

## **THE BOARD ROOM**

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

### **From the President**

It's been a busy and challenging spring and summer. We continue to see the effects of the economy on pet owners. The types of requests we receive vary. A few are losing their homes and have no place to take their cats, many ask for assistance with having their cats altered, and some are just in need of help with food and litter. We are doing our best to help as many individuals as we are able, and we're grateful for the dedication of our loyal supporters who provide us with the funding we need to continue to carry out our mission in the tri-county area we cover.

As is typical for the summer months, most of our time was spent just keeping up with the kittens that seemed to pop up everywhere. While we are convinced that our efforts in the spay/neuter arena do make a difference, we continue to be amazed at how many unaltered pets and strays remain to be done!!

This fall, we are excitedly anticipating our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "It's In The Bag Fundraiser." Please do what you can to help us publicize this event. Details are included in this newsletter.

Thanks for all that you do to help Kindred Kitties – we are grateful for your support!!

Sincerely,

Donna Kelly, President

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



## **NEWS UPDATES**

### **STATS**

**Adoptions** – In the first three quarters of this year, we have had 310 adoptions (191 kittens, 61 teens and 58 adults) versus 377 in the same period 2010. The primary difference is the lower number of adults we have adopted this year. With the loss of our largest adult foster home in Bristol, we have had no choice but to rescue fewer adults throughout this year.

**Spay/Neuter** – Thus far this year, we have spayed or neutered a total of 501 cats. In 2010 through September, we had altered 628 cats. Due to both unavailability of transport volunteers and some administrative issues, we no longer do high-volume spay/neuter in Madison which has effectively lowered the number of cats we are able to do at any given time. Still, the number of cats we are able to alter is significant and does make a difference to overall cat population in our area – 80% of the spay/neuters we facilitate are non-kindred kitties!!

**Foster Care** – In total, we are currently caring for about 160 cats. The Adoption Center is housing 45, while the foster home count is 115 -- of these, eight are considered "permanent" fosters. We continue to keep our total number fairly steady. Generally by year-end we will be closer to the 100 mark when the majority of kittens will have been adopted. We continue to need foster homes – particularly for individual adults!

### **EVENTS**

**Volunteer Fair** – April 14<sup>th</sup>, Nancy Huck and Cathy McDowell participated in a Volunteer Fair at the Kenosha Job Center. Many non-profit organizations were represented to provide information on what individuals can do to help. Attendance was moderate, but we were able to talk with a number of people who were interested in volunteering with Kindred Kitties.



**Downtown Fundraising Event** – During the month of June, we held a fundraising event with the help of the Kenosha Tavern League as well as a number of downtown businesses. In recognition of June being National Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month, "cat paw medallions" were sold and posted in local businesses. We raised \$1,700 during the one-month campaign – not bad!!

**Petco Permanent Cages** – We now have kitties being rotationally housed at Petco in Kenosha. It will give us the opportunity to have our kitties visible throughout the week and to have information on Kindred Kitties available for the public. It's an exciting, new opportunity for us!

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENT!!!**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **"It's In The Bag"** Fundraiser is being planned for Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-7:00 PM. You can help by (1) attending, of course; (2) posting the event in your area; (3) telling all your friends. Following is a copy of the poster for your information. To get additional copies, please stop by the Adoption Center or send an E-mail to [cathrynmc@aol.com](mailto:cathrynmc@aol.com) to receive an electronic version for printing.



# Kindred Kitties Presents...



## "the 2nd annual It's in the Bag" Fundraiser!!

Join us for:

Sunday, Nov. 13th • 3:00-7:00 PM  
Bombay Louie's  
2227 60th St., Kenosha

Food & Fun!  
Silent Auction  
Raffles  
Door Prizes!

Sale: Crafts/Collectibles

\$5 Advance, \$10 at Door  
*Cash Bar*



We Find Homes For Homeless Kitties!!

