

KINDRED KITTIES

June 2017

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

No "Summertime Blues" here at Kindred Kitties – we are quite taken in by the joy of our many rambunctious and loving kitties. We started out our year with 98 cats, and we've rescued 118 cats and kittens the first half of this year. Each is special and unique and we delight in the possibilities we have to provide secure, new lives for these previous little ones!



Since January, we've re-homed 103 cats and are thrilled to be able to report that 28% of the adoptions were adult cats between the ages of 2 to 12. We relish the fact that you, as cat lovers, recognize the great need these adults have to be re-established in loving homes after being displaced. We are so pleased to have a place such as our Adoption Center that many call "home" for now, but we know for certain that being in a foster home is always their best option. Please keep your hearts and minds open to the possibility of fostering a kindred kitty. Our current fosters can attest to how rewarding the experience can be! Check on our website to see just what fostering entails.

WE ARE "BEATING THE HEAT"

Thank you so much to our "Beat the Heat" Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk Donors & Sponsors: The Twila Memorial Foundation, StudioNorth, Jim & Karla Hammelev, The Bernard Family, Rick & Cathy Keffer, Bel & Irene Swan, Stephanie Karls, Lynette Brent, Angie Olsen, Jane Broughton-Schaefer, Katie Grum, Chris Hammelev, Lyn Flynn, Donna Peterson, Kathleen Weyker, Becky Scheffler, Cathy McDowell, Kris Knickmeyer, Krystal Smuda, Karen Seibert, John Huddrick, Pam Diedrich. Barbara Delaney, Marie Debock, Dr. Jill & Steven Sawyer, Mike & BJ Kukulka and Kathy & John Weyker.

And a big thank you to all the participants who braved the horrible weather to support the spay/neuter cause! We are pleased to inform you that in spite of the cold, rainy day, this was our most successful walk to date! Some diehard individuals still walked, while others stayed in the pavilion playing "Cat Bingo." This marks the first year of team participation in the walk, so we'd like to recognize the teams as well: The "A" Team, Laser Leapers, Snip & Tip, The Cat Crusaders, Anti-Hiss-Tamines, and Wallace & the Fixers (We're Out 'a Space). Special recognition to Jane Broughton-Schaefer who raised the most money in pledges and to the "Anti-Hissss-Tamines" who won Best Team Name.

Hope to see everyone again next year on **Sunday, April 29, 2018** for the 4th Annual "Beat the Heat" Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk!

"I wish people would realize that animals are totally dependent upon us, helpless, like children, a trust that is put upon us."

James Herriot



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GOOD NEWS!

And speaking of spay/neuter, this past month, Safe Harbor Humane in Kenosha was successful in having a TNR ordinance passed by the Common Council. We are so grateful for their diligence in speaking out for protection of the many neighborhood cats in Kenosha! Spay/neuter is a primary mission of both Safe Harbor and Kindred Kitties, and we are proud to be able to say that all our rescued cats and kittens are spayed or neutered before they are adopted. But equally important is to help stem the population growth of outside cats, and we are excited to partner with Safe Harbor to accomplish great things in our community! And our recent annual *Beat the Heat Walk* and our *Sponsor A Spay (Or Neuter) for Mother's Day* both contributed needed funds to further support this effort.



ABOUT **TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN** (TNR)

the **PROBLEM...** It's estimated that **tens of millions** of feral and stray cats freely roam the streets of the United States and breed rapidly!

Doing nothing and using ineffective approaches are what have resulted in the current overpopulation problem. Trying to rescue all of the feral cats and find them homes is impossible given their numbers and their limited socialization. Removing or relocating all of the feral cats invites new unneutered cats to move in and the cycle of reproduction starts again.

the **SOLUTION...**

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the **only method proven to be humane and effective** in controlling free-roaming cat population growth. TNR is about:

- Population control and **permanently reducing** the number of cats in an area
- Lowering cat intake into shelters, thereby **lowering shelter euthanasia rates**
- Reducing the spread of disease**
- The returned, spayed/neutered colony **guards its territory**, discouraging unneutered cats from moving in and beginning the cycle of overpopulation anew

What's the difference?

STRAY CAT

A tame cat who has become lost or has been abandoned; she has been socialized to people at some point in her life.

FERAL CAT

A cat who has little contact with humans, is fearful of people and usually lives on her own outdoors.



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YOUR SUPPORT IS OUR SUCCESS

We couldn't accomplish anything we do without you, our volunteers and supporters! A day doesn't go by when we don't find ourselves realizing what a difference each and every one of you makes in the life of our kindred kitties. While it often seems our gratefulness goes unexpressed, we want to take this opportunity to again say a great big thank you for all your time, energy and financial support on our behalf! We are continually in need of cleaners, coordinators, fosters, administrators, caretakers, testers, vaccinators, transporters, suppliers of food and general supplies, etc. And you always come through for us.

