

## THE BOARD ROOM

### 2017 Officers

<b>Founder</b>	Carolyn Newton
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<b>Secretary</b>	Laurie Ann Perkins
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Seibert
<b>Members-at-Large</b>	Jennifer Gallion Mary Kessenich Donna Peterson Scott Sanborn Drew Thompson

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**Adoption Event Coordinator** - Jen Gallion

**Fundraising Coordinator** - Chris Hammelev

**Newsletter** - Cathy McDowell  
210-1999  
cathrynmcd@aol.com

**Adoption Center, 614 59<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha**  
**262/605-0533**



[www.facebook.com/kindredkitties](http://www.facebook.com/kindredkitties)

*If you save one cat, you won't change the world,  
but the world will change for one cat.*  
*Author Unknown*

### From the President

I've been thinking a lot about just what it is that motivates each of us to do what we do to better the lives of cats in this world. It is more than just loving cats, I think. It's about making a difference! Not everyone views what we do as meaningful. I've heard comments like, "oh they're just a bunch of crazy cat people," or "there are so many people who need help—why so much attention to cats?" And for me, and so many of the volunteers with Kindred Kitties, the answer is "because, if we don't care, who will?"

Rescuing cats is not always joyful—there is often great pain when confronted with the reality of the plight of homeless cats. John & Rebecca Guion can personally attest to that. In July, Rebecca forgot something at home. On her way back home to retrieve it, she saw two little kittens in the street, dead and mangled, that had not been there when she had passed before. These kittens were no bigger than the litter of kittens she and John were currently fostering. A man on the street said they were thrown out of a car and it was evident they had been tortured. What sadness! And yet, that very evening, they experienced the satisfaction of adopting one of their foster kitties, and Rebecca sent us the note about her experience that day. Her final comment? "As I am writing this, Claire is laying on my right and Walter is laying on my left thigh. These two at least got the break they deserved! And that is why we foster."

We will continue to strive to fully live out this kind of concern and commitment to homeless cats throughout the coming year!

Sincerely,  
Cathy McDowell

This past year has been quite a challenge for our organization. It could aptly be called the "Year of the Emergency," with many special needs and senior kitties requiring our attention. From Twister, who needed his crooked legs repaired and ultimately one needed to be amputated, to Dublin found frozen to a fence with significant damage to his back leg with the only solution being amputation of his toes to give him relief from pain and Mama Rae who was sickly and needed lots of medical attention. And then there were our sweet Lucas & Cody who came to us from a hoarding situation needing serious medical attention (with Lucas sadly losing his fight against cancer), and our kindred kitties Shiloh & Sammie returned to us after 12 years only to learn that Sammie had severe dental disease and Shiloh has hyperthyroidism. And then on to Wendy who was thrown out of a car window and rescued by a couple of teens, and 18-year old Rudy dumped on the Adoption Center doorstep, and Cora and Mary Jane, both found outside emaciated and needing medical attention, and Mama Sweet who struggled to have her two little ones but needed our help with an emergency C-section. Yet because of generous monetary help from you, our dedicated supporters, and an ever-active group of cat lovers continually cheering us on, we move forward with great optimism in caring for these and many more rescued kitties throughout the coming year!

## **STATS**

**Rescues/Surrenders** – In 2016, we rescued 284 cats and kittens. Of that number 15 were returned kindred kitties, 62 were surrendered pets, 129 were unowned cats, 43 were transferred from other shelters, and 35 were born to rescued pregnant cats.

**Adoptions** – We re-homed 260 kitties (68 adults, 63 teens and 129 kittens) which tied our 2015 number!

**Spay/Neuter** – In partnership with Safe Harbor and two special veterinarians, we were able to maintain an active spay/neuter program. We altered a total of 331 cats. We are pleased to report that 100% of the kindred kitties adopted last year were fixed prior to their adoption...a great accomplishment! Thanks to the great response to our "Sponsor A Spay" appeal, we had the funds to assist individuals in getting 129 cats fixed—81 of them owned and 58 neighborhood kitties done under the Trap-Neuter-Release Program. And, as in the past, where we were unable to help in some areas, we were successful in referring many individuals to alternative programs to ensure that we maximized spaying and neutering in general.

