

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

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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

2011-2012

President:

Sherry Buttner

Secretary:

Pam Slyth

Treasurer:

Catherine Gale

Directors:

Magda Westmacott

Susan Robertson

Bazaar Convener:

Magda Westmacott

Scratching Post Editor:

Pam Slyth

We're on the Web!
victoriacatrescue.com



Margaret and Susan helping at
the 2010 Strawberry Tea.

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."



The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

SCRATCHING POST

FALL 2011

Annual Christmas Bazaar November 19th

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps will be holding their annual **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday November 19th at Knox Presbyterian Church. See map on page 6 for directions.**

The function will take place from 1-4 pm and a piece of cake and a beverage will cost \$3.75. **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. 18th between 2-7pm. Please note that no donations can be accepted 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:
**2nd Monday of each
month at 6:00pm.**
**Call 250 656-1100
for location.**



Update on Nikki
See Page 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be no
regular monthly
meeting in
December.

Christmas Bazaar **Nov. 19th**
1-4 pm
Knox Presbyterian

Regular Monthly Meeting 6:00pm **Nov. 14th**

Regular Monthly Meeting 6:00 pm **Jan. 9th**

Strawberry Tea **June 2012**
Knox Presbyterian **TBA**
1:00 - 4:00 pm



**YOUR TABLE
AWAITS YOU!
PLEASE JOIN US
FOR TEA AND
CAKE
NOVEMBER 19TH
1 TO 4 PM**

**Knox Presbyterian
2964 Richmond Rd.**



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



Q How can I keep my cat safe over the Holiday Season?

A It is important to be aware of the various dangers that the holiday season can bring into our homes. Sparkly tinsel and pretty ribbon delights us, but can provide potential danger to our beloved pets. Poinsettias can indeed irritate the mouth and stomach of your cat, but lilies are even more toxic. Ingestion of even a tiny amount can result in kidney failure, so be extra careful of any plants that you or your guests bring into your home. We owners may find chocolate to be delicious, but it's never good for a cat to eat. Dark chocolate is the most dangerous because of its high levels of mehylxanthines. And for some cats, the stress and activities of the holidays can become overwhelming. You can try synthetic pheromones, such as Feliway, but the best solution may be to create a quiet, safe, 'cats only' room for your pet to seek comfort and peace.

Financial Information and Statistics

The **net income** from our 2011 Strawberry Tea was \$6,405.19

broken down as follows:

Raffle	2,151.00
Cake and Tea	532.00
Crafts	600.00
Rummage/Jewelry	1,246.50
Donations	1,946.50
Memberships	195.00
Silent Auction	251.00

Expenses:

Hall Rental (offset by donation)	350.00
Newspaper ad	83.99
Pizza	110.82

Statistics
Sept. 2010 to Aug. 2011

Cat Spays: 146
Cat Neuters: 110
Cat Medicals: 30
Dog Spays: 18
Dog Neuters: 8
Dog Medicals: 6
1 bunny medical
1 bunny neuter
(includes 2011 Blitz)

Our Treasurer tells us that our 2011 event was the best Strawberry Tea ever! 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 .



One of the strays helped by our Rescue Worker.

Just for fun:
Check out Kate the Great Dane and her best friend, Pipp the deer.
Go to www.youtube.com and search for 'dog and deer best friends'

President's Report

Wow...can you believe it's November already and almost time for our annual Christmas Bazaar? What happened to summer?! It seems like only a few weeks since the Strawberry Tea...and what a Tea it was! It was another financial record-setter thanks to the hard work from our wonderful volunteers, donators, and patrons, but what made it even more amazing was that it was our first Tea in our new location at Knox Presbyterian church. It is extremely gratifying that so many of our patrons followed us to the new location; that was something of concern to us when we were forced to make the decision to leave our previous venue. Thank you for your loyalty...it means a lot to us!

Our priority for the foreseeable future is going to be fundraising, and this is where I need your help. Although we are still in good financial shape, by necessity we spend much more money that we take in, even considering the great Tea and Bazaar results. We must try to be proactive not only for our current spay/neuter/TNR programs, but to ensure we can continue these into the future. I have to admit that I am rubbish at finding sources of funding, writing proposals and reports, so I am putting out a call for help; if you -or someone you know- is good at sourcing viable funding, grants, or have other information pertaining to these, please let us know! There is still an enormous need in the community for rescue groups like the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society, and in fact the need seems to keep growing despite all of our best efforts. So, if you can help us find funding to keep helping cats, we'd love to hear from you.