### Advance Tickets available in Kenosha at:

Bombay Louie's, 2227 60th St.    Kindred Kitties, 614 59th St.  
Forever Grateful, 5000 7th Ave.    Nudi's Florist, 7901 39th Ave.  
TG's Pub, 4120 7th Ave.

Come join the fun and help us to continue to love and care for kitties!!



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

We are still in need of individuals who are able to volunteer their time for the following tasks:

- Individuals to assist in cleaning the Adoption Center (**10-Noon Sunday Mornings**)
- Individuals willing to assist with daily cleaning of Petco permanent cages
- Transporting of beds/adoption box each Saturday by noon to Petco for our weekend adoption event
- Assistance in getting the Adoption Center basement thoroughly organized and cleaned
- Help with cleaning the ceiling fans in the Adoption Center
- Individuals willing to do phone follow ups
- Painting, refurbishing, and making repairs at our Adoption Center (tools/supplies provided)
- Cleaning up and repainting our basement bathroom (tools/supplies provided)
- Helping at adoption events at Petco or PetSmart on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon
- Fostering of cats and kittens

If you are able to help in any of these ways, please call 262/605-0533 and leave a message. Thanks!!

## ***DID YOU KNOW ...***

### **... just what it takes sometimes to rescue kitties?**

On a daily basis, we get requests to help kitties to find homes. These requests come from many different directions and in many cases, we are able to assist in one small way or another. But in late spring, thanks to the efforts of a whole bunch of people, we were able to assist BIG TIME with a situation in Trevor.

A woman was asked by her neighbor to feed his kitties while he had major surgery. What she discovered was that his "kitties" were 12 cats he was keeping in small cages in his garage plus four outside cats! She reached out to Gina Pickhardt to help with the situation, who in turn reached out to KK volunteer, Trish Salerno. Things were quickly set in motion to help these cats. Cages were cleaned and additional cages brought in to provide more space for the cats. Pictures were taken of the "Trevor Garage Kitties" and an appeal was made to begin soliciting funds to help care for them and homes to place them in. Cindy Gaffney of ASAP-USA.org of Marengo, Illinois allowed us to use their volunteer vet, Dr. Stephanie Larson DVM of Hartland Veterinary Clinic in Woodstock, Illinois. All of the kitties were altered, vaccinated, tested for feline leukemia and FIV, given antibiotics, cleaned up and treated for fleas.

Within a week, outplacement was arranged for twelve of the kitties -- a local horse stable agreed to take three and a large dairy farm agreed to take nine. And within two weeks, they were relocated to their new homes. Another of the kitties was to be adopted into a home and the last three were to remain at their original home (but no longer in cages).

None of this could have been possible without many caring and generous people who got involved starting with Barb Fiebelkorn who made the original request for help with the cats; her friends Trudi Boese and Alice Johnson who sponsored her; Gina Pickhardt who quickly generated donations from her co-workers at Riley Construction; and Trish Salerno who so quickly acted to coordinate all the activities, transport the kitties for vet care, and settle them in their new homes!! Through Gina's efforts and through an appeal to Kindred Kitties supporters well over \$1,000 was generated to help these kitties!

It all started with one phone call which resulted in one big effort to save one big bunch of kitties!!



## **THANK YOU SO MUCH!!**

We can't thank all of you enough for your support! We make every effort to acknowledge all who contribute to Kindred Kitties in a variety of ways. Be sure to know if you are not acknowledged in the listing below, that it is unintentional. You can be sure that we are very grateful!

