

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

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Victoria, BC V8R 6S4

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www.victoriacatrescue.com

Tax no.

BN11926 1493 RR0001

**An Incorporated society
dedicated to the
alleviation of suffering of cats
and all animals.**

Founders:

Thora and Tommy Bonneau

Honorary Patron:

Judge Loretta Chaperon

The society began in the 1960's as the Bonneau Spay Fund. It was incorporated in 1984 as the "Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society."

Become a member today!

Membership includes a subscription to this newsletter. Please complete this form and mail it with your cheque to the address on the left.

Please make cheques payable to:

Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

Family \$45 Single \$30

Life \$ 150 Senior/Unwaged \$15

Donation _____

Total Amount enclosed _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Enter your email address here ONLY if you wish to receive important notices from VCRCS.

Email: _____

Executive Board

2013-2014

President:

Catherine Gale

Secretary:

Susan Robertson

Treasurer:

Gail Fattore

Directors:

Magda Westmacott

Pam Slyth

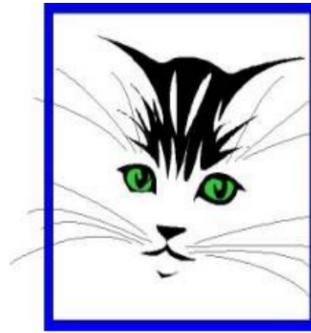
Sherry Buttner

Bazaar Convener:

Magda Westmacott

Scratching Post Editor:

Pam Slyth



The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

SCRATCHING POST

FALL 2013

Annual Christmas Bazaar November 23rd

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps will be holding their annual **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday November 23rd at Knox Presbyterian Church.**

The function will take place from 1-4 pm and a piece of cake and a beverage will cost \$4.50. **Help us by bringing your own re-usable shopping bag!**

Clean sale items in good condition will be accepted at the hall on **Friday Nov. 22nd between 2-7pm. Please note that no donations can be accepted before 2pm on Friday or on Saturday. PLEASE—No furniture, old model microwaves, large appliances, or computer equipment. These items are typically difficult to sell, and we have to pay for their disposal.** Magda is always looking for fabric with cat related prints or trim for her crafts. Call 250 656-1100 if you have some to spare.

There is a church parking lot, street parking on Richmond, and extra space in the lot next to the church that is available to us on the day of the tea. Please respect the "residents only" parking areas.

Please cut out the poster on pg. 6 and post it in your neighbourhood. Please photocopy more if you can.

**Meetings:
3rd Wed. of each
month at 6:00pm.
Call 250 656-1100
for location.**



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

There will be no regular monthly meeting in December.



Christmas Bazaar *Nov. 23rd*
1-4 pm
Knox Presbyterian

Regular Monthly Meeting 6:00pm *Nov. 20th*

Regular Monthly Meeting 6:00 pm *Jan. 15th*

Strawberry Tea *June 2014 TBA*
Knox Presbyterian
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Santa Claus was spotted checking out the Strawberry Tea in June



**YOUR TABLE AWAITS YOU!
Please join us for Tea and Cake
NOVEMBER 23rd 1 TO 4 PM
Knox Presbyterian 2964 Richmond Rd.**



Volunteers Needed!

We are currently seeking volunteers in all areas of our society. Our **Foster/Adoption program** is operating but could use more foster homes. More hands are needed to strengthen our society. Any skill you have would be most welcome. Meetings are currently held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

**Why not volunteer today?
Just call 250 656-1100.**



Cecilie at the Treasures table.



Myrna waiting for a customer in kitchenwares.

Our Philosophy

The Animals are our brother creatures who share this earth with us and are equally deserving of our respect as well as compassion. It is indeed our moral duty to alleviate their suffering whenever and wherever possible. Perfect peace and harmony can never exist in this world if the plight of even one of its creatures is ignored. If we were to solve all the problems of poverty, disease, and overpopulation and still somehow lacked the single quality of compassion, we would still have a world not fit to live in.

