

## 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

**2014-2015**

*President:*

Catherine Gale

*Secretary:*

Susan Robertson

*Treasurer:*

Cheryl McCreary

*Directors:*

Magda Westmacott

Pam Slyth

Sherry Buttner

*Bazaar Convener:*

Magda Westmacott

*Scratching Post Editor:*

Pam Slyth

**We're on the Web!**  
victoriacatrescue.com

## 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.**



### 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 2014**

## Annual Christmas Bazaar November 22nd

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps will be  
holding their annual **Christmas Bazaar**  
**on Saturday November 22nd 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. 21st**  
**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 park-  
ing 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.**  
1-4 pm **22nd**  
Knox Presbyterian

Regular Monthly **Nov.**  
Meeting 6:00pm **19th**

Regular Monthly **Jan.**  
Meeting 6:00 pm **21st**

Strawberry Tea **June**  
Knox Presbyterian **2015**  
1:00 - 4:00 pm **TBA**

## YOUR TABLE AWAITS YOU!

**Please join us for Tea and Cake**

**NOVEMBER 22nd 1 TO 4 PM**

**Knox Presbyterian 2964 Richmond Rd.**





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



Q My husband and I are seniors and have lost our cat after 17 years. We would like to adopt another cat, but worry that at our age the cat may outlast us, or we may have to go into assisted living. Would it be fair or wise to adopt?

A There is no question that the adoption of cats by healthy and capable senior citizens can be good for the kitties. Studies suggest that this benefit may also extend to the seniors themselves due to the companionship, routine and exercise that results. It seems a good idea, considering the number of cats in shelters, to take advantage of all potential adopters. It is important to minimize the likelihood of abandonment if and when an owner becomes unable to provide continued care. Contingency plans such as a 'pet trust' can be made at the time of adoption. Legal arrangements can designate assets, such as insurance policies, real estate or cash. A trustee can be named to manage the money, and a caregiver to supervise food and medical treatment. With careful consideration and planning, adoption by seniors can be a positive experience for all.

Financial Information and Statistics

The net income from our 2014 Strawberry Tea was \$5,402.14 broken down as follows:

Raffle	2,030.30
Cake and Tea	629.50
Crafts	439.50
Rummage	781.73
Jewelry	586.00
Donations	1,789.45
Memberships	165.00

Expenses:

Hall Rental (offset by donation)	350.00
Newspaper ad	155.12
Pizza /Berry Sugar	121.78
Raffle Expenses	392.40

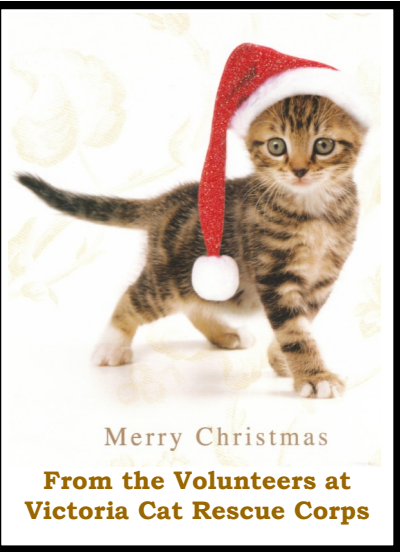
Announcement

Pamela Miller's flyer project has generated a net income of \$8,734.88 since it's inception in 2004. Thanks Pamela!

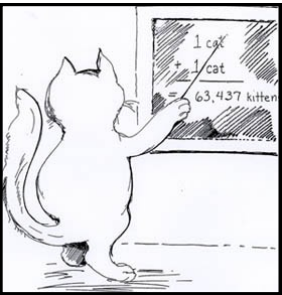
Statistics Sept. 2013 to Aug. 2014

Cat Spays: 209
Cat Neuters: 143
Dog Spays: 3
Dog Neuters: 3

(includes 2014 Blitz)



At press time we have the following people to thank for their assistance with the Christmas Bazaar: Thanks to Magda for organizing the volunteers and the bazaar itself, to Angela for her donation of the cake, and to Patisserie Daniel for their continued support. Ian Fraser and staff from Victoria Animal Control helps with transporting garbage and recycling after the event, and of course our many volunteers work hard to set up and clean up. A big thank you to Sylvia and her husband, who folded, stuffed and mailed the newsletter in June and again in October!



Foster Homes Urgently Needed For Special Needs Cats

Sophie



Sophie, a 2-year old female, is a very loving cat but has a condition called nastignmus. This can cause her to have trouble focusing her eyes and to move her head from side to side. It does not cause any health problems. She is ok with some cats but picky with others. She will need a peaceful home without children or a lot of activity. Sophie was featured in our newsletter last year and she is still waiting for a special home just for her.