- For all of those who helped the Trevor Garage Kitties: Barb Fiebelkorn, Trudi Boese, Alice Johnson, Gina Pickhardt, Trish Salerno, Briane & Jean Keen, Cindy Gaffney, Dr. Stephanie Larson, Nancy Huck, Larry & Susan Watson, Melissa Kessler, Robin Marquardt, Rebecca Haberkorn, Lorraine Mich, Amy Watson, 'Anonymous Donor,' Jane Broughton-Schaefer and Michelle Fehr
- To Michelle Laycock, Lyn Flynn, Kim Abrams and Judy Reynolds for all their hard work in putting together and conducting a June rummage sale and for astounding proceeds of \$700
- To Rat Race Lounge for \$200 raised at their Father's Day Fundraiser
- To Ryan Morgan, a 9-year old who lives with two kindred kitties, who donated \$100--half of her garage sale proceeds (the other half went into her college fund)
- To Abbott Lab employees who give through the Employee Giving Campaign: Sheila Loper, Victoria Bobst, Marion Refici-Buhr, Cindy Acosta, Letitia Dabbs, Ronald Gott, Heidi Hocker, Anita Johnson, Julie Nudi, Susan Pantoja, Anonymous
- To Susan Scherer and Catherine Schmidt for money donated through United Way of Lake County
- To Douglas Stacey for donations made through the Allstate Insurance Giving Campaign
- To Jackie Kim for donation of a new, heavy-duty washer for the Adoption Center
- To Kenosha Tavern League & BID for their participation in our June fundraiser
- To City of Kenosha Finance Committee for their June grant for \$1,165 from the Animal Revenue Fund
- To Marilyn Jensen for \$100 on behalf of Sheri's Wild Cats
- To Chris Fay for sharing her commission from her online shoe store
- To Carolyn Bradbury for \$100 that she received as a wedding gift. Given in honor of Socks (whose millionaire owner threw him outside).
- To all who helped in March to provide an Apartment Security Deposit for George the Cat: Kathy Cornell, Sue Krokosz, Kristin Agner, Gail Morgan, Lisa Goze
- To Alex & Kathy Tarsitano for the wonderful, new cat tree for the Adoption Center window
- To Kristie Formolo who generated \$303.46 for us through Boston Store Community Days Promotion
- To Pat and Mary Lou Hill for their donations in honor of Kindred Kitties volunteer, Paul Cook
- To Agatha Forest for her gift for kitties Anna, Rhonda, Myrissa
- To Carol McGinnis for Supervalu gift certificates
- To William & Helen Norman for their gift in memory of Jerry Rawlings
- To Erica A. Pasterski for her donation in memory of her dad, Richard Pasterski
- To Michael & Janet Hogan for money to repair the Adoption Center washing machine
- To Donna Virgili for her gift in memory of Ned Virgili who passed away in August
- To Gina & Jeffrey Pickhardt for their \$150 to help Scooter
- To Shirley Blasi for her gift in memory of Helen Fakely
- To "Raining Cats & Dogs" in Racine for their very generous donation of cat food
- To Jody Davis for her monthly donations on behalf of Kenosha Air Traffic Controllers
- To Cindy Weiss for her generous donation and AON Matching Gift
- To Mary Herbert for her generous donation of U-line bags for use at Adoption Center
- To Karl Evert for setting up Jeans Day Program at Forest City Commercial Group
- To Arnold Kraft of Pizza Hut and Wisconsin Hospitality Group for their month of May "random act of kindness" -- delivery of lots of yummy pizzas and bread sticks to Adoption Center volunteers
- To our tireless volunteers who foster kitties, spend time with our Adoption Center cats, run errands, test and vaccinate kitties, and in general, keep Kindred Kitties "up and running"



And to those of you who consistently provide us with gifts of supplies, food and your hard-earned dollars, thank you so much!!!

Paul Cook  
Jody Davis  
Sherry Kirby  
Gary & Barb Wabalickis  
Emma DeRosa  
David Wimer  
Beth McLain  
Nancy Lurie  
Sophie & Clara Peters  
Alex & Kathleen Tarsitano  
Kathleen & John Weyker  
Helen Havranek  
Mary DeSantis  
Eric & Amanda Carlson  
Jane Dziedzic  
George & Zorisa Selak

Jane Broughton-Schaefer  
Sue Weslager  
Angeline Brandalise  
Stevanne Kordus  
John & Shirley Aldred  
Franklin Gail  
Martha Ross  
Coreen Recob Merry  
Diana Poland  
William R. Thomas  
Phil Annon  
Kristin Brown  
James & Mary Lou Rush  
Chris Hammelev  
James & Patricia Locke  
Bruce Blitzan

