



SCRATCHING POST

SPRING 2017

Annual Strawberry Tea June 17th, 2017

The Victoria Cat Rescue Corps will hold their annual Strawberry Tea and Sale on **Saturday June 17th at 1:00pm at Knox Presbyterian Church.** (See poster on page 5.) The function will take place from 1-4 pm and strawberry shortcake and beverage will cost \$5.00. Clean sale items in good condition will be accepted at the church on Friday June 16th starting at 2:00p.m. **We do not have access to the church before that time!**

Volunteers have requested that items NOT be delivered on Saturday morning unless absolutely necessary.

NO ELECTRONIC ITEMS PLEASE.

Please cut out the mini poster on page 5 and post it in your neighbourhood. Make extra copies if you can. Spread the word! Call (250) 656-1100 for more information.



Your table awaits you!
Please join us for
Strawberry Shortcake.

BOTTLE DRIVE

Sunday July 16th

**Save your bottles for
our new fundraiser.**

**See the details on
Page 3**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Meeting June
6pm 14*

Strawberry Tea June
Knox Presbyterian 17
Church, 1-4pm

Bottle Drive 11-3 July
4261 Glanford Ave 16

Annual General Meeting 6pm Sept
20

Christmas Bazaar Nov
Knox Presbyterian 18
Church, 1-4pm

**Meetings held 3rd Wed.
of each month at 6pm.
Call 250-656-1100
for location.**

No meeting July or Aug.

Important Notes

- Our raffle tickets are now on sale at participating vets and pet supply stores. We've got some good prizes this year – buy a \$2 ticket to support our activities and you could be a winner! The draw will be held at the Strawberry Tea. Tickets will be available at the Tea.
- Please respect the 'residents only' street parking when attending the Tea. The Church has a parking lot, and we can also use the lot next door.
- If you are selling raffle tickets on behalf of VCRC, please remember to turn in your stubs and money BEFORE June 17th.
- *Our June meeting will be one week earlier than usual on June 14th 6pm.
- Donations of BAKING would be greatly appreciated. Please indicate ingredients.



Feline of the Month—TY



Ty arrived at one of our member's homes because he was too crazy for a one-bedroom apartment. When she went to get him, she saw him flying around the room with great agility, not knocking over anything. "Ty", she thought, "Must be short for Typhoon." He quickly earned the name 'Sir Ty of the Round Bowl' forming fast and loyal friendships with other cats (particularly Sir Bouncer and his great love, Lady Clara). Now, years later, time and many crops of catnip have mellowed him out. These days he dreams about his early exploits and the harvest to come.

Protect India's Wildlife from Open Wells

Wildlife S.O.S. is an animal rescue organization in India. They have an Elephant Sanctuary near Agra, and also rescue Sloth Bears that were previously used as dancing street bears. They also help to provide alternate means of income for the previous owners of the bears. A terrible problem in India is the abundance of open wells. Recently in Maharashtra, India, Wildlife S.O.S. rescued a pregnant leopard from a 40 feet deep well in a village. She unfortunately passed away due to severe stress and internal bleeding. This incident highlights the urgent need to cover open wells in India before more lives are lost. In the past year alone, they have been called in to rescue leopards, bears, owls, reptiles and others. If you are interested, you can see the video at www.grindtv.com/wildlife/pregnant-leopard-rescued-well-unexpected-occurs-video/

If you want to help, you can sign a petition at <http://bit.ly/2mfbfYj>

Financial Information and Statistics

Statistics

Sept 2016 to April 2017

Cat Spays: 118

Cat Neuters: 91

Dog Spays: 0

Dog Neuters: 0

(Medicals discontinued Feb 2011)

2017 Spay/Neuter Blitz

Cat Spays: 81

Cat Neuters: 65

(included in stats above)