**Foster Care** – Even with a successful adoption year, we ended the year with about the same number of kitties that we had last year. We have been so blessed to have a team of foster families who are willing to invest a huge amount of their time, energy and emotion in housing and loving (and then letting go of) our rescued kitties. But if only we could increase the number of kitties we rescued! There have been months that we have received calls requesting surrender of 60 cats from one place or another, and based on our available space we obviously can't take them all. Kindred Kitties is in need of additional foster homes for rescued cats and kittens. If you, or anyone you know, is interested, please have them inquire by calling 262/605-0533 or checking out the fostering information on our website.

**Volunteers** – And it is worth repeating just what we said in our last newsletter -- we are so very appreciative of the efforts of all of our volunteers. There are more hours than we can possibly count invested by those volunteers who keep our Adoption Center clean and monitor the well-being of the cats that reside there (although this year we did count—5,000+ hours), by our ever-dedicated fosters, by those who invest many, many hours in planning, executing and working at our events, by those who regularly devote their time and energy at adoption events, by those who coordinate getting cats into foster homes, or to the vet, or making sure they are up to date on vaccines and properly medicated, and by those behind the scenes who keep the administrative wheels of Kindred Kitties turning. It is the dedication of volunteers at every level of our organization that truly makes Kindred Kitties what it is! Thank you volunteers for all that you have done and continue to do for all the kindred kitties!!



## **ACTIVITIES**

We are pleased to have had many opportunities to get out in our community this past year. We can be seen at just about every turn...at Harbor Market or a car show or cleaning tables at Culvers. In addition, we had great success at two large craft shows one in Racine at the other at Gateway Technical College (thanks to our very own devoted crafter, Mary Kessenich)! And thanks to our event coordinator, for all her hard work in coordinating our participation in all the many and varied events.

We had a chance to spend time with some kids helping them to understand the importance of caring for animals. Sonnenberg Academy hosted us for a second time to do a story hour with their kids. And, the Daisy Girl Scout Troop 31564 at Nash Elementary welcomed us (and two of our kitties) to a troop meeting. The girls collected a whole bunch of supplies for us, and gave us a gift card and a free-standing hammock for our kitties. Nice!

We also attended two special events. In January, we participated at the 'Chilli Cats' Cat Show in Racine sponsored by Cats Rule Cat Club (TICA), along with our kitties, Cora and Micah, who won ribbons in the Household Pet category. And, in early February, we had our first-ever booth at the Great Lakes Pet Expo in Milwaukee. Our volunteers had a great time interacting with some of the 12,000 attendees, and the crafts and merchandise we had for sale were a great hit!!

## **EVENTS**

**In The Bag** – Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Jane Broughton-Schaefer, Chris Hammelev and Mary Kessenich, along with the many volunteers who worked tirelessly before and during the event, the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "In The Bag" Fundraiser was a great success. And a special thanks to our sponsors: Shenanigans, Rockheads Comics & Games, Wolf Merrick, Bruch Funeral Home, InSinkEerator, Cooler Near The Lake, JR Properties, Scoops Ice Cream, Kenosha Animal Hospital, janepain, MG Design, Bodywise Wellness & Spa, Cardinali's Bakery, and Kenosha Pet Sitter. We are ever grateful for the support!

**Vaccination/Microchip Clinic** – We were so pleased to be able to hold two more low-cost vaccination and microchip clinics—May and December. We have plans to sponsor this event again in May and October of 2017. Details will be forthcoming.

**Special Events** –Keep a close eye on our website for details of upcoming events. But even more, as you look at the events list, 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](mailto:events@kindredkitties.org) with any offers to help, and also any ideas you might have for new event opportunities.

### **SAVE THE DATES!**

#### **Kindred Kitties Night at Culvers**

**Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5:00-8:00pm** – Green Bay Road Culvers ONLY! (5220 Green Bay Road)

#### **Beat The Heat 2017 Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk**

**Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – 8:00am-Noon** – Lake Andrea Beach House (***Sponsorship Form on Page 6***)

#### **Kindred Kitties Night at Culvers**

**Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 5:00-8:00pm** – Sheridan Road Culvers ONLY! (8124 Sheridan Road)

#### **Kindred Kitties Night at Simmons Field with the Kingfish**

**Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>** More info to come!

## **WISH LIST**

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

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



## **THANK YOU ALL!!**

Thank you everyone for both your time and the variety of donations you share with us! Please know that if you are not acknowledged in the listing below, it is unintentional. You can be sure that we are very grateful!  
Note: Gifts are not listed in order of importance, but are most often listed by date received, or alphabetically.

