

Thank You for a Wonderful 2018!!



End of Year 2018 Stats

“Saving one cat won't change the world, but it will change the world for that one cat.”

Kitten season came a bit late this year, but also seemed to be a bit smaller population boom. In the months of March and April, we had no adoptions of kittens under 5 months old which attributed to our having about 10% less total adoptions in 2018 versus 2017. For full year 2018, we rehomed 228 cats (104 kittens, 60 teens and 64 adults. We are very pleased that we have made such a difference for so many!

And speaking about making a difference, we are proud that for the 2nd year in a row, no kitties that are adopted go home without being spayed or neutered. With the program provided to shelters by the Wisconsin Humane Society, we've been able to keep up the practice of juvenile spay/neuter which is so crucial to the successful reduction of overall population of unwanted kitties. In addition, to altering

our own kindred kitties, and thanks to funds from our "Sponsor A Spay" fundraising efforts, we were able to provide affordable spay/neuter options for 174 owned cats as well.

We had an greater-than-normal influx of older cats surrendered to us this year, which made housing at the Adoption Center somewhat more challenging. Because of the sensitivity which comes with age, we chose to maintain our number of cats in residence there at a lower level. We are thrilled, though, to see the receptivity of a number of adopters when it comes to meeting (and adopting) senior cats. We are currently at our winter "ebb" level of kitties, with 70 in foster and 17 at the Adoption Center.

From the President

Happy New Year! As most of you probably are, we here at Kindred Kitties are reflecting on the past year and looking forward to 2019 – our 19th year in existence! There certainly have been a lot of changes over those years, but one thing remains constant: the amazing support of our donors and patrons! Kindred Kitties could not have remained in business this long without you. We are deeply grateful for every donation, whether it is sending a check, making a payroll deduction, patronizing our many fundraising events, dropping off food, or giving of your time and energy. The New Year is also a time for making resolutions. In that spirit, we here at Kindred Kitties resolve to continue to be good stewards of each and every dollar and in-kind donation and to do our utmost in 2019 to mitigate the plight of homeless cats in SE Wisconsin. On behalf of the Board of Directors and all of us here at Kindred Kitties, we wish you a happy and prosperous 2019!

Mary Kessenich, President

RUTHERFORD

In the spring of 2004, one of our volunteers found a scrawny, nearly hairless kitty wandering around in McKinley Park. He was taken to his new foster home in Bristol where it would prove to be a challenge just to keep him alive. He was covered in pustules and needed subcutaneous fluids and antibiotic medications to keep him going. He was pretty sick, and it was questionable at one point whether he would even make it.

But he did! That "scrapper" turned out to be our Rutherford who in many ways beat all the odds. It was determined after consultations with skin specialists that his skin issues were not a result of anything that occurred externally (like being burned with chemicals) but rather he suffered from an auto-immune skin disease. With the help of additional medications, he improved and turned into a most regal buff colored cat!

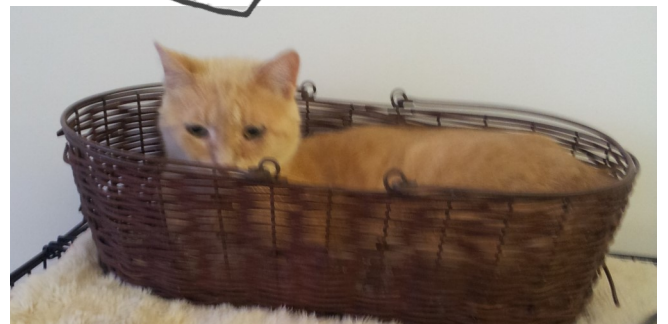
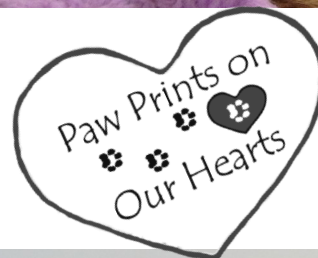
When he was no longer able to stay in Bristol, he joined us at the Adoption Center where he became the king of the castle. His raucous meow and continual demands for attention and treats kept us all very busy. He was agile and muscular, and he continually amazed us with his ability to jump very long distances. His biggest flaw was that whenever he went to a new home (3 times) his whole world became his litter box. And back he came to us!

