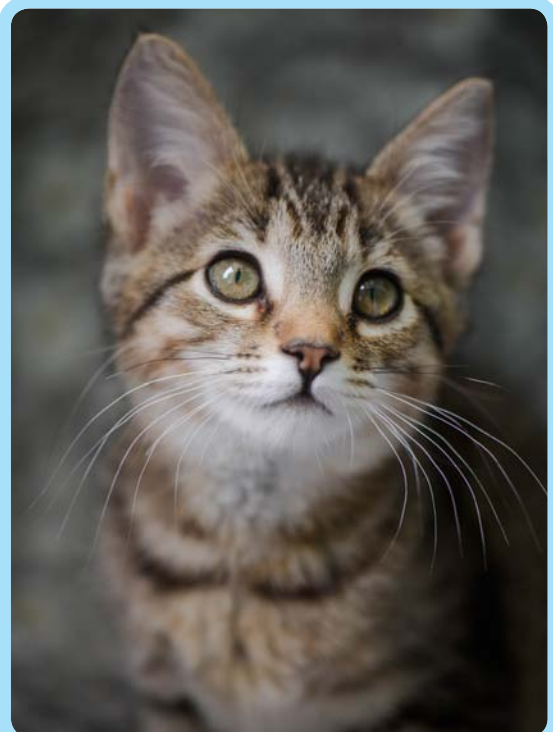
It took weeks for Serendipity to heal. She had many check-ups at the vet and several cast changes. Every time she had her foot rewrapped, she got a new bandage and was eager to show it off in photos on our Facebook page. She was adopted by Sarah Gustafson in April after her long journey to recovery.

It was a miracle that Serendipity survived all that she did...but I believe in miracles. Serendipity is a symbol of hope and she will always have a place in my heart.



Mar. 6: No more cast for me!

April 2017: I'm all grown up and so excited to be in my furrever home!



FACES OF 2017:

So many of you have commented on our kitten photos in the newsletters, so I plan to continue this section for as long as you are willing to look at these adorable faces! While it is a bit early in the season to have a centerfold, I thought I would share just some of the kittens in our care on a single page so you don't miss out on those oh's and ah's! Thank you to our photographers, Cata Esteves and Daryl Metzger. You do an amazing job.

Right to Left: Sampson, Clint, Annie, Monty, Ava, Turtle Dove, Penelope, Treasure, Lulu, Violet, Kona





In memory of...

In memory of **"Blackberry" Mosley and "Cayla" Willy.** All had loving, caring homes. This donation is in remembrance and we hope that it will help orphaned kitties find equally deserving homes.
Santa Barbara Pet Pals



In memory of my friend, **Johnny.** I really miss him.
Dorinda Beaumont



In memory of **"Maybelline,"** adopted from RESQCATS sixteen years ago. For all the love she gave and joy that she brought to me for so many years. I miss her so much.
Jayne Diaz



In memory of **"Sebastian," "Seymour," "Sterling," "Shana" and "Spencer."**
Marlene Debue



In memory of **"Charlotte,"** who was adopted from RESQCATS and lived to be seventeen years old... even that was not long enough. She is truly missed. Love and light to her family...**Brian Gaylord, Tessa Hill and their children.**



In memory of **"Spencer" Lee** and for Nancy!
Paula Wascavage



In memory of **"Sassy."** She was a beautiful cat that lived 18-1/2 years! She loved to snuggle next to me on the recliner every time I visited my friend, **Liz Benishin.**
Julie Kaplan

In memory of **"Sophia,"** who journeyed to The Rainbow Bridge at only 16 months old with Feline Leukemia. She left knowing purr-fect love from **Liz Benishin and Wayne Smith.**
Julie Kaplan



In remembrance of a dearly loved stray named **"Antoinette"** and for **Bill Carlson and Reneau Oglesy.**
Santa Barbara Pet Pals



In memory of **Nancy Cook** and for her cat, **Xian,** who survived her and has a new home with one of Nancy's friends.
Mary Lou Ingram



In memory of **"Spencer"** and on behalf of **Nancy Lee.**
Samantha Hildebird



In memory of **"Freya."**
Kelley and Bruce Giffin



In memory of **"Teddy Bear,"** who was adopted from RESQCATS many years ago by **Ruth Stevenson and Ann McGorty.** What a wonderful life he had with them.
Karen Lee Stevens



In memory of **"Spencer" Lee** and for my friend, **Nancy.**
Leesa Easton



In memory of **"Kimba,"** a handsome and regal kitty who is greatly missed. And for his human guardians, Robert and Janice Hopper.
Darlene Bjork and Jane Meyer



In memory of **"Spencer" Lee** and for my friend, **Nancy.**
Camarie King



In loving memory of **"Lulu."** Her life of three years was much too short, but she has a place forever in the hearts of **Katharine Martin** and her family.