### **Thanks for Sponsoring a Kindred Kitty**

*Emilio* – Marie DeBock; *Marcie* – Chris Hammelev; *Polar* – Jennifer Alferi; *Cody* – Stacy Krause

### **Special Thanks**

- To Pet Supplies Plus customers for their generous donations at the register
- To Beth Dary & Lemon Street Gallery for donation of commission from Kindred Kitties' craft sales
- To Mary Kessenich for her donation of the proceeds from sales of her handmade crafts, for the many items donated for resale and raffle at KK events, 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 Rockheads Comics & Games customers for their donations, and for the proceeds from the Hero Clix Tournament held November 19<sup>th</sup>
- To Edwin & Marilyn Rathjen for their generous donation through the Thrivent Financial Member Choice Dollars Program
- To "Anonymous" who regularly contributes many monetary and in-kind donations without any personal recognition
- To Lynn Day for her many contributions of Comfort for Critters Blankets and Catnip Mice
- To Trish & Joe Salerno for their pick-up and delivery of donated canned food
- To Laura Johnson for her monthly delivery of Kitten Chow for our little ones
- To the students of Peace Tree Yoga for their contributions
- To Nancy Huck for donating her time and dollars to keep our Adoption Center fire extinguishers up to date
- To Dever Murphy for the money he raised playing music at this past fall's downtown Kenosha car show

### **Honorariums**

- Nancy Barda & Family: Justin, Tammy, Marcus, Heather, Scott, Piper and Chloe – **In honor of Kindred Kitties** with thankfulness for their wonderful care (adopted 4 kindred kitties)
- Amelia Osterud – In honor of **Bonnie Klem**
- Dr. Burton Siegel & Jeanne Anerko – In honor of **Gene Halfke**, lifelong Kenosha resident, retired fireman and animal rescuer
- Lauren Steen – In honor of **Jean Clissold** for Christmas
- Glen & Linda Gotsche – In honor of **Katie** ("Noel") who was lost and found
- Suzanne Chamberlain – In honor of kindred kitties **Cocoa and Q-Tip**
- Jonathan Marshall – In honor of kindred kitties **Cranky, Gracie and Stover**
- Penny Seymoure – In honor of kindred kitties **Loki and Jerry**
- Elaine Broadhead and Roger B. Mandel – In honor of **Marge Illich**
- Angela Milock – In honor of **Michael Gospadarek**
- Mike & BJ Kukulka – In honor of **National Cat Day**, October 29<sup>th</sup>
- Patti Pooch & Friends – In honor of kindred kitty **Tucker**

### **Memorials**

- Jane Broughton-Schaefer, Clarice Hartman, Ardis Schaefer, David Virgili, Carol Ziesemer – In Memory of **Donna Lee Virgili**
- Ardis Schaefer, Deb Schaefer, Sheri Schaefer – In Memory of **Richard Schaefer**
- Franklin P. Gail – In Memory of **Jeremy**
- Richard & Deanna Guenther, Margaret Kreger – In Memory of **Margaret Capodarco**
- Bill Carey, Paula Lattergrass, Barbara Spitzer – In Memory of **Margaret Schall**
- Beth McLain - In memory of **Mrs. Carole McDonald** a long-time neighbor and family friend who passed away in September. She had a loving and caring heart for animals and faithfully fed and tended so many of the neighborhood stray kitties.
- Vincent Kendzierski – In Memory of **Simon Kendzierski**
- Susan Thompson - Memoriam – **Mary Ruth Chorbajian**, an artist in love with cats, who saved many feral cats from hunger, loneliness and death. MaryRuth died tragically on 10/19/16; she is greatly missed. She thought highly of Kindred Kitties' programs.
- Scott Sanborn – In Memory of his mom **Mae M. Sanborn**
- Chris Hammelev -In Memory of KK **Twila**
- Dennis Butek – In Memory of his daughter, KK volunteer **Elizabeth Beasley** and his wife **Paula Marie Butek**
- Judy Reynolds – In Memory of **Sunny** (KK Pasadena 2007-2016)
- Jamie Lutz – In Memory of their beloved kitty **Almond**

**A Very Special Memorial**– To kindred kitties who crossed the Rainbow Bridge in 2016. Gone but never forgotten: Lucas, Farley, Amari, Roger, Lily, Maliya, Cassie, Cory, Penny and Twila.