Our Purpose

The purposes of the Society are to promote an aggressive spay/neuter program for cats and dogs to reduce the stray population with its attendant suffering; to encourage euthanasia if it is clear that there is no other humane solution for an animal; and to offer monetary assistance to aid these goals regardless of financial circumstances. The Society's paramount concern being animal welfare, to educate towards responsible pet ownership and compassionate understanding of and respect for all living creatures, and to be a voice for all animals mainly through the Society's newsletter "The Scratching Post."

Your Cat's Health: Ask the Vets at Cornell University



Q Is there a simple way to check my cats ears to see if they are healthy?

A Hearing is one of a cat's most important senses so keeping the ears healthy can help painful infections from developing that could damage the ear canal or eardrum. Dermatologist William H. Miller, VMD at Cornell says the answer is as easy as stroking your pet. As you rub the ears you can easily notice if your cat shows signs of discomfort or extreme pleasure. Both instances are a clue that closer inspection is necessary. If there is pain or if the animal really gets into it and rubs his ears against your hand, there may be a problem. Other signs include bad odour, yawning, redness, frequent shaking of the head, scratching the ears, rubbing against furniture, tilting the head, or discharge of pus or dry brown wax. Healthy cats don't need their ears cleaned, but if they have had a history of ear problems, inspect them weekly. Keep your cats ears dry and clean, as bacteria and yeast thrive in moist warm environments. A trip to the vet for a professional ear exam may be necessary if you detect any of the symptoms above.

Financial Information and Statistics

The **net income** from our 2013 Strawberry Tea was \$5,518.85 broken down as follows:

Raffle	1,883.35
Cake and Tea	639.00
Crafts	430.10
Rummage	1,161.50
Jewelry	317.13
Donations	1,590.55
Memberships	120.00
Silent Auction	80.00
Expenses:	
Hall Rental (offset by donation)	350.00
Newspaper ad	165.46
Pizza	107.74
Raffle Expenses	69.58
Disposal	10.00

Announcement

Pamela Miller's flyer project has generated a net income of \$8,670.96 since it's inception in 2004.
Thanks Pamela!

Statistics Sept. 2012 to Aug. 2013

Cat Spays: 104
Cat Neuters: 105
Dog Spays: 7
Dog Neuters: 5

(includes 2013 Blitz)



Our Treasurer tells us that our 2013 Strawberry Tea was very successful. While we made less on the raffle tickets than in 2012, and spent more on advertising, our rummage and crafts brought in more revenue than the year before. Thanks to all who volunteered and also to our loyal customers.

A detailed list of donors and a grateful thank you was printed in the Spring newsletter, but we must not forget Liz Keay and Loretta Chaperon who donated the cost of hall rental, Susan Robertson for flowers and baking, Kim Furey for some great photographs, and everyone who donated rummage and auction items.

REAL ESTATE REWARDS FOR CAT LOVERS!



Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society
An incorporated society dedicated to the alleviation of suffering of cats and all animals

Dear fellow cat-lover,

My name is Whitney Garside and I am a Realtor with DFH Real Estate Ltd in Victoria, BC. For the past 20+ years I have been a lifetime member of the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society and I have acted on the board as a volunteer.

I would like to offer my Real Estate services to Victoria Cat Rescue Corps members as a way of raising funds for the society. My offer to you is a %10 donation from my total Real Estate commission upon completion of a successful sale or purchase of a property. This offer will be extended to Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society members, and any friends or family member that you wish to refer.

I have proven success in the Real Estate Industry and guarantee to offer professional, courteous and knowledgeable service. Together we can make a difference and give back to a charity that needs our help. I am passionate about Real Estate and am a huge cat lover, so the idea of combining the two makes perfect sense!

If you, or someone you know is thinking of buying or selling, or have any real estate related questions, or questions about my Real Estate Rewards for Cat Lovers program, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Whitney Garside
Realtor - DFH Real Estate Ltd.
Phone: 250-477-7291
whitney@dfh.ca
www.whitneygarside.com



DFH
REAL ESTATE LTD.