In memory of **"MisJef"** and for you.
Patty Hummel

In special memory of Liora



"Liora"

Many of you may recall that **RESQCATS** added three new resident kittens in 2016 when Katsu, Asha and Liora tested positive for feline leukemia. I chose symbolic names with the hope that they would thrive, even with their leukemia status. Katsu, the male, means victory in Japanese. His two sisters were named Asha, which means life in Hindu, and Liora translates to my light in Hebrew.

When I realized that they were not adoptable and needed live out their lives at **RESQCATS**, we remodeled one of the indoor enclosures. Then we connected it to two outdoor spaces with overhead tunnels so they would have lots of room to play...and just be kittens!

I have been so grateful for the smiles that the siblings brought me every morning. When they heard me arrive at the cattery, all three appeared simultaneously in the overhead tunnel as if to say, "Good morning! Did you bring breakfast?" Their vocal greetings were a delightful way to start the day. Their purrs echoed through the cattery and set a rhythm for the morning chores. Katsu, Asha and Liora's joyful presence helped me through the losses and sadness of several of my own animals in 2016.

Sadly, Liora, my light, became ill suddenly and journeyed to the Rainbow Bridge on April 16. It left the volunteers and me in shock as we expected she would be with us at least three years, the life expectancy for leukemia positive cats.

Even though Liora is gone, I find light and hope in life because of her. I have not yet fully dealt with the devastating loss of my best friend, MisJef. But on the day that Liora died, the tears and emotions that had been locked inside could no longer be contained. I have been able to shed many tears and release some of my feelings of loss. That has enabled me to begin to heal.

Liora gave that gift to me. I miss her terribly, but I believe that her light will continue to guide me...and I am eternally grateful to her.

In loving memory of MisJef

Many of you know that I lost my best friend, Misjef, recently. Her loss has been so painful that I am not yet able to speak about her to anyone without breaking down. My sorrow is deep and painful. I have tried many times to sit down and write about her, but I am just not able to yet. I know that with time, I will put pencil to paper to celebrate MisJef's life. When that time comes, it will be a huge step in my healing. Until then, I wanted to share the beautiful tribute that Mitch wrote in MisJef's memory.



Once again...we have only seven...our little *Misjef* is gone.

Named for, Jeffyne, the person who adored her, our darling "Miss Jeff" was anything but mischievous. She was actually a very, very sweet collie who was accepting of everything and everybody.

We adopted *Misjef* from Southland Collie Rescue in November, 2004. Chris Harmon, who was then president of the organization, told us when Jeffyne picked *Misjef* from a rescued litter, that she would be a wonderful dog...and she was... easy to train and easy to love, that was Jeffyne's *Misjef*.

Jeffyne loved her so much that she often said, "When *Misjef* goes to that mystical Rainbow Bridge, I'm going to have to go with her!" *Misjef* was the cat lady's dog.

Misjef took every trip with us to Oregon. This winter, when her arthritis was acting up, *Misjef* was ever the trooper, and led the pack of four collies on many of our walks. While she never liked her royal purple raincoat, this past rainy season, she proudly wore it through the big Oregon storms without a grumble.

But Monday afternoon, March 27, after happily meeting her Mommy at the airport, *Misjef* took a turn for the worse. Suffering from severe pain from what appeared to be a major spinal issue, *Misjef* lost the use of her back legs.

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At dusk, under the care of her compassionate veterinarian, *Misjef* peacefully slipped away...with the vision of her beloved Jeffyne in front of her, her favorite dinosaur toy between her legs, and my hand gently cradling her tired body. In her usual loving way, *Misjef* gave both of us delicate "Misjef kisses" before she left as if telling us, "Don't worry, I'm going to be just fine."

Misjef always wanted to be the only collie. She used to barkingly ask us, just like Jimmy Stewart said in the classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*, "Why do we have to have all these darn collies anyway?"

Misjef gave us 12 ½ years of a wonderful life. But we will miss her...much more than words can ever say.



You'll meet me in the light

*I know that you can't see me,
but trust me I'm right here.
Although I'm up in Heaven,
my love for you stays near.
So often I see you crying,
many times you call my name.
I want so much to lick your face
and ease some of you pain.
I wish that I could make you see
That Heaven indeed is real.
If you could see me run and play
how much better you would feel.
But our loving God has promised me
that when the time is right,
you'll step out of the darkness and
meet me in the light.*

In honor and celebration!