Don't forget our Christmas Bazaar for 2011 on Saturday November 19th, 1pm to 4pm at Knox Presbyterian church. We will be serving our usual delicious cake and a beverage, and have some pretty nice stuff for sale too! See you there!

And as always, Thank You all for your continued support of the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society. Purrs, Sherry

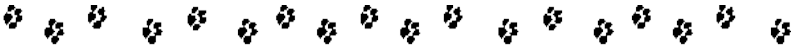
Forever Homes Urgently Needed



**Call 250 656-1100
for adoption information**

HARMONY AND LACEY

This lovely pair are urgently in need of a foster or adoptive home, as their current foster mom's circumstances have changed – we are looking for a quiet foster home without little children – they are really blossoming and would need a patient home to continue to give them the TLC needed to bring them out of their shell.



In Memoriam



Mrs. Audrey Pullan in memory of John Higgins
Anne Marie McEwen in memory of Ellen McEwen
K. Kilgour in memory of Connie Caunt
Carol Jesse in memory of ‘Shadow’
Rex Pendril Brown in memory of Betty Brown
Betty Barrett in memory of Doreen
Rene and Annabella Morrell in memory of Doreen Roddis
B. Nagamori in memory of ‘Miko’ Nagamori
Mrs. B. Holby in memory of Doreen Roddis



Scenes from the Strawberry Tea
Magda’s Crafts and Cecilie’s Jewelry Table bring in a significant portion of our sales revenue. Please consider donating cat related fabric or jewelry to the Christmas Bazaar.

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.
- Assistance to William Head Cat Fund, who along with the prisoners, care for cats at William Head Prison.
- 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.

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

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

PUSHKIN AND THE POPE
-A LUCKY BLACK CAT

By Amanda C Dickie

Pope Benedict is well known as a cat lover. He used to feed the strays of Rome. During his recent visit to the UK he had an unexpected encounter with Pushkin, the Birmingham Oratory cat. Fr Richard Duffield, Provost of Birmingham Oratory and actor for the cause of Blessed John Henry Newman, was responsible for the logistics of the beatification ceremony. Fr Duffield was also responsible for ensuring that the Pope met a very important member of the Birmingham community. After private prayer in Cardinal Newman’s room the Pope descended in a lift. As the door opened, right on cue, he heard a cat meowing, and looked pleasantly surprised. The Provost ran after the Vatican TV crew and photographer who were exiting down the road and, on learning that the Pope was meeting the Oratory cat, they rushed back to record the historic encounter for posterity. Fr Anton Guziel, one of the community, went and fetched the half Persian black cat into the papal presence. The Pope was delighted to meet the cat sporting the papal colours, with a yellow and white ribbon about his neck. He inquired as to Pushkin’s age -he is ten years old -and told the delighted feline that he was very pretty and then spoke to



him in “cattish German”, stroking him and murmuring endearments. Pushkin extended a paw to the Pope who took it smilingly. He stroked him under the chin and tickled his ears whilst Fr. Anton held him. According to Fr Anton, Pushkin maintained “a dignified and prayerful silence,” throughout the happy encounter. The priest brought the cat with him two years ago when he joined the community and Pushkin has settled in as the Oratory cat, greeting visitors and maintaining a correspondence with Princess Michael, another noted cat lover. Since the Pope’s visit, Fr Anton jokingly says Pushkin has gained “hairs and graces!” Pushkin now expects to be placed on the papal Christmas card list!

16 CATHOLIC COMPANION



Photos from the 2011 Strawberry Tea

Congratulations to our Raffle Winner at the 2011 Strawberry Tea. She went home with a beautiful handcrafted quilt and pillow donated by Ruby Wach. It’s no wonder she is smiling. Everything went smoothly at our new location and we are looking forward to welcoming our members and friends at the 2011 Christmas Bazaar.

This article was sent to us by our faithful supporter

Rex Pendril Brown

If you have an interesting story or photo that you would like us to include in the newsletter, please contact the Editor at apenty@shaw.ca We would love some new material for the Spring issue.



Merry Christmas
From the Volunteers at
Victoria Cat Rescue Corps



Merry Christmas!