My 11 yr old cat Soloman, checking out the scene.



My 19 yr old cat Kosch, showing off her fall scarf.

A Note From Past President Sherry

As you may know by now, I have stepped down as president this year. Time for me to take a break. It has been my sincere pleasure to act as president for the past nine years; working with you to help keep VCRC working for the animals we serve. Thank you for allowing me to do so. I will continue as a Director, and to help out at the fundraisers, on the phone lines, and wherever else I'm needed. I hope your new executive will continue the vision and ideals of our mission, and our founders.

Purrs, Sherry.



In Memoriam—Donations received in memory of beloved family, friends or pets.



- Loretta Chaperon in memory of Jamie, Robbie, Buster, and Daisy Chaperon-Mah Ming
- Eileen Thomson in memory of Vivienne Gent's beloved cats, Misty and Toby
- A.M. McEwen in memory of Ellen McEwen
- Les Thomas in memory of Duke, his treasured 18 year companion
- K. Kilgour in Memory of Connie Caunt
- Bernice McEwen in memory of Anne Chiddell •Bernice Charters in memory of Theresa Walker
 - Marianne Love in memory of Gladwynne Anne Jones



Our Programs:

- Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance Program (formerly the Bonneau Spay Fund) offers modest assistance to those who cannot afford to spay or neuter their pet.
- Foster/Adoption Program where we attempt to find good homes for abandoned and homeless pets. Foster homes and volunteers are needed to sustain this program.
- Education program to alert the public about the importance of spaying and neutering to reduce the stray population.
- Thanks to member Pamela Miller, our fundraising/education flyer, which is mailed to thousands of Victoria area homes every year.

SEE MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS ON OUR WEBSITE:
www.victoriacatrescue.com

"Foster homes and volunteers are needed to sustain the Foster/Adoption Program."

President's Report

As we move deeper into fall, we are preparing for the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Fall Tea & Bazaar, which will be held on November 23. The storeroom is filling with rummage, Magda is madly sewing cat blankets, aprons and other cat-inspired crafts. Volunteers are planning their baking and other donations, and we're choosing cake for the tea. We're enjoying the excitement of preparations and hope to see you there.

At our Annual General Meeting in September, current members changed positions and we welcomed a new Treasurer, Gail Fattore. Particular thanks go to Sherry Buttner, who stepped down after serving nine years as President, for her willingness to provide leadership and her dedication to animal welfare. And also to Pam Slyth, who stepped down as Secretary, for her ongoing dedication to the Society and for taking the minutes of meetings over the past several years. Thankfully, both will continue to serve as Directors. Also thanks to those who have taken on new responsibilities.

In 2014 we will be reaching out to members to approve updated purposes and bylaws of the Society, in the process for transitioning to the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* - the new federal legislation governing charities. Please see the **Note to Members** below.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with our activities, from our fundraisers to our foster program. There is plenty to do, starting with the Fall Tea. If you have the time and would be interested in helping out, or in participating in monthly meetings and meeting other animal lovers, please email us at meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com. Or leave us a message at (250) 656-1100. And, as always, we - and the animals we serve - deeply appreciate your continued support. We couldn't do it without you.

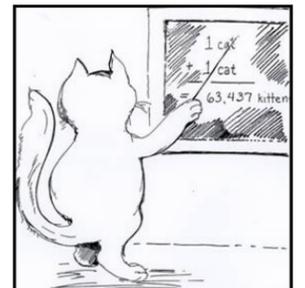
Thanks all, Catherine

Note to Members

In early 2014, we will be engaging you in reviewing revised bylaws and purposes for the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps. The federal government has introduced changes for charities - the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* - that we need to follow to maintain our charity status. These include changing our bylaws to include some model bylaws developed for all charities and filing an application to continue our charity status. We need to have our bylaws and application approved by the federal government by October 17, 2014. As part of this process, we will review our purposes and bylaws to ensure they are up to date. Once we have a draft of the revised bylaws and application for continuance, we will ask for your feedback. When the final draft is complete, we will schedule a meeting of members to hold a vote. Once we have your approval, we will submit the documents to the federal government. Thanks in advance for helping us through this process.