In honor of **Dr. Kayla Asato and Ohana Pet Hospital** for taking such good care of me and helping me go into remission with my diabetes. No doubt, the doctor and staff have helped hundreds of critters like me.

"Pumpkin" Kaplan

In honor of "**Rusty**" and "**Spencer**" that I adopted in 2012.

Marlene Debue

In honor of my friend, **Nancy Lee** and her love for animals.

Maureen McLaughlin

Happy Birthday to my friend, **Julie Kaplan!**

Liz Benishin

In honor of **Dr. Jean Da Silva of the Animal Eye Clinic** and to thank her for all her help with "**Mickey.**"

Elizabeth Faoro

Celebrating "**Web**" and "**Deacon**"...adopted from **RESQCATS** in 2010!

Penny Huff

For my super parents who have huge hearts for all the critters they rescue, **Becki and Jay Eaton.**

Julie Kaplan

In celebration of a twenty plus year friendship! **Margaret Thompson!** She trusted me on the back of her tandem bicycle while we pedaled to win the national championship in Tallahassee... and have been friends since!

Julie Kaplan

The best friends, the best neighbors, the best kitty sitters...**Mel and Hal Kyle!**

Julie Kaplan



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To celebrate my friend, **Julie Kaplan!**
Liz Benishin

In honor of **Joyce Johnson** who gives so generously of her time and effort. We love her creative genius and cherish her friendship.

Cathy Taylor, Stacey Wilson, Anne Zaharias, Lesley Torgeson, Mariann Bottiani, Kim Novak & Marisela Salinas

To honor **Nancy Lee** and her beloved cats!
Helen Walsh

In honor of our daughter, **Lauren**, who fostered a mom, her surrogate daughter and her own two kittens for RESQCATS in 2016.

Scott and Jennifer Hansen

In honor of **Susie Browne.**
Susan Browne

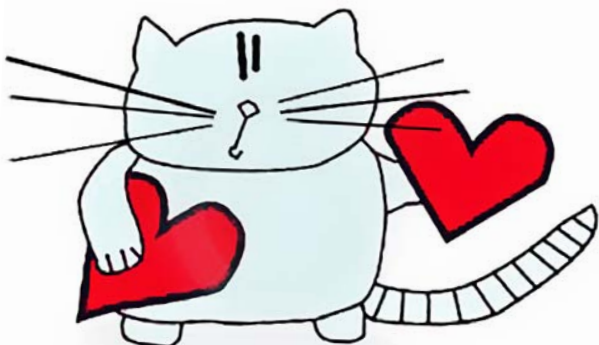
For "**Serendipity**" and to honor my friend, Julie Kaplan
Liz Benishin

Happy Birthday **Liz Benishin** ...and for "**Serendipity.**"
Julie Kaplan

In celebration of my mom, **Sandra Raney**, and for her birthday.
Laura Canfield

To wish you a Happy Birthday, **Liz Benishin!**
Julie Kaplan

In celebration of "**Snowdrop!**"
Julie Kaplan



A special thank you to Demi Anter for her continued creativity in designing the RESQCATS newsletter!

The Story of Dash



One morning, an injured kitten was spotted on the side of the road by a caring lady on her way to school. She took him to a local shelter where she thought he would get help. Unfortunately, many hours passed before the inexperienced person on duty realized that the kitten was in serious condition. It was not until the end of the business day that RESQCATS was contacted. Then we had to jump through hoops to get him released to us. Seven hours had gone by before the traumatized kitten was in RESQCATS' care and on his way to receiving medical attention...that could mean life or death!

A RESQCATS foster, Deanna Koens, rushed the kitten to the Pet Emergency Hospital. He had several puncture wounds on his neck and x-rays showed three broken ribs. There was no doubt, he was in severe pain.

The staff chose the name Dash because he had certainly needed to dash to get away from whatever had attacked him.

Dash cried painfully when anyone touched him. His fever was high, indicating that he had an infection; probably from the puncture wounds. He was immediately put on pain medication, intravenous fluids and antibiotics. We worried that he had been left untreated for too long and that we might lose him.

Imagine my delight when I called the following morning, well before the sun came up, to hear that Dash was eating, using his litter box and playing with his IV line!