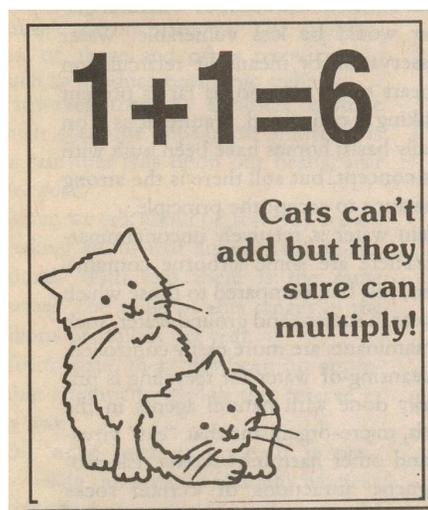
Annual General Meeting

Wed. Sept. 20th, 2017

6:00pm

Phone for location

250 656-1100



2016 Christmas Bazaar

The net income from the 2016 Christmas Bazaar was \$4,201.76

Income

Donations	\$1718.00
Memberships	\$90.00
Tea & Cake	\$394.50
Crafts	\$366.75
Raffle Draws	\$223.25
Rummage	\$1028.25
Jewelry	\$1061.50.

Expenses

Hall Rental	\$400.00
Advertising	\$115.49
Pizza	\$125.00
Raffle Licence	\$25.00
Disposal	\$15.00

President's Message-Spring 2017

Hi Everyone,

We're revving up for our annual classic Strawberry Tea and Bazaar on June 17th. And yes, local strawberries will be available for our strawberry shortcake! There will be lots of bargains on the rummage tables, as well as books, jewelry, crafts and baking. Please come out and join the fun. It's our biggest fundraiser of the year.

Our raffle tickets are now on sale at participating vets and pet supply stores. More good prizes this year – a \$2 ticket will help support our activities and give you a chance to win \$400 cash, or a \$100 gift card for The Bay, or a \$100 gift certificate for The Lakes Grill-house 'N Bar at the Howard Johnson Hotel and Suites, or a Spa Magnolia gift certificate for a Transformation Pedicure. Tickets will also be available at the Strawberry Tea, where the draw will be held. (And as the saying goes, know your limit and play within it.)

Another big shout-out to Voice of Concern for Animal Life (VOCAL) - they very generously co-funded our Spay/Neuter Blitz again this year. During the Blitz, which ran in February/March, we pledged the full cost of spay/neuters for 146 cats belonging to low income cat owners. Also a big thanks to our participating vets - they provided us with reduced rates, which allowed us to spay/neuter more cats.

Please keep an eye on the adoption page of our website, www.victoriacatrescue.com if you or someone you know would like to adopt a cat.

If you'd like to volunteer or attend our monthly meetings, please email us at meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com or leave us a message at (250) 656-1100. We'd love to see you.

As ever, we and the clients we serve (feline and human) deeply thank you for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you.

Catherine

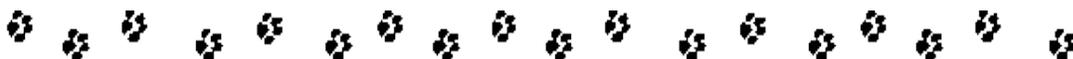


Bottle Drive Fundraiser—July 16, 2017



Our Treasurer Cheryl McCreary is organizing a Bottle Drive for **Sunday July 16th 2016** from 12:00am to 4:00 pm. Drop Off location: Glanford Bottle Depot, 4261 Glanford Ave. For those members who do not have a car, Cheryl will come and pick up your bottles. You can contact her at 778 265-5338 or email her at cmccreary@shaw.ca Please save all returnable beverage containers, with the exception of milk products. This includes gable top juice containers, tetra packs, cans, alcoholic and non-alcoholic containers.

Please ask your friends and family to participate in this fundraiser. More bottles equals more spays & neuters!



In Memoriam—Donations received in memory of loved ones

A.M. McEwen in memory of Ellen McEwen

Carol Macpherson in memory of her friend Lynda's lovely little Burmen cat, Tam E

Gae VanSiri in memory of Tsara, her friend Debra's kitty

Cecilie Davidson in memory of Annie and Archie

Barb Elliott in memory of her Mum – Iris

Gunter and Sheila Lavallier in memory of their brother, Ernie Harsant

Carol Sheilds in loving memory of Jean R. Strachan and her beloved cats

Mary Gelpke in memory of Wendy, a fine dog

Ruth Laird in memory of her daughter Bonnie's cat, Sylvester

Heather-Ann Laird in loving memory of their cats, Teddy and Sylvester

R. Seright in memory of Abby and Webster

Joyce Berry in memory of Betty Barrett



*God made the cat in order that humankind
might have the pleasure of caressing a tiger.*