Magda has a 32" colour flatscreen TV for sale. The price is \$100 and she would like to donate the money to Victoria Cat Rescue Corps. Please contact the editor at apenty@shaw.ca if you are interested in this TV, or call 250 656-1100.



Merry Christmas!

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society will hold their Annual

Christmas Bazaar!

Saturday
November 23, 2013
1:00-4:00pm

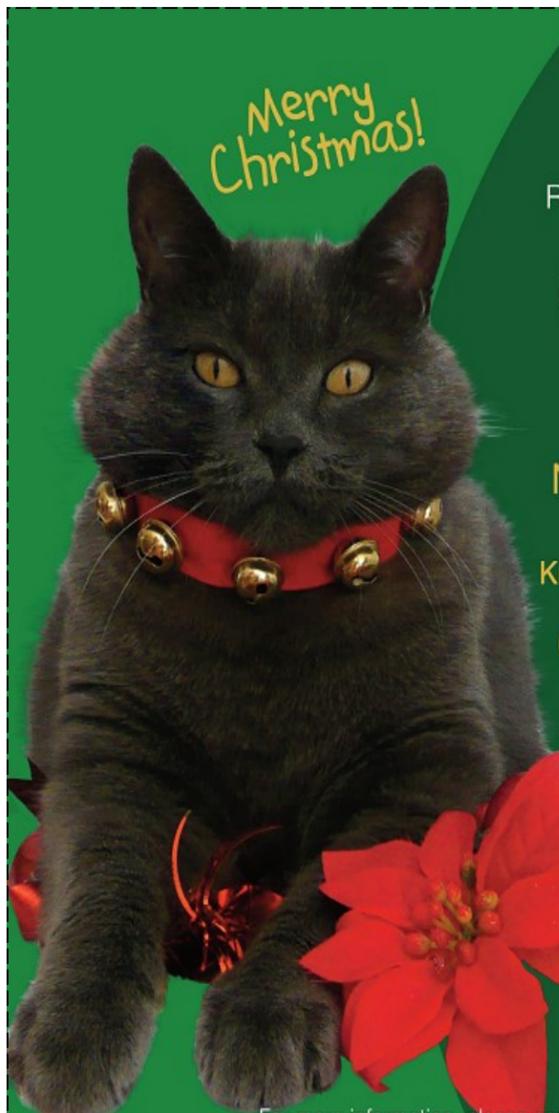
Knox Presbyterian Church
2964 Richmond Road
(between Lansdowne & Taylor Street)

Rummage
Books
Jewellery
Arts & Crafts
Plants

Cake & Drink
\$4.50

For more information, please contact us at
250 656 1100
email us at meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com or visit www.victoriacatrescue.com

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society is a charitable organization run by volunteers.
All donations go toward spay, neuter and medical costs for the animals we assist.



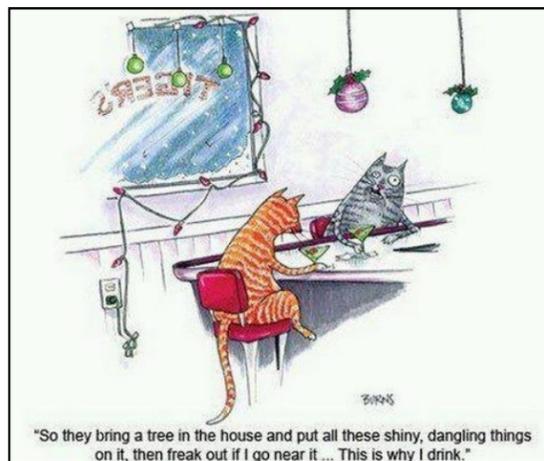


Help us
Advertise
The
Bazaar

Cut out the flyer on the left and post it in your neighbourhood.

Attention!