Cooper



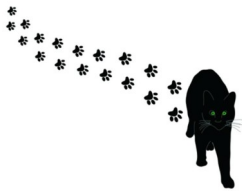
Cooper, a 3-year old male, is looking for a very quiet foster home that can help with trust building. He needs a peaceful home without children, with someone who will take time to teach him that people can be kind. Right now he will flinch when petted but allows it. He gets along well with cats and would benefit from a foster home that has another cat for comfort.

And..What about Jake?



Jake is a gorgeous short haired black and grey tabby 3yead old male tabby. He is extremely shy and needs a very patient, loving home who will let him take the time he needs to relax and unwind. He adores other cats, is good with dogs, but is extremely shy around people - therefore he is listed as special needs. Jake requires a home without children. Jake is still looking for a permanent home, not foster care.

Our foster program covers the cost of food, supplies, and veterinary treatment. Please email [kimesau@shaw.ca](mailto:kimesau@shaw.ca) or call 250 656-1100 for further information.





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



Magda Westmacott in memory of Annie  
Rex Brown in memory of Betty Brown  
Ian and Alana Clarke in memory of Ptolemy  
AM McEwen in memory of Ellen McEwen  
Penelope Fraser in memory of Tove Bording  
Mary Gelpke in memory of Alex (Chaperon) (a fine cat)  
Alina Clarke in memory of Taz  
  
James and Evana Halliday in memory of Grace, Alex/Rexe Lee

If you would like to honour your pets, friends or family members by donating to our society, we are always grateful for donations in any amount.



**Scenes  
from the 2014  
Strawberry Tea**



**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, is mailed to thousands of Victoria area homes every year.

SEE MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.victoriacatrescue.com](http://www.victoriacatrescue.com)

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

**President’s Report**

Mark your calendars - the Christmas Tea and Bazaar is fast approaching! Join us at Knox Presbyterian Church on November 22 for an afternoon of tea and cake - and check out our cat-inspired crafts. Yes, there will be more aprons! And also books, jewelry, clothes, kitchen-ware, toys, and other great bargains. It's always great to see old and new friends. We hope to see you there!

At our Annual General Meeting in September, we welcomed a new Treasurer to our board, Cheryl McCreary, who has a lot of experience in book-keeping. So we say a big thank you to Gail Fattore, who stepped down as Treasurer after a holding the reins for a year.

I want to draw your attention to the two foster cats pictured in this issue. Both Sophie and Cooper are special-needs cats who need quiet foster homes where they can get more one-on-one bonding time with their foster parent(s). Please read their stories to see whether you or someone you know might make a good foster parent for one of these cats. Or if you are thinking about adopting a cat, please look at the sweet cats up for adoption on our website.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help us with our activities, such as helping out at fundraisers, assisting with making crafts, or providing a foster home. If you have time to help out at the Christmas Tea and Bazaar or with other activities, or would like to attend our monthly meetings, please email us at [meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com](mailto:meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com) or leave us a message at (250) 656-1100.

As ever, we - and the animals we serve - deeply thank you for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you.

Catherine



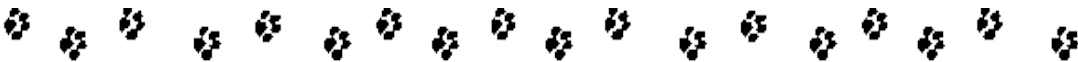
**Loyal Supporter Tove Bording Passes Away**

BORDING, Tove Margrethe September 28, 1935 - July 27, 2014

Tove passed away in Victoria after a lengthy illness. She was born in Standard, Alberta and enjoyed a long career in the Canadian Diplomatic Service, retiring to Victoria in 1995. Following cremation in Victoria, there will be a memorial service in Calgary, Alberta at a later date. She had a great love and compassion for animals and asked that anyone wishing to make a donation in her memory direct such donation to one of the many needful animal protection societies.



(Tove was a long-time volunteer and supporter, and helped at our Bazaars and other events for many years. We will miss her.)





Merry Christmas!

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society will hold their Annual

# Christmas Bazaar!

Saturday  
November 22, 2014  
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](mailto:meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com) or visit [www.victoriacatrescue.com](http://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.