We think he knew that his home on 59th Street was truly where he belonged. And so he stayed. As he aged, we were able to take good care of the skin issues, but he began to develop other issues related to aging: hyperthyroid, high blood pressure, dental disease (he ultimately had only a few teeth), and weakened kidneys. But he prevailed! Nothing seemed to stop him from his routines, including losing the majority of his sight. He knew his way around so well that he still would make those daring long-

distance leaps (that often caused our hearts to stop until we saw he'd made it to his destination).

He became frailer and began to have little tremors and then seizures, yet he still retained such dignity and continued to win the hearts of everyone he met. But his medical and physical challenges just ended up getting the best of him, and after over 12 years as a kindred kitty, he left this world and crossed the rainbow bridge.

He was wonderful and quirky and sweet -- a very special presence at our Adoption Center. His passing leaves a huge hole in our heart. He will be forever loved and forever missed!!



THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to all who through your personal efforts and contributions made all the accomplishments of Kindred Kitties possible in 2018. Nothing we do can ever be done without those who volunteer time, provide foster care, assist with adoption events, socialize cats, maintain our Adoption Center, provide endless amounts of food, supplies, blankets, bed and toys, and oversee the many details of caring for the kitties who come to us for our help. Know that while we aren't able to recognize you all individually, how very important you are to our organization and for that we say thank you, thank you, thank you!!

If we somehow missed acknowledging your support, please know that it was unintentional. You can rest assured we are VERY grateful. THANK YOU ALL for being the foundation of our success.

Donations

Patricia Akstulewicz

Anonymous

Lois Bainter

Conner Binder

Angeline Brandalise

Joanie Ehlert Brookhouse

Susan Brown

Staci Burton

Jeff Cantwell

Franca Carls

Cat Smart

Suzanne Chamberlain

Lorissa Cheatham

Dr. Ken & Sheryl Clark

Barbara Corona

Sandra Coyner

Donna Cuilla

Barb & Christopher David

Jody Davis

Allanah Davis-O'Dell

Barbara Delaney (Thrivent Choice)

Pam Diedrich

Jaci Dudley

John Dudley

Lois Dunn

Nancy Eisner

Linnea Elrod

Robert Enstad

Gerald Feick

Facebook Fundraisers

Marge Fruend

Dennis & Carol Gammon

Ernest Gdisis

Teri Gragen

Laura Greenwell

Mark Greiner

Rita Gronemeyer

Cheryl & Ross Gunderson

Donald & Joy Gunter

Stanley Harrod

Patricia Haun

Helen & Rudolph Havranek

Donna Holmen

Robert Holmen (Thrivent Choice)

Judith & Patrick Hovatis

Thomas Hudgins

Wren Ide

Marge Illich

Laura Johnson

Roberta Jorgensen

Sarah Kahl

Colleen Kernan

Mary Kessenich

Kong Enterprises

Stacy Krause

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Krystyna & Kazimierz Kubicki

Margaret Kuehl

Esteban Kumorkiewicz

Michelle Kutis

Mary Levall

Sheila Leveque

Richard Lewis

James Locke

Don & Joan Logan

James Longo

Josie & Sophie Malinowski

Margaret Martin

Mary Martins

Beth McLain

Mike McMahan

Linda McReynolds

Leslie Mehalko

Brenda Mendez

Joseph Millsaps

Barbara Mosey

Sharon Meyers

Thomas Nejmanowski

Julie Nudi

Kayla Oberst

Patricia Pooch

Michael Price

Linda Putrow

R. Reusser

Judy Reynolds

M. M. Richmond

Paula Richmond

Jennifer Rimkus

Rockheads' Hero Clix

Tournament Participants

Susan Rummery

Scott Sanborn

We ♥ our Volunteers & Supporters

Donations Continued

Kathleen Schroeder
Marilynn Schumann
Linda Schwefel
Danielle Schweitzer
Karen Seibert
Fred & June Sewell
Sir Arthur's (Kerri)
Deborah Smiley
Mary Stanke
James & Tamara Strelitzer
Sandra Swantz
Janet Tankersky
Suzanne Tart
Rachel & Craig Thompson
Thrivent Mutual Day of Caring
Todd Truby
Carl Veenendaal
Kristine Veenstra
Craig & Deborah Wachs
Suzette & Burton Watring
Terry Wisland
Karen Wollert