If you would like to receive the Scratching Post Newsletter by email - send your email address to our Editor at apenty@shaw.ca with a note saying you would like to be put on the email list. Please include your name.



Special Needs Foster Cat "Sophie" Still Needing a Home-



Sophie, who was featured on the front page of the Scratching Post in the Spring of this year is now available for adoption. She has outgrown her heart murmur but has a condition called nastigmus which causes her trouble in focusing her eyes. She is a loving cat who needs a peaceful home. Please contact kimesau@shaw.ca for further information or call us at 250 656-1100 and leave a message if you can adopt Sophie or any other cat on our website www.victoriacatrescue.com

Spotlight on Members—Tove Bording, Member & Volunteer



Growing up on a farm in Alberta where we had a variety of animals, from this daily contact grew my interest in and love of them. While studies and later my career in the Canadian diplomatic service kept me in cities, I missed having animals around. When stationed in Port of Spain, Trinidad, I acquired two dogs that I later brought to Canada. After this move they stopped getting along, so I found a home for one, but Scamp remained with me and accompanied me to assignments in various parts of the world. He finally ended his "diplomatic" days in Seattle at the age of 18. As a result of his

cremation at the Seattle Humane Society, I got involved with them on the fundraising side, where we tried a number of different activities to raise money. A really fun event was the dog washes; something entire families could participate in. Everyone ended up soaked to the skin but it was enjoyed by all—except maybe not the dogs!

On my return to Ottawa, I volunteered with Friends of Abandoned Pets (FOAP). My neighbours were cat people and had been feeding a family of feral cats in our back yards. There was a little black female kitten we named Mrs. Blackie. A cruel person kicked her and injured her very badly. At the animal hospital the prognosis was not very good, but this little cat survived. The bill however was over \$800, which FOAP covered. At this point it was decided that with such an investment, Mrs. Blackie should be renamed "Treasure". Later she came to my home to be nursed back to health, and thus I became a "Cat Person". I was also supposed to socialize her so we could place her in a good home, but she decided I was 'it' and she was my dear companion until she passed away at 14 years.

Treasure went with me to Los Angeles, my last posting, and when I returned to Victoria in 1995, so did she. Both Scamp and Treasure sleep peacefully in my garden. Looking for volunteer possibilities, I found Victoria Cat Rescue (VCRCS) and have been a member, supporter and volunteer ever since. Unfortunately, I am no longer able to participate actively due to failing health, but thanks to the hard work and dedication of its members, the society soldiers on and will hopefully continue to do so.

How Cats Defy Gravity to Lap it Up—from Reuters, Washington

A cat's delicate lapping does not scoop up water, but uses inertia to create a backward waterfall, U.S. researchers say. When a dog drinks, it forms a cup with its tongue and sloshes water into its mouth, and often the other way, so the top of the tongue touches the liquid's surface. The researchers said they used high-speed videos to analyze how this movement gets water into the tip of a cat's tongue, and inertia allows the water to be drawn up in a column. Their study is more than curiosity. It could provide insights into ways to robotically move liquids, says the team from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Princeton. Controlling the lapping speed helps the cat get the water neatly into its mouth before gravity pulls it back out. A domestic cat manages about four laps a second, while studies of larger cats in a zoo show they lap more slowly. Understanding such movements can help physicists sort out the relationship between gravity and inertia and will help in designing robots and other mechanisms. (ed. Note: they didn't mention the lap speed for tea)



floor. Cats curve their tongues the tongue touches the liquid's surface. high-speed videos to analyze how this cats mouth by sticking to the smooth allowing the water to be drawn up in a than curiosity. It could provide move liquids, says the team from Technology and Princeton. Controlling the lapping speed helps the cat get the water neatly into its mouth before gravity pulls it back out. A domestic cat manages about four laps a second, while studies of larger cats in a zoo show they lap more slowly. Understanding such movements can help physicists sort out the relationship between gravity and inertia and will help in designing robots and other mechanisms. (ed. Note: they didn't mention the lap speed for tea)