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society will hold their Annual

Christmas Bazaar!

Saturday
November 19, 2011
1:00-4:00pm

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

Rummage
Books
Jewellery
Arts & Crafts
Plants

Cake & Drink
\$3.75

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.



The Truth about Cats and Dogs

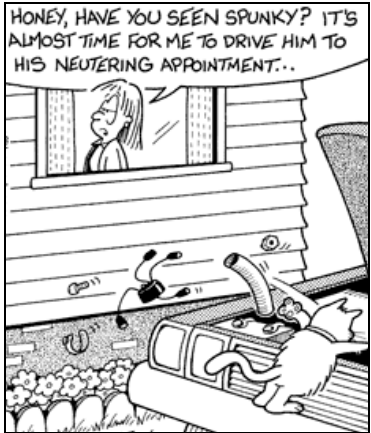
Unlike dogs, which exhibit a huge range of sizes, shapes and temperaments, house cats are relatively homogeneous, differing mostly in the characteristics of their coats. The reason for the relative lack of variability in cats is simple: humans have long bred dogs to assist with particular tasks, such as hunting or sled pulling, but cats, which lack any inclination for performing most tasks that would be useful for humans, experienced no such selective breeding pressures. *Scientific American, June 2009*



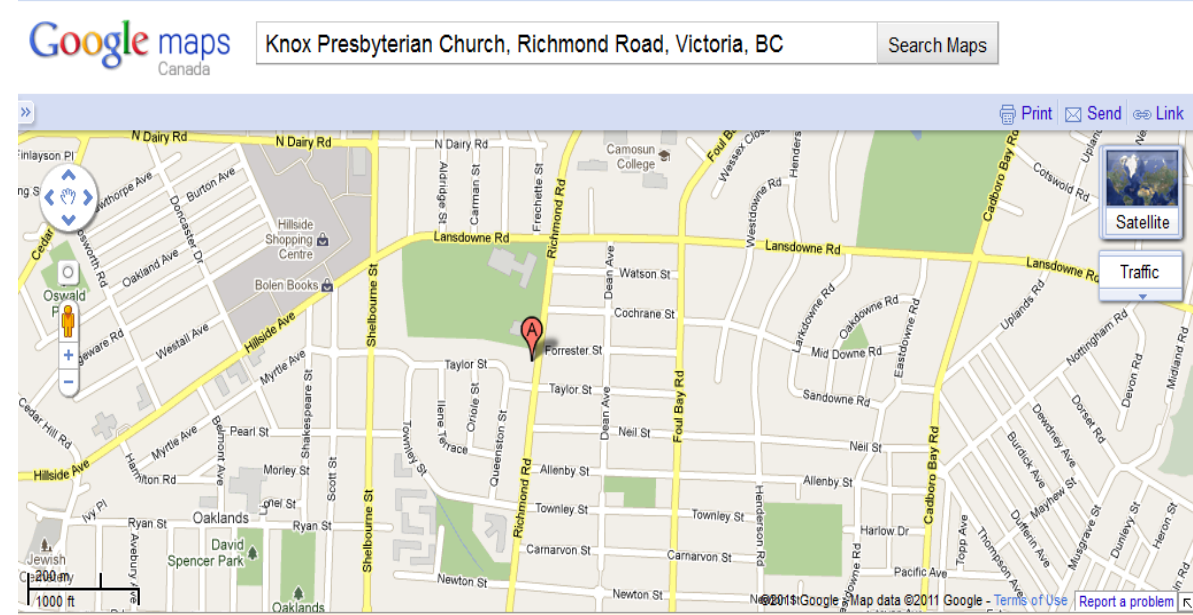
Cut out the flyer on the left and post it in your neighbourhood.

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.



Our New Location—Knox Presbyterian Church



2964
Richmond Rd.

An Update on Nikki by Pam S.



THEN

Hello Pam

I understand that you are the person who had me placed in this home. I enjoy my pets, the youngest is my favourite. Since I have been here, I have started to train them. My food is ready when I want it, treats come when I ask and all my pets have learned to open and close the doors when told. Recently my pets got me a new toy, she is a small dog. I have trained her to sit, and while I eat I let her watch me. All in all I'm very happy with my new family and think that you did very well.

Thank you
Nikki

NOW– Nikki on
the kitchen
counter.