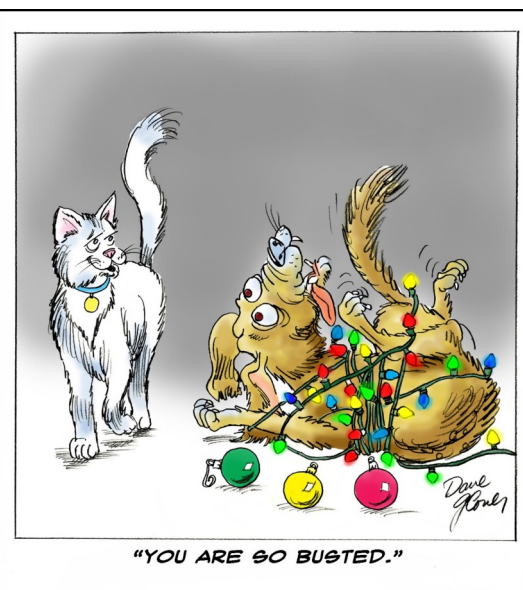


Help us  
Advertise  
The  
Bazaar

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](mailto:apenty@shaw.ca)  
Please include your name.

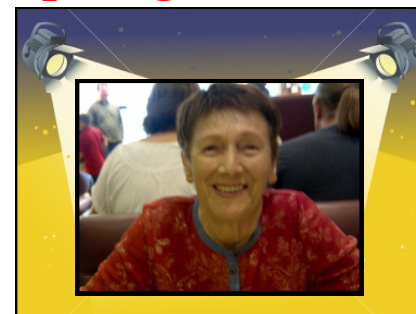


## Cat Quotes



"Of all God's creatures, there is only one that cannot be made slave of the leash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve the man, but it would deteriorate the cat." *Mark Twain*

## Spotlight on Members—Magda Westmacott, Member & Volunteer



Magda isn't the type of volunteer who likes to be in the spotlight but her friends on the board insisted that she be recognized in this season's newsletter for her years of hard work and tireless dedication to the VRCC. Magda was born in a seaside town in Northern Germany. She was only 11 when the second world war broke out. As the majority of her hometown was destroyed during the war, Magda immigrated to Canada in her mid-twenties to start a new life.

She arrived in Montreal alone in the middle of December 1954 with nothing much more than the clothes on her back, and those were hardly warm enough for the harsh Canadian winters. Magda wasted no time in enrolling in courses in English and French, and soon secured a job in a book store, where she eventually met Tony. They were both sad to leave Montreal when Tony accepted a new job in Ottawa where they lived for many years before retiring in Kelowna and eventually moving to Victoria. Magda was always rescuing animals and working for animal (and other) charities wherever she lived. She attributes her love of animals to her wonderful mother who always took care of animals at a time in history when people had little regard for animal welfare. Magda would always ensure that local wildlife had enough to eat and water to drink during the cold winters back east. She rescued many cats and dogs (and other animals) over the years, and adopted many of the cats that she could not find homes for. They loved her as much as she loved them. She also fund-raised for local animal shelters, often bribing people with her delectable German tortes in exchange for donations to the SPCA.

It didn't take Magda long to discover the VRCC after she moved to Victoria in 1989. She immediately started working at every Christmas bazaar and Strawberry Tea and, several years ago, became the official bazaar convener. The bazaars have come a long way since those early days thanks to Magda's great ideas, hard work, and superb organizational skills. As well, Magda is a gifted seamstress and has spent hundreds of hours each year sewing aprons, cushions, cat beds, tea cozies, and other crafts - all with beautiful animal fabric -to sell at each bazaar. Her craft table is a big draw and she has raised thousands of dollars for us over the years with her sewing.

Magda is a wonderful, loyal and generous friend and it is clear that her charitable work for the animals is extremely important to her. What is most impressive about Magda is that nothing has ever gotten in the way of her devotion to her charitable work over the years. She has continued to work for VRCC through countless chemotherapy treatments and various broken limbs and, thankfully for us, has no intention of slowing down.



## Vancouver "Cat Café" Coming Soon *Huffington Post*

BREAKING MEWS: Vancouver is pawisibly getting a cat café similar to one in Montreal. Dubbed the Catfé, the establishment is coming to downtown Vancouver as early as the fall of this year, Metro News reports. "People will meet the cats, fall in love with them and maybe want to adopt them", Catfé founder Michelle Furbacher told the newspaper. "The cats have to have the right kind of personality, that likes hanging out with a lot of humans and other cats". Popular in Asia, and even clawing into Europe, the cat café model is also on its way to America. And really, it's no surprise this catmosphere is so popular around the world; who wouldn't want to cuddle up with a kitty as they sip on their tea? The idea sounds purrfect. We wish we were at one right meow. (The photo at right was taken at a catfé in Paris.) *(The Vancouver group recently did a crowd funding campaign on indiegogo and raised money, but we are not sure if they have found a location yet for their catfé.)*

