



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

SCRATCHING POST

SPRING 2026

STRAWBERRY TEA AND SALE



We are delighted to announce that our annual **Strawberry Tea and Bazaar** will be held on **Saturday June 20th**. Please drop in between 1 and 4pm to have tea and/or do some shopping. We are once again asking for donations of sale items. We can accept clean items in good condition. Donations of books, clothing, housewares, plants, treasures, and baking would be most appreciated. We are unable to take furniture, large appliances, or computer equipment.

Please deliver your donations to Knox Presbyterian Church, 2964 Richmond Rd, between the hours of 2pm and 6pm on Friday June 19th. If you have items that absolutely cannot wait until that date, or if you are unable to drop off yourself, email us at victoriacatrescue@gmail.com and we will try and arrange pick up. As usual we will be serving delicious Strawberry Shortcake and tea or coffee. The cost this year is \$8.00 (cash only) We also need your help in spreading the word—*please cut out the flyer on page 3 and post it wherever you can.* Your Veterinarian's office or your local grocery store may have a bulletin board. If you would like to volunteer to distribute larger posters please contact us by email and let us know how many you would be willing to post.

We are still urgently seeking baking and craft donations for the Bazaar. (see note below)

P If possible, Volunteers are requested to move their vehicles from the church parking lot before the Bazaar begins, to leave room for our guests.

Donations of Baked goods and Craft items would be very much appreciated. Don't forget to label your baking with the ingredients, and please don't use Styrofoam trays.

Do you sew, knit, quilt or love crafting? Please consider donating your creations for sale at the event.



This sweet kitten and her siblings will be ready for adoption soon. See pg 5

Mark your calendar:

- ◆ **Annual General Meeting**
Wednesday Sept 23/26 6pm
Email us for details.
Please consider coming to the meeting to support our work.
- ◆ **2026 Christmas Bazaar**
Saturday November 21 1pm

YOU CAN DONATE BY E-TRANSFER TO:

victoriacatrescue@gmail.com

**Or donate online at
www.CanadaHelps.org**

**OR MAIL A CHEQUE TO THE
ADDRESS ON PAGE 6.**

President's Message

I'd like to begin by extending our heartfelt thanks to all of our supporters, donors, and volunteers. Your ongoing compassion and commitment make everything we do possible. We are especially excited to welcome Julie and Virginia to our team. These two incredible new volunteers have already been instrumental in assisting with adoptions and home visits, helping at our adoption events and Julie has created our new website! Their contributions have made a meaningful impact in a very short time. Their help and expertise has made a huge difference and we are so grateful to have them on board.

It's been a busy season on the ground. We've been actively involved again in TNR (trap-neuter-return) efforts on a local First Nations reserve. During this work, a couple of the cats were found to be not truly feral, but not really adoptable, so their feeders are working to build trust with them. Our plan is to re-trap these cats before winter and bring them into care so they can continue the process of socialization and eventually find safe indoor homes.

So far this year, we've taken in several nursing mums with newborn kittens. In response, we will once again be running our "Oops" program. Through this initiative, we offer free spay services for the mother cat and other household cats in exchange for surrendering the kittens to our care. This ensures the kittens receive proper veterinary attention and are placed responsibly, helping to prevent further unplanned litters. Even just one or two un-spayed cats can contribute to the ongoing cycle we are all working so hard to reduce.

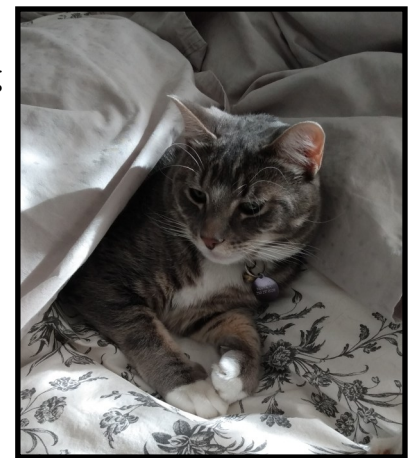
We have also taken in a higher-than-usual number of shy cats. These are cats and kittens that are not feral, but not fully socialized and have nowhere else to go. These cats are in specialized foster homes where they are given the time and patience they need to thrive. We love helping this population of cats and kittens, but they do stay in care longer than most cats/kittens and require more vet care and ongoing food supplies for their foster homes.