**Thanks to Companies & Employees Participating In Workplace Giving Programs**

- Abbott Labs: Anonymous, Letitia Dabbs, Erika Fietze, Carrie Shane
- Abbyie: Anonymous, James Baum, Ronald Gott, Kenneth Haley, Heidi Hocker, Julie Nudi, Lisa Paz, Marion Refici-Buhr, Jennifer Slager
- Allstate: Laura Wagoner
- AT&T: Anonymous, Thomas Nejmanowski
- Aurora Health Care: Marygrace Lobue, Jaime Jordan
- J C Penney: Eileen DeBruin
- Pfizer Foundation: Kori Glave
- United Health Care: Ann-Marie Hafferman, Benevity Community Impact Fund
- Wolters Kluwer Employee Giving Match: Angela Bretschneider

**Thanks for Supplies/Food/Equipment/Gift Cards**

Drew & Colleen Achterhof	Kathleen Anstrand	Geri Artis	Michelle Brown
Andy Cross	Katie Estep	Kurt Frederickson	Christine Green
Brigitte Hauser	Sherry Jay	William Jewell	Amy Klassy
Brenda & Dave Kurklis	Kathy Larrabee	Mary Manning	Marc McKenzie
Jan Marchuk	Cathy McDowell	Jodi Meier	Joni Schloseky
Samantha & Finnea Scott	Deb Toff	Diane Veenendaal	Ivy Whitrock
Paul & Carol Zanotti	Louise Zastrow	Mary Zicarelli	

**And to those of you who send your very generous donations to help support our needs, thank you!**

John Aitken	Patricia L. Akstulewicz	John & Shirley Aldred	Mohammad Alsafran
Amazon Smile	Linda Andry	Denise Areneson	Lois Bainter
Cresside Berg	Gilbert Bermudez	Keith & Maureen Bolog	Bookkeeping Connection
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Sarah Erskine	Peter Eversum	Lyn Flynn	Dennis & Carol Gammon
Roy & Suellen Gifford	Goodshop Giving	Teri Gragen	Rita Gronemeyer
Kathleen Hakala	Patti Hall	Stanley & Beverly Harrod	Helen & Rudolf Havranek
Megumi Hemann	Peggy Herrman	Janice Siska Hjelmgren	Scott Hoffman
Marygrace Horner	Wren Ide	Marge Illich	Paula Illich
Christina Ivey	Roberta Jorgensen	Sarah Kahl	Patricia & Ronald Kasprzak
Diane Kastelic	Fredric Keffer	Colleen Keman	Mary Kessenich
The Kingfish	Steve Kole	Rany & Karen Kong	Krystyna Kubicki
Michelle AKutis	Robin Lester	Sheila Leveque	Lynch Creek Farm
Sophie & Josie Malinowski	Beth McLain	Linda & Michael McReynolds	Leslie Mehalko
Kelley Merkel	Tom Mielke	James Mitchell	Katherine Morey
Donna Mosca	Lyn Novosel	Frank & Cathy Pacholec	Diane Pallissard
Rode & Associates	Sandra Rommel	Juan Rosenfeldt	Sandra Salloway
Zack & Lindsay Schmidke	Marilyn Schumann	Jane Soderquist	Alex & Kathleen Tarsitano
Indrid Verhulst & Pamela Holy	Vigeomedia LLC	Amy Watson	Cynthia Weiss
Max & Elizabeth Wescott	Sherri Wistrom	Karen A. Wollert	Lezley Woodbury
Jill Zimmerman			

**HELP NEEDED!**

Your ongoing support is imperative 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.



Kindred Kitties'  
**BEAT THE "HEAT"**  
Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk 2017  
Sunday, April 30, 2017  
9:00 a.m. Registration, 10:00 a.m. Walk  
Lake Andrea Beach Pavilion

**Sponsorship Opportunities**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$400 Business logo on the back of the T-shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$200 Business name on the back of the T-shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Family name on the back of the T-shirt

Pet's Names on the Back of T-shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 First pet's name \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 Each additional pet's name

Contact Information (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$400 Sponsorship – Please send electronic version of business logo to [events@kindredkitties.org](mailto:events@kindredkitties.org)

\$200 Sponsorship – Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 Sponsorship – Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 First Pet's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Pet's Names (\$10 each) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form and payment to Kindred Kitties by March 31, 2017  
Kindred Kitties: 614-59<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha, WI 53140  
(Checks should be made out to Kindred Kitties)  
Kindred Kitties is a 501(c)3 organization.