Thanks for Sponsoring a Kindred Kitty

Emilio – Marie DeBock; *Marcie* – Chris Hammelev; *Polar* – Jennifer Bero-Alferi and Laura Wendling; *Murphy & Cody* – Stacy Krause; *BulaBula & Juliet* – Susan Watson; Petfinder Sponsor-A-Pet – Jacqueline Skinner

Special Thanks

- To all of you individuals and families who continually bring food and supplies to the Adoption Center
- To Mary Kessenich for her donation of the proceeds from sales of her handmade crafts and to her sister Pat for the amazing things she makes
- To those giving regular monthly PayPal donations: Susan Brown, Renee Diedrichs, Stacy Krause, Scott Sanborn, Danielle Schweitzer
- To the companies that have included Kindred Kitties in their giving programs and to their many employees/clients who month after month donate through their programs: Amazon Smile, AT&T, Abbott Labs, Abbvie, Aurora Health Care, Allstate, JC Penney, Discover Financial Services, Thrivent, UBS and Vigeomedia
- To Arvato, Pleasant Prairie for their bake sale fundraiser on our behalf
- To the Credit Analyst Team at Cancer Treatment Center of America, Zion for donations they generated
- To Lynn Day for her wonderful cat carrier liners, catnip mice, and dish cloths made just for us
- To Cecelia Ingram for her bright and beautiful handmade fleece blankets
- To Rockheads Comics & Games for their generous "Comic Book Day" Donations and Raffle/Grab Bag Proceeds
- To Greater Chicago and Lake County United Way for including Kindred Kitties in their giving options
- To Culver's for giving us the opportunity to participate in three very successful "Culver Share Program" nights at their Kenosha restaurants
- To those of you who have been so very generous when we have had a special kitty needing intensive medical care: Beth McLain, Linda & Mike McReynolds, Renee Diedrichs, Leah Hubbard-Trojan, Suesana Prisk, Terri Yerges
- To Petco and John & Ruth Kloss Foundation for providing us with grant monies to help fund our special projects
- To Copy Center of Kenosha for their lightning-speed responsiveness to all our printing needs
- To those of you who have continually provided us with monetary funding to accomplish all that we need to do to keep our kitties safe, secure and well cared for – we can't thank you enough for your continued generosity

Honorariums

- Charles & Susan Binzel – In honor of their daughter Leah's 13th Birthday
- Mary Levell – In honor of kindred kitty Dottie (now Ivy)
- Vicky Santarelli – In honor of adopted kindred kitty Niko
- Deb & Sheri Schaefer – In honor of Jane Broughton-Schaefer, a dedicated Kindred Kitties Volunteer
- Susan Watson – In honor of kindred kitties Clark and Addison
- Mike & Linda McReynolds – In honor of Garland & Willy
- William & Ann Pratt – In honor of Mary Pratt

Memorials

A Very Special Memorial– To kindred kitties who crossed the Rainbow Bridge since January. Gone but never forgotten:

- Balthazar and Robbie, who both fought the good fight but lost their battle to FIP. (See note below.)
- Luna's babies who just weren't able to thrive because their mama was so sick.
- Another baby, Frodo, who gave it all he had, but just was too little and compromised to stay in this world.
- And to Tux, a special stray who was befriended by our volunteer Scott Sanborn. He managed to come "home" to Scott after he was injured in the neighborhood (where he must have known he'd be cared for). His pelvis was broken beyond repair so we lovingly sent him on to the Bridge.

Special Note: We had the opportunity to attend a special symposium in Chicago on FIP (Feline Infectious Peritonitis) which has been a major problem for cats in the last five decades. Research is untangling the complex virus and there is a better understanding now of where and how the virus that causes FIP mutates. Hopefully this new knowledge can be applied to both prevention and cure of this dreadful disease.



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- Marie DeBock – In loving memory of “**Max the Manx**,” special kitty of volunteer Stephanie Karls
- Dennis Butek – In memory of his daughter and Kindred Kitty volunteer, **Elizabeth Butek-Beasley**
- Cathy McDowell – In memory of **Helen Seibert**, mother-in-law of Kindred Kitty Treasurer, Karen Seibert
- Wendy Boggs – In memory of her mom, **Rose Marie Nausieda**
- Rosemary Tuchscherer – In memory of special kitty **Jasmine**
- Lenore Parent, John Rogowski, Michael & Dru Spitzer – In memory of **Margaret Capodarco**
- Jean Kaisler, Kent & Mary Lester, Lynda Lester, Theresa Martin, Luann Swim, Denise & Oscar Villalobos, David & Nancy Wick – In memory of **Margaret Schall**
- James & Carol Bishop, Raymond Burandt, Barbara DeLaney, Robert & Rosalie Gentile, Lt.Col. Retired Robert Gross, Jean Gummow, Elaine Hovley-Ostrov, Eugene & Sandra Lepisto, Jeanne & Amy Lynch, Dan & Diane Maddern, Sue Malone, Carolyn Talbert, Donald & Jeanne Tyree-Francis, Jane Wilson – In memory of **Robert Heidersdorf Sr.**
- Vincent Kendzierski – In memory of **Simon Kendzierski**
- Marilyn Olson – In memory of **Sweetie**, her dear cat of 19 years
- Robert & Linda Orvis – In memory of their son **Christopher Orvis**

WE CAN USE YOUR HELP

**Help KINDRED KITTIES Win \$30,000
in the BISSELL Pet Foundation Sweepstakes!**

Go to...