As always, we rely heavily on community support to continue this work. The rising costs of veterinary care, food, litter, and everyday rescue expenses are making our efforts significantly more expensive than they were even a year ago. Unfortunately our donations are not stretching as far as they once did. At this time, we are in need of donations to help us continue caring for vulnerable cats in our community.

If you are able to help, we would be very grateful. We have a wishlist at Amazon.ca. We are also very thankful for the ongoing fundraising support from Bosley's by Pet Valu on Yates Street. Supporters can purchase food or gift certificates there, and the staff will ensure those donations make their way directly to us. We can take monetary donations via CanadaHelps, or e-transfer at victoriacatrescue@gmail.com. When you e-transfer, please send a separate message to us with your information on where to send a tax receipt.

Thank you again for your continued kindness, encouragement, and support. We simply could not do this work without our community standing behind us.

Kim Esau
President



Leo was trapped as an older feral kitten on a first nations reserve. He took time to socialize but is now adopted into a loving home.

Please cut out the poster and share it 



Strawberry Tea & Bazaar

Saturday, June 20, 2026
1:00-4:00 pm

-  Strawberry shortcake and tea/coffee - \$8 (cash only)
-  Treasures
-  White Elephant
-  Books
-  Jewellery
-  Arts & crafts
-  Plants
-  Baking
-  Silent Auction

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

*In support of the
Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society*

Contact:
victoriacatrescue@gmail.com
www.victoriacatrescue.com

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.



Christmas Bazaar Thanks

Loretta Chaperon, Angela Westmacott, Anonymous Donor, Patisserie Daniel, Cheryl Westmacott (poster), Pepper's Market, Yates St. Coffee Bar, Victoria Animal Control (Ian Fraser and team) and Coastal Movers.

Thanks to all the volunteers and donors who helped with our Christmas Bazaar & Tea in November 2025.

2025 Christmas Bazaar	
The net income was \$2,603.20	
Income	
Donations	\$746.00
Tea & Cake	472.50
Rummage	1,498.10
Jewelry	565.60
Silent Auction	347.00
Expenses	
Hall Rental	500.00
Liability Insurance	276.00
Cake	250.00

Scenes from the Christmas Bazaar

Good shopping, delicious cake from Patisserie Daniel and a very special surprise visitor.



Join us this year for some early Christmas Shopping and treats.
Saturday November 21, 2026
1-4pm

Important Notes & Fundraising News

- HUGE thanks to Bosleys on Yates for their ongoing support with our Adoption Fairs
- The 2026 Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for November 21st, 2026.
- The Scratching Post newsletter as we know it will change after this edition. Microsoft Publisher will no longer exist, so the newsletter will be in a new format and also available through our website. Please consider signing up to receive an electronic copy to save postage costs.



VCRCs has discontinued the landline phone number due to low volume of calls. You can still contact us thru our email address or our Facebook page.



Bottle drive revenue: December \$1,353.70, January \$753.70, February \$1,073.60, March \$1,039.60, April \$958.50. The **2026 dates** are as follows: May 30, July 18, August 29, September 26, October 31, November 28, and December 19. Thank you to all the Bottle Drive volunteers who donate their time and energy to this fundraiser.

Glanford Bottle Depot 10am to 2pm.



Tru Earth Laundry Products This fundraiser is still ongoing. Please consider ordering this eco-friendly Canadian product. It's low sudsing formula works in all types of washing machines, and is delivered in cardboard packaging. Our society receives 20% of total sales. <http://tru-earth.sjv.io/VictoriaCatRescue>

In Memoriam-Donations received in memory of loved ones

- In memory of **Jean R. Strachen** and her cats, from her daughter Mrs. Carol Shields.
- In memory of **Wendy Mawdsley** from Pam Slyth. Wendy worked with our



founders Thora and Tommy Bonneau in the early days of the society, helping to trap, spay and neuter feral cats. Wendy passionately loved all animals for her entire life. We recently learned that she passed away in 2023 in Alberta, where she owned a farm after leaving Victoria. (Photos of Wendy and editor on the farm in the 1980's)

Did You Know? Scientists have confirmed a third species of tiger cat that lives in Latin America. Unlike the big cats of the world, tiger cats are small (5 pounds and 2.5 feet long) solitary felines that range from Costa Rica to Argentina and have long been shrouded in mystery. Their average life span is less than 10 years. The Clouded Tiger Cats (*Leopardus Pardnoides*) are brand new to science and already under threat; in danger due to habitat loss and disease spillover from domestic animals. It's distinguishing features are a fluffy tail, sensitive whiskers, and hazy spots, and it gets it's name from the cloud forest habitat. Tadeu de Oliveira, a wild-life conservationist at Brazil's State University has founded the Tiger Cats Conservation Initiative, which works with local people to vaccinate their pets.