Donation Jars

Adoption Center Visitors
New Leaf Recycle Customers
Rockheads' Customers
Sandy's Poppers Customers
Serendipity on 7th Customers
Shenanigans' Customers
Martino's Customers
Petco Customers
Pet Supplies Plus Customers

Online Programs

Amazon Smile
Chewy
PayPal Giving Fund

Honorariums

Chris Hammelev honored by Jim Hammelev ♥ **Emily Kastelic** honored by Diane Kastelic ♥ **Brendon Bourbo** honored by Althea Kovalcik ♥ **Kindred Kitties Gracie & Stover** honored by Jonathan Marshall ♥ **Debra Miller** honored by Allen Prange, Mary, Allen & Jamey ♥ **Ardis Schaefer** on her birthday from Sheri Schaefer ♥ **Grandma Lois** honored by Lia Schmelling & Lauren Smolick

Memoriums

Kitty Benji remembered by Peggy Bounds ♥ **Ardis Schaefer** remembered by Jane Broughton-Schaefer ♥ **Larysa Masiero** remembered by her mother Olga Buranicz ♥ **Justin Bose** remembered by Marilyn Ford ♥ **Kindred Kitty Tucker** remembered by Ed & Bev Heys ♥ **Benita Hynes** remembered by Marquita Hynes ♥ **Craig R. Nelson** remembered by Jerue, Mike & Barb ♥ **Kindred Kitty Angel** remembered by Caitlyn Leveque-Siepl ♥ **Dr. Mary Urhausen** remembered by Cathryn McDowell ♥ **Bonnie Powles** remembered by Diana Mitchell ♥ **Kitty Sweetie** remembered by Marilyn Olson ♥ **Lawrence Willis** remembered by Fred & Marilyn Barre, Carroll Harrison, Barry Ramsay & L. W. Ramsay ♥ **Rutherford** remembered by Gregory Zgorzelski ♥

Sponsorships

Adoption Center Kitties sponsored by Stacy Krause ♥ **Emilio** sponsored by Marie DeBock ♥ **Joey** sponsored by Linda Borneman & Teri Gragen ♥ **Polar** sponsored by Jennifer Alferi ♥

Employee Giving

Abbott Labs: Anonymous, Letitia Dabbs, Erika Fietze, Michael Johnson, Lorraine Mich, Carrie Shane, Jill Taylor

Abbvie: Anonymous, James Baum, Heidi Hocker, Julie Nudi, Patricia Oestereicher, Lisa Paz, Marion Refici-Buhr

Allstate: Krystal Smuda, Laura Wagoner

AT&T: Anonymous, Tobey Johnson, Tom Nejmanowski

Aurora Health Care: Jaime Jones, Mary Lobue

JC Penney: Eileen DeBruin



THE RED FLAGS OF FELINE ILLNESS by Leslie Sinclair, DVM

Excerpts from *CATNIP*, December 2001 (Vol. 9, No. 12)

Have you ever watched your cat do something unusual and then thought: “Is that normal? Should I be concerned?” The reclusive reputation of cats is well-earned, and it is never so apparent as when they feel threatened by disease. So, how do you know when your cat needs veterinary attention? Here is a list of “red flags” for feline illness, signals that your cat’s health may be compromised. Heed them; you might save your kitty a good deal of suffering and yourself a hefty vet bill—the kind that’s tabulated when a cat is presented to the vet with a long-festering illness, requiring intensive and extensive care.

When Your Cat Hides. Like most prey species, cats instinctively realize their vulnerability when they are ill or injured, and many of them retreat to a secure, hidden place, where they feel protected. Should you find your cat in a place which is generally not routine, consider whether he might be ill and ask yourself a few questions about his general health and behavior. Is he eating regularly? Drinking? Does his urine/feces appear normal? How does he react when you approach him? Is he lethargic or act fractious when you approach him? Vet examination is in order for any cat who hides in an uncharacteristic way.