Dash was released from the hospital later that day and remained Deanna's care. Upon closer inspection, she discovered several other puncture wounds on his back, sides and ear. We will never know what really happened, but we suspect that a hawk snatched Dash and the bird's talons pierced his body. Then, for some unknown reason, the bird dropped him and that is how he fractured three ribs.

What I do know is that Dash is one lucky kitten! By the time you receive this newsletter, he will have won the heart of an adopter and be in his forever home.

I want to thank all of you who contributed to Dash's medical expenses. You are part of his journey and truly made a difference for him.

Where does my donation go?

Many may wonder where their donation goes at **RESQCATS**. First of all, let me share that there are no salaries at **RESQCATS**, so your support goes directly to the cats and kittens. While we provide every cat and kitten with a vet exam, fecal exam, Felv/FIV tests, worming meds, FVRCP vaccination, spay or neuter surgery and microchip, there is much more to caring for the cats and kittens than most people realize. Health issues arise that require additional medical care. Whether it is a minor medical problem or a major one requiring a specialist, emergency surgery or weeks or months of care, **RESQCATS** is committed to providing whatever the cat or kitten needs.

I would like to tell you about some of the challenges we have already faced, so that you have an idea of just what **RESQCATS** does.

A litter of five arrived in mid-March with an upper respiratory infection, fleas, ear mites, parasites, ringworm, and they were suffering from malnutrition. They required four fecal exams, two weeks of antibiotics, two rounds of anti-parasitic medication, eye meds, supplements and an oral anti-fungal drug to get them on track. There have been countless hours spent bathing them every third day to treat the ringworm. In addition, their linens and litter box had to be changed every day. The carpet condo in their room will have to be discarded and a new one purchased for the next group of kittens because of the highly contagious ringworm spores. It has taken almost six weeks to get them healthy and ready for adoption at a cost of over \$1200 in just medical care. That does not include food and litter! By the time you receive this newsletter, they will be in their new homes. You cannot imagine how happy that makes me...the hard work is worth it especially when I see an adopter leave with a new lifetime friend...or two...or three! Congratulations to ZoZo and Lulu who are going to a home with a man who lost his cat that was adopted from **RESQCATS** almost seventeen years! And Noodle, Treasure and TurtleDove have a home together since their adopter could not bear to leave a single one behind!

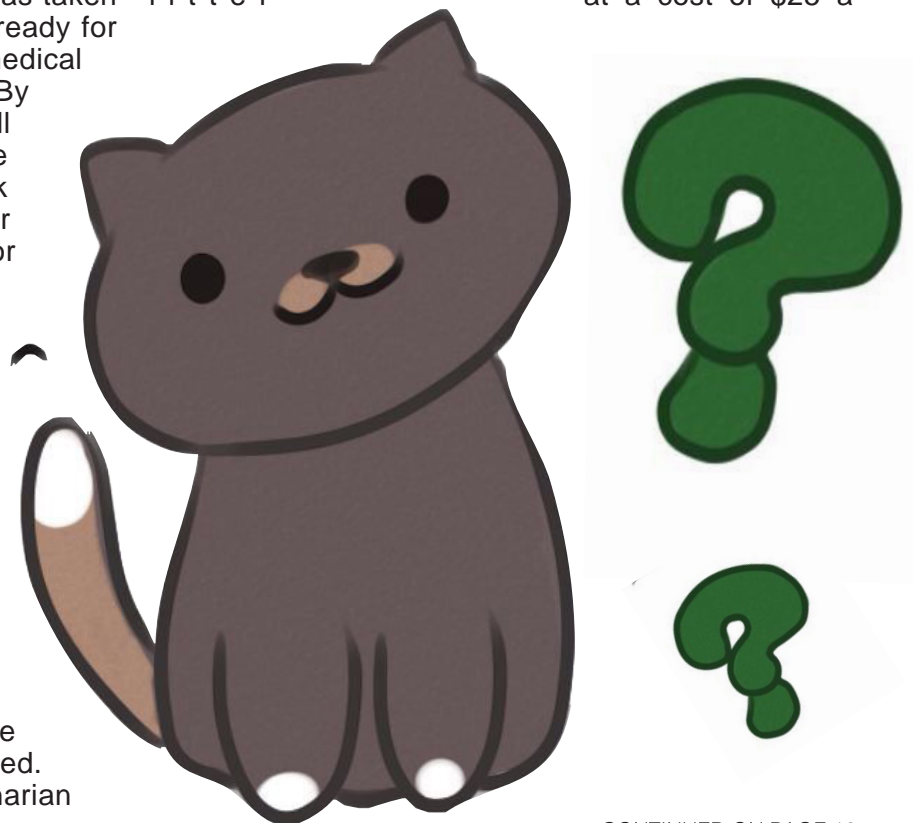
Lacey arrived pregnant at less than a year old. She gave birth to five babies; she was a kitten herself...a kitten having kittens. When she developed mastitis, a bacterial infection in the milk ducts, her litter had to be separated at only two-and-a-half weeks old. They went into foster care where they have been bottle-fed and weaned. Lacey made several trips to the veterinarian