[http://www.bissellpetfoundation.org/
sweepstakes](http://www.bissellpetfoundation.org/sweepstakes)

No Donation Required!

**Choose WI as the STATE &
KINDRED KITTIES as the SHELTER**

You may only vote once. Sweepstakes ends 08.01.17

**Think of all the cats we can help with \$30,000!!!
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!**

Your ongoing support is so important to help us continue to do the best we can for our kindred kitties as well as for the many other cats in our community that we are unable to physically take in. You can help in a variety of ways: (1) donate directly to our organization to help us cover the myriad of bills for maintaining the health and well-being of our cats as well as addressing emergency needs; (2) participate in one of the fun events scheduled over the upcoming months; (3) offer to volunteer in one of many ways--fostering, socializing cats, participating at adoption events, assisting at fundraising events, cleaning and maintaining our Adoption Center, transporting cats for spay/neuter or vet visits, or assisting in administrative tasks as they arise; (4) keep an eye on our Facebook page and our website for our more immediate and often one-time needs.

Food/Supplies Needed

Donation Drop Off Hours: Tue (3-7pm), Wed (1-5pm), Fri (1-6pm) Sat (11am-4pm)

No-Perfume/Dye Laundry Soap / Med.Size Bleach / Paper Towels / H-D 30- and 39-Gal. Trash Bags / "Soft Soap" Hand Soap / Dawn Dish Soap / Medium & Large Uncovered Litter Boxes / Terrycloth Hand Towels & Wash Cloths / Bottled Water for Volunteers / Royal Canin Baby Cat Dry Food / Kitten Milk Replacement (KMR Brand) / Fancy Feast Classic Ocean White Fish or Chicken Kitten Food / 1 Gallon & Sandwich Size Plastic Bags / Medium Cat Carriers



DID YOU KNOW ...

Sense of taste in cats is more complex than previously believed?

According to new research, cats have a much more refined sense of taste than previously believed, and they are highly sensitive to bitter flavors. The findings may help explain why cats are notoriously finicky, avoiding foods that may be fortified with bitter-tasting vitamins and minerals. Published in the journal PLOS ONE, the study also provides insight into how sense of taste evolved in all mammals, including humans.

"Cats are known as picky eaters. Now that we know that they can taste different bitters, our work may lead to better formulations of cat food that eliminate the bitter off-taste associated with certain flavors and nutrients," explained Monell Center molecular biologist and study lead author Peihua Jiang, PhD.

The researchers examined DNA from domestic cats and identified 12 different genes for cat bitter receptors. The scientists probed the receptor cells to see if one or more of the 25 bitter-tasting chemicals activated them, and it was confirmed that at least seven of the identified 12 receptors have the ability to detect one or more bitter chemicals. (The researchers feel it is likely that the other five receptors also have this ability, but that they may respond to bitter compounds not included in this particular study.)

Previous research has determined that cats cannot detect sugars. Other carnivores have also lost their ability to taste sweet things, and it is theorized that these mammals therefore have a heightened ability to detect salty and savory flavors.

Cats also seem to favor calorie-dense foods and those with different textures, which may explain why cat treats with slightly crunchy exteriors and soft interiors are especially enjoyed by most cats.

It's been theorized that the ability to taste bitter flavors evolved to protect humans and other animals from ingesting poisonous plants, but that is now being questioned, because cats primarily eat meat, not plant products. "Alternate physiological roles for bitter receptors may be an important driving force molding bitter receptor number and function," said co-author Gary Beauchamp, PhD. "For example, recent findings show that bitter receptors are also involved in protecting us against internal toxins, including bacteria related to respiratory diseases. Bitter taste could exist to minimize intake of toxic compounds from skin and other components of certain prey species, such as invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians.

-Excerpt from Catnip Magazine, December 2015



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

Mark Twain

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UPCOMING EVENTS



It's in the Bag 2017
Sunday, November 5th
Kenosha Moose Lodge



Start looking through
your un-needed treasures!
(Date TBD – More Info to Follow)



Visit us at Kenosha Harbor Market
August 19th & August 26th

Keep a close eye on our website and Facebook page for details of upcoming events. But even more, consider whether you can do more than participate in them. There are many opportunities for volunteering to help at any one of the events listed. Please contact Chris at events@kindredkitties.org with any offers to help, and also any ideas you might have for new event opportunities.

2017 Board of Directors

Founder	Carolyn Newton
President	Cathy McDowell
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Secretary	TBD
Treasurer	Karen Seibert
Members at Large	Jen Gallion
	Mary Kessenich
	Donna Peterson
	Scott Sanborn
	Drew Thompson

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CAT LANGUAGE