Inappropriate Urination. Bad behavior, particularly of the litter box variety, can be a sign of a health problem. When the cat suddenly stops using the litter box reliably, diagnosing or ruling out a medical problem is the first order of business. If no medical cause exists, your vet can help you to determine and address the behavioral reasons for your cat’s inappropriate urination. It is imperative that your cat get a clean bill of health from your vet before starting any behavior modification.

Inappropriate Defecation. This is also a clear signal. Medical causes can include constipation, inflammation of the colon, the condition called colitis, which can lead to painful bowel movements, impacted anal sacs, and uncomfortable or uncontrollable diarrhea. Behavior causes could include one cat blocking another’s access to the litter box. If your cat occasionally misses the litterbox or refuses to defecate in it at all (even if he’s willing to urinate in it) discuss the problem right away with your vet. Request an evaluation to determine whether the issue is medical or behavioral to determine how to resolve the issue.

Unusual Hair Loss. Whether the sign is excess hair shedding, bare patches on your cat, or regurgitating hair balls all around the house, excessive hair loss is a sign of a problem. Near-constant grooming is also a bad sign. And shedding, accompanied by other signs of illness, such as lethargy, decreased appetite, weight loss, or anything that says “kitty is just not right,” should be cause enough for a trip to the vet for a thorough checkup.

Drooling/Open-Mouth Breathing/Halitosis. Dental disease is the most common health problem for cats, but many caregivers miss the signs of it. They rarely open their cats’ mouths wide enough to note tartar on the teeth or bleeding gums. When left unnoticed, dental disease easily spreads throughout the cat’s body by way of the bloodstream. The liver, kidneys and heart valves are the favored sites for infection. During your cat’s annual exam, request a thorough exam of his mouth and ask the vet to show you how to inspect your cat’s mouth yourself. You can generally expect your cat will need vet dental care one or more times during his lifetime.

Extreme Thirst. A cat who drinks or urinates excessively can indicate a myriad of feline illnesses including, but not limited to, diabetes, kidney disease, hypercalcemia (often associated with a cancerous tumor) and hyperthyroidism. A physical exam and bloodwork—including tests that measure the function of organs such as kidneys, liver and thyroid—will help pinpoint the cause of a cat’s excessive water intake and urine output.

Anorexia. An ongoing, persistent lack of interest in food is a sign of a problem. It can be because she has an upset stomach or a fever that has caused her to become dehydrated, which would affect the sense of smell so important for investigating their food. In most cases, you should not wait if your cat turns up her nose at the food bowl; finicky or not, a cat who doesn’t eat could be in trouble.

Vomiting: How Frequent? Don’t be fooled; cats do vomit for a reason, although the reason may be difficult to discern and address. How do you know when to be concerned about vomiting in your cat? Multiple episodes of vomiting within a short time span (a few hours) is more serious than an occasional incident. Vomit that contains blood, parasites, or is bright yellow—the color of bile—is of greater concern than vomit containing only partially-digested food. Vomiting accompanied by any other signs of illness necessitates a vet visit.

Presence of Lumps. Unlike lumps on dogs, most lumps on cats are of concern. If your cat develops a lump, whether at the site of a vaccine or elsewhere, consult with your vet in a timely manner.

Symptoms of disease can be difficult to recognize, no matter how carefully you monitor your feline friend. Watch carefully for these signs and adopt this motto: When in doubt, check it out! Your cat will thank you.

Beat the “Heat” 2019 Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk

Spring is coming and so is kitten season! It’s also time for Kindred Kitties’ **Beat the “Heat” 2019 Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk**. The walk is Sunday, April 28th at Lake Andrea in Pleasant Prairie – just behind the RecPlex. Registration and T-shirt pick-up is at 9:00 a.m. The walk begins at 10:00 a.m.

Come out for an enjoyable morning walk around beautiful Lake Andrea for a great cause – raising money to spay/neuter more cats! There will be raffles, merchandise, a bake sale, fun photo ops and, if there’s inclement weather – CAT BINGO and other activities in the (heated) Pavilion.