Joseph Méry 1797-1866

Lions face same threats as extinct Ice Age cats

By Helen Briggs, BBC News

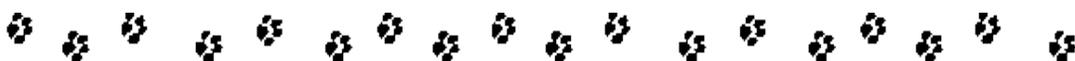
The African lion formerly ranged throughout Eurasia and Africa, but today is only found in sub-Saharan Africa. Two big cats—the African lion and the Sunda clouded leopard, are most at risk from extinction caused by loss of prey, according to a new analysis. Lack of food was a factor in why seven big cats, including sabre-toothed tigers, went extinct at the end of the last Ice Age, say scientists. They warn that the trend is continuing, threatening a range of modern big cats. If the prey of big cats continues to decline it will add to other pressures



such as habitat loss. Dr. Chris Sandom from the University of Sussex said “I think it adds an extra pressure for these animals. They are already suffering quite heavily from other conflicts with humans.” He said the lesson from the past was that even if Ice Age big cats had survived conflicts with humans and changing climates, they would not have had much left to eat. “We’re in a continued decline of big, exciting animals,” he added. “These charismatic predators are facing this consistent threat that started in the Ice Age and continues to this day and we need to turn this trend around.”

The research, led by scientists at Sussex and Oxford Universities, looked at the causes of extinction of seven big cats. They found that if the animals had survived until modern times they would have lost the majority of their prey party due to human influences. They then turned their attention to modern big cats, and the status of their prey. If all the prey species currently considered at risk were to go extinct, the lions of East Africa and the clouded leopards of Indo-Malaysia would be in a similar position to their Ice Age relatives. Professor David Macdonald of Oxford University's Wildlife Conservation Unit said: “The Churchillian aphorism that **those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it** was painfully in mind when we saw how many of the prey of East African lions and clouded leopards look set to go down the same drain which their counterparts in other regions have already been flushed.”

The study was published in the journal *Ecography*.

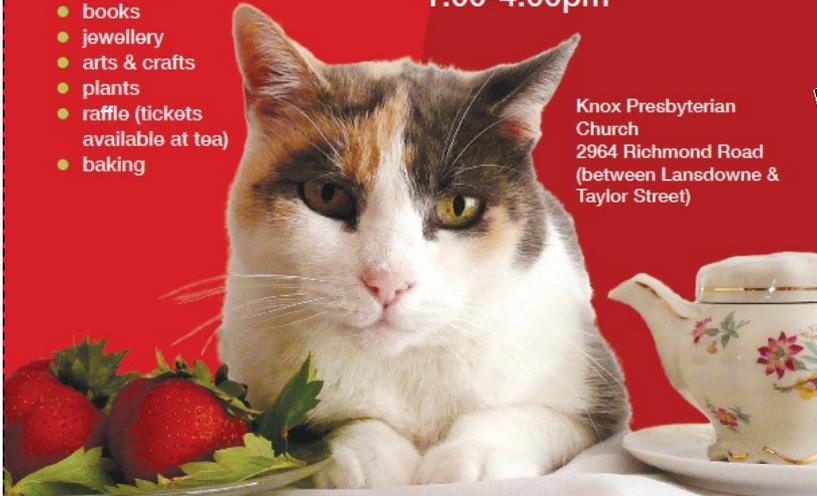


Strawberry Tea & Bazaar

- strawberry shortcake and tea/coffee - \$5
- rummage
- books
- jewellery
- arts & crafts
- plants
- raffle (tickets available at tea)
- baking

Saturday, June 17, 2017
1.00-4.00pm

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



In support of the
Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

Contact:

250 656 1100

meow@victoriacatrescue.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.



PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN
SHOPPING BAGS TO THE
STRAWBERRY TEA



Cut out the flyer on the left and post it in your neighbourhood.