and was prescribed antibiotics, anti-inflammatory and pain meds for her condition. Lacey's expenses were \$500.68. Her kittens are still in foster care and have needed several trips to the vet to treat upper respiratory infections. Their medical care will far exceed any adoption donations.

Gypsy gave birth to seven in foster care! Two of the kittens required after regular hours emergency care, but all are healthy and thriving now. They will be looking for homes about the time the newsletter is delivered to your mailbox. Those necessary trips to the ER and treatment certainly add up. But it is important that we provide whatever is needed... and we do! The cost is never a deciding factor at **RESQCATS**.

Malia was a stray and had six babies the day after she arrived at **RESQCATS**. She has been an attentive and wonderful mom. By the time she and her babies are ready for adoption, they will have been in our care for almost ten weeks. Malia will be returned to the nice family that found her and they have committed to caring for her as an indoor cat. That is one lucky stray!

The time commitment to pregnant mothers is a huge undertaking. In addition to the length of the to-be mom's stay before she has her litter, **RESQCATS** must plan to house kittens for nine to ten weeks. They follow our standard protocol, of course, but we are also providing food and litter at a cost of \$25 a



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week for just the mom. Once the babies are about four weeks old, there are additional food and litter expenses. RESQCATS adoption donation is only \$100. As you can see the cost of kittens can often exceed the adoption donation three to four times... or more!

Frosty had five kittens and her owner needed help placing three of them. Additionally, RESQCATS covered all the expenses for Frosty and two of her kittens that remained with the owner. I know some would ask, "Why on earth would you do that?" Since RESQCATS' goal is to prevent more kitten births, spaying the mother cat that is to remain in a home is the best way to make sure that she does not become pregnant again. In some cases, the expense to owners can be prohibitive. I feel it is important to be there to offer assistance. In this case, Doritos and China remained with their mom and the family, so we covered the expense of our standard medical protocol to ensure that Doritos and China won't become kittens having kittens in the fall. Now, we have six from a single household that will not be producing more unwanted litters this year. I think that's worth it!

I share this because I think it is important for you to know all that RESQCATS does to change the lives of cats and kittens and that you know "just where your donation goes." Together, we are truly making a difference, not only for the felines, but also for the people who adopt them.

Attention RESQCATS donors!

Here's a new way to make a difference at RESQCATS!

Securities and mutual funds that have increased in value and been held for more than one year are a great way to make a gift to RESQCATS.

As an IRS approved 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization, in addition to cash donations, RESQCATS can also receive stocks or bonds as a direct transfer.

When you donate appreciated securities or mutual funds that you have held for more than one year, you not only support our mission of rescuing, caring for and adopting abandoned cats and kittens, you can also reduce or even eliminate federal capital gains taxes on the transfer. And, you may also be entitled to a federal income tax charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the securities at the time of the transfer.

So if you have appreciated securities or mutual funds and would like to reduce your potential 2016 tax liability, please don't hesitate to contact us via email (jeffyne@resqcats.org) or by phone (805) 563-9424 to learn the simple procedure.

Thank you for considering RESQCATS.



There are other ways to give and make a difference at RESQCATS!

Sign up on AmazonSmile and choose RESQCATS as your charity of choice. We will receive a percentage of everything you purchase. Amazon shares their donation quarterly and in 2016, their charitable contribution paid for 125 vaccines!

Also, check out RESQCATS' Wish List on AmazonSmile if you want to give directly. I recently updated our list to include probiotics, lysine supplements, dose syringes, Bach Rescue Remedy, feather teasers and much more.

Thank you for choosing RESQCATS.



RESQCATS™

A non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to the care and welfare of stray and abandoned cats and kittens.

I am enclosing my tax-deductible donation:

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

() Please designate my donation towards special needs kitties and the Polar Bear Fund.

Make your check payable to:

RESQCATS, PO Box 3852, Santa Barbara, CA 93130
Or visit our website and PayPal at www.RESQCATS.org

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ State/Zip: _____

And if you would like to receive our e-newsletters:

Email address: _____

Or email jeffyne@resqcats.org and we will add you to our list!