Karen Westerberg  
Cindy Denikas  
Tammy Baldrige  
Vicki Barton  
James & Judy Mitchell  
Heather Wilburn  
William Jewell  
Judith Richmon-Torrez  
Caroline Bradbury  
Sandy Majest  
Sarah Hogan  
Kathleen Dyslin  
Natalie Jesse  
Lori Schory  
Lori Trick

### **KITTY THERAPY AT ITS FINEST!**

Karl and Carrie Evert have been fostering kitties (primarily bottle babies) for Kindred Kitties for several years now. And, of course, as often happens with foster parents, they chose to adopt one of their foster babies! Their kitty Barney is a unique and wonderful cat! He is almost human – in fact, he’s more than human because we don’t believe that even humans would tolerate all the handling and fussing that he gets!!!

Because of Barney’s very special social skills, the Everts decided to bring him to *Daybreak*, a facility for Alzheimer patients. When Barney visits, he seems to really enjoy himself and is a hit with everyone. It is so good for these people to spend time with an animal. Carrie related to us that Diane, an employee there, was sure that one woman who is generally “in another place” would probably not even notice the cat, and yet, she actually made eye contact with Carrie and laughed at Barney ... a heartwarming experience!

Thanks Karl and Carrie for taking time to share your very special Barney with these people who so need him!



## **HEALTH WATCH – LIVING WITH A DEAF CAT**

Perhaps your cat was born deaf and has never heard a sound. Or maybe your cat just lost its hearing because of old age. Either way, adjusting to such a handicap can be difficult for both your feline and you. But it doesn't have to be. By making a few modifications to your daily lifestyle and spending a little extra time with your cat, the two of you can thrive alongside one another and come to terms with this challenge. If you have children in your home, it's particularly important for them to understand what's best for the kitty as well. Here are just a few helpful hints for living with a deaf cat.

Good Vibration – A hearing cat knows when you enter a room, while a deaf cat may not. "Cats are very sensitive to vibrations," says Diane Deresienski DVM. "Deaf cats depend largely on vibrations to know if people or other animals are approaching them. Tapping gently on a firm surface is a way to get the attention of a deaf cat. Cats' whiskers can sense very slight vibrations."

Feline Sign Language – While an official sign language has yet to be developed for felines, it is possible to train your cat to learn a few signs. Many cat owners develop signs that their deaf cats understand—like showing their cat the food bag at mealtime or patting the couch to invite them to snuggle.

Let's Get Visual – When approaching a deaf cat, it is essential that you always allow the cat to see you. Never touch or pet a deaf cat that hasn't seen you first, as it will be startled. Always remember to approach a deaf cat from the front and use the "good vibrations" technique; that way, the cat can see you and won't be surprised by your touch.

Kitty Tracking – The safest place for a deaf cat is inside your home. While some hearing kitties will come when they are called, your deaf cat obviously won't. Invest in a belled collar so that when your cat is mobile, you can easily track her.

Living with a deaf cat can be much less of a challenge by following these few simple tips.

*Excerpts from: "Living With A Deaf Cat" by Erika Sorocco (Cat Fancy, December 2008)*

## **WISH LIST**

\$\$\$ Donations for Vet Care	Nice Hand Towels
Canned Cat & Kitten Food (Ground Only)	Kitten Chow
Bottled Water (for Volunteers)	22# White Computer Paper
Laundry Soap (Powder or Liquid)	Dish Soap
Liquid Hand Soap	Paper Towel
Heavy Duty 30- or 39- Gallon Trash Bags	Small/Medium Cat Carriers
Tidy Cat Clay Litter (Non-Scented)	Grooming Brushes/Combs
Bleach	Lint Rollers
Toys, Toys, Toys (Especially Pole Toys)	60-Watt Light Bulbs
Post-It Notes (All Sizes)	PLEASE, <u>NO</u> CAT TREATS!

Remember, your donations are tax-deductible!!!