(National Geographic—August 2024)



Cats In Our Care

In early May we welcomed four beautiful kittens into our care from Foster Kritters Feral Cat Rescue in Cowichan. That group is overwhelmed with the large number of feral and stray cats in their area. These four kittens were caught and safely transferred to us, and thankfully their mother was also caught. Catching the mums is so critical, otherwise they are left behind to continue reproducing. When kittens are found in good condition, it almost always means their mother is nearby caring for them. Sadly, people often assume too quickly that mum has abandoned them. Not only does that leave the mother frantically searching for her babies, but she will also become pregnant again very quickly. These four beauties still need time to be socialized, so they are not ready for adoption yet. We will take adoption applications once we know more about their personalities and what kind of home would be the best match for them. Watch our website and Facebook page for updates! www.victoriacatrescue.com

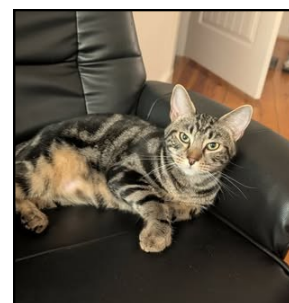


Visit our brand new website, where you can see upcoming events, adoptable cats, and learn more about our work.



Parker and Leela are still searching for the right place to call home. Sometimes in the rescue world, truly wonderful cats get passed over for reasons that are hard to understand. These two are a perfect example, but we know the right home is out there waiting for them. Parker is outgoing, social, and full of personality. Leela is more quiet, shy, and independent. She loves attention and to be near you, but she isn't 'in your face'. They are very close, not deeply bonded, but Leela does rely on Parker for comfort and confidence, so we are

hoping to place them together. They would do best in a home without small children and would be happiest in a larger living space. Adjusting to a very small apartment may be difficult for them. Please email us at victoriacatrescue@gmail.com if you have any questions, or visit our website to fill out an adoption application. These are truly lovely cats with no issues whatsoever. They are one year old, spayed and neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.



Deacon is an absolutely beautiful 8-9 year old cat who was surrendered when his caregiver's life circumstances changed and they could no longer give him the time and attention he deserves. He is incredibly affectionate, loving, and thrives on human companionship. He would be happiest in a home where he can enjoy some supervised outdoor access during the day while being safely kept indoors at night to help minimize risks. We know the perfect home is out there just waiting for Deacon.



**The Victoria Cat
Rescue Corps Society**

P.O. Box 5478 LCD 9
Victoria BC V8R 6S4

Email:
victoriacatrescue@gmail.com

Tax no.
11926 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 "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 if you would like to
receive the Scratching Post electronically, and receive
important VCRCS notices.

Email: _____

Executive Board

2025/2026

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Kathryn Collins

Secretary:

Susan Robertson

Recording Secretary:

Betty Kask

Directors:

Betty Kask

Barbara Lyon

Scratching Post Editor:

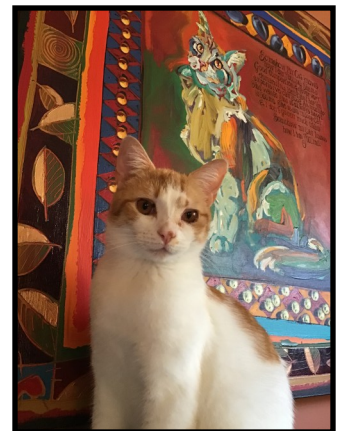
Pam Slyth

Tea and Bazaar Committee

Stephen Ison, Cheryl
McCreary, Pam Slyth



**VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES**



We are currently seeking foster homes for adult cats and we always
need more hands at our fundraising events. Many animals have
been helped and are now happy and healthy.

**Why not volunteer today? Fill out a foster application on
our website, or email victoriacatrescue@gmail.com**

Help a cat like Mitch find a
loving home. Volunteer today!

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 over-population 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 when funds allow 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".