There are several ways in which you can be part of **Beat the “Heat.”** *Become a Sponsor!* We are looking for businesses, families and even pets to sponsor the walk. *Be a Participant!* The more walkers the better. Bring a friend, form a team, walk your dog (dogs must be friendly, leashed and up to date on vaccines). *You can also help spay/neuter even more cats by collecting pledges.*

Come out and have a great time while bringing attention to an important issue – preventing pet overpopulation through spay/neuter.

Additional information including sponsorship, registration and pledge forms are available on the Kindred Kitties website: **kindredkitties.org**. Online registration is also available at: **bit.ly/2GC59fE**

Save the Date!!

Saturday, November 2, 2019

For an Evening with
Kindred Kitties at the
Kenosha Public Museum

More information is coming soon!



*Many thanks to all who
participated in our first annual
Pet Photo Calendar Contest!*

The contest was a great success with 82 participants! There were cats, dogs, a hedgehog, a rabbit and even a bearded dragon We’re so very grateful to all who shared their pets with us, voted for a special animal, reserved a date in honor of their pet, sponsored the calendar or purchased a calendar. Your contribution went to help Kindred Kitties rescue more cats. We will hold the Pet Photo Calendar Contest again in 2019. The contest will be held earlier in the year (July 29 – September 9, 2019) to ensure calendars are available long before the gift giving season. Additionally, pictures of multiple pets will be able to compete for pet-of-the-month pages in the 2020 calendar. So start snapping those pictures! * If you ordered a 2019 calendar don’t forget to pick it up at the adoption center—there are still a few that have not been claimed.

Upcoming Events - with more on the way

2019 Board of Directors

Founder	Carolyn Newton
President	Mary Kessenich
Vice President	Chris Hammelev
Treasurer	Cathy McDowell
Secretary	Karen Seibert
Members at Large	Jen Gallion Drew Thompson

Foster Coordinator - Jen Gallion
 Events Coordinator - Chris Hammelev
 Newsletter Editor - Mary Keen
 tallmarye@aol.com - 262.914.2433

Kindred Kitties Ltd.
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262.605.0533 kindredkitties.org

Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Monday, Thursday & Sunday: CLOSED



<p>Monday, 3/18/19 Monday, 5/20/19 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.</p>  <p>Culver's 8124 Sheridan Rd.</p>	<p>"Culver's Shares Night"</p> <p>Treat yourself to a Monday night out and the best custard around while supporting a great cause! Culver's will be donating a percentage of sales during this time period to Kindred Kitties.</p>
<p>Sunday, 4/28/19 9:00 a.m. Registration 10:00 a.m. Walk</p> <p>Lake Andrea Beach Pavilion</p>	<p>"Beat the Heat" Spay/Neuter Awareness Walk</p> <p>Head out to Pleasant Prairie and stretch your legs, enjoy the early spring weather and raise awareness.</p>
<p>Sunday, July 21, 2019</p> <p>12:05 p.m. Gates Open 1:05 p.m. Game Time</p> <p>Kenosha Kingfish vs Kalamazoo Growlers</p> <p>Simmons Field</p>	<p>Kindred Kitties Night at Simmons Field</p>  <p>VS</p>  <p>Watch for More Information</p>
<p>6:00 a.m. Monday, 7/29/19 through 10:00 p.m. Monday, 9/9/19</p>	<p>"Pet Photo Contest for the 2020 Kindred Kitties Pet Calendar"</p> <p>Start capturing calendar-worthy pix! Just \$20 to enter, votes just \$1 (\$5 minimum).</p>

Did you receive a gift this holiday season that you'll never use?

Kindred Kitties has fundraisers throughout the year at which we hold raffles. If you received a gift this holiday season that you have no use for, we'll be happy to take it off your hands to incorporate into a basket. Just drop the item off at the Kindred Kitties Adoption Center, 614-59th Street, during normal operating hours.

Are you a Thrivent Financial member?

- Did you know that Kindred Kitties is eligible for Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program? Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program provides members with the opportunity to make a financial impact on the causes and organizations they care about. By directing Choice Dollars® through Thrivent Choice, eligible members can recommend Kindred Kitties as the organization to which Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars. Please consider Kindred Kitties the next time you're able to recommend an organization to receive your Choice Dollars®.

Online Programs

amazonsmile
 You shop. Amazon gives.

chewy.com

PayPal Giving Fund