Thank You

- **Bayside Press** has once again helped us by assembling our raffle ticket books at no cost.
- **Angela Westmacott** for her donation of the cake and strawberries for the 2017 Strawberry Tea.
- **Peppers Cadboro Bay** for their donation of supplies for the 2016 Christmas Bazaar.
- **The Spa Magnolia** for their donation of Pedicure Raffle Prize.
- **Howard Johnson Hotel** for their donation of the \$100 Gift Certificate.
- **All other donors** of raffle or doorprizes.
- **Ian Fraser** and the staff of **Victoria Animal Control** for helping to transport rummage items and garbage. Their help is invaluable.
- **Loretta Chaperon** for the very necessary tea supplies.
- **VOCAL** (Voice of Concern for Animal Life) for their partnership in the 2017 Blitz.

Please show your appreciation by supporting our sponsors in any way you can.

These donations, the donations of crafts and rummage, and the many volunteer hours, help to make our raffles and fundraising events a success, and enable us to raise more money to assist low income pet owners to care for their animals. We appreciate our donors very much!

Our Programs

- Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance Program (formerly the Bonneau Spay Fund) offers assistance to those who cannot afford to spay or neuter their pet.
- Spay/Neuter Blitz held every Spring, when we offer full payment of spay/neuter procedure to low income families
- Foster/Adoption Program where we attempt to find good homes for abandoned and homeless pets. Foster homes and volunteers help us to sustain this program.
- Education program to alert the public about the importance of spaying and neutering to reduce the stray population.

SEE MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS ON OUR WEBSITE:

www.victoriacatrescue.com

Your Cat's Health: Ask the Vets at Cornell University

Q. We have a 6 year old indoor/outdoor cat who is in good health. Should I worry about heartworms? My friend's dog is infected.

A. Our first thought is that your cat should ideally be a totally indoor cat, although this would not preclude potential exposure to heartworms. Recent studies showed that 25% of cats infected with heartworms were considered indoor cats. Feline heartworm infection is less common than its canine counterpart, but it has been reported in all 50 American states. The organism is transmitted by mosquitoes, which ingest the L1 larval stage. By the time it reaches stage 3 it can be transmitted to another animal, and at stage 5 (7 or 8 months after initial bite) it matures and migrates through the tissues of a cat and arrives in the heart and blood vessels of the lung. Mature heartworms can cause significant damage to the pulmonary arteries and to the lungs themselves. Although cats seems to be more resistant to heartworm infection than dogs, it can be life threatening in some cats. Treatment can be problematic, and there is no evidence that any therapy targeted at killing the adult worms increases the survival of cats, unlike in dogs. For this reason, heartworm prevention is important in cats. The American Heartworm Society recommends monthly prophylaxis against heartworm in cats, even if they are indoor pets. It is recommended that you discuss these options with your vet.

For more details about heartworm infection, check out this website: <https://www.heartwormsociety.org/heartworms-in-cats>



Foster and Adoption News

Meet Rags and Eva - two of our permanent foster cats....

Rags and Eva are two of our rescued cats that remain in a permanent foster home due to medical conditions.

They are both older cats who are deeply bonded. Rags recently had a tumor on his toe removed, and also has kidney issues. He is an elderly boy who is not a suitable candidate for adoption and will happily live out his remaining years in foster care. He is so lucky to have a retired human to spoil him rotten, as he wants to be on your lap all day!



Eva came from a feral colony and has some kidney issues, a heart murmur, and requires occasional dental care. She too is an older gal who will live out her remaining years with her best friend Rags and her much loved foster mom.

CRC pays for the ongoing care of these two beautiful cats, as well as several others who are not candidates for our regular adoption program due to special needs.

The lovely Dusty, shown in the two photos below, was rescued from an industrial area in Langford. She was terrified and very untrusting of humans. In her new adopted home she has

mostly overcome this problem and is a sweet kitty, who is extremely photogenic! She is an example of another successful rescue by Victoria Cat Rescue volunteers.



**The Victoria Cat Rescue
Corps Society**

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

Phone: 250 656-1100
Email:

meow.133@victoriacatrescue.com

Tax no.

BN11926 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 "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

2016/2017

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Pam Slyth

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Betty Kask

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Pam Slyth



Volunteers Needed!

We are currently seeking volunteers in all areas of our society including administration. Many animals have been helped and are now happy and healthy.

We always need workers at our fundraisers too!

Why not volunteer today?

Just call 250 656-1100.



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 overpopulation 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 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".