



CAT TALES

Issue 1

March 2005

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Mission Statement

C.A.R.E.S.' mission is to rescue, shelter and find loving homes for stray, abandoned and unwanted cats.



THE BEASTIE BOYS!

1ST ANNUAL C.A.R.E.S. CAT WALK A SUCCESS!

Our Cat Walk was an unqualified success thanks to the efforts of our fabulous volunteers who really knocked themselves out to acquire pledges. First prize went to Holly, Bonny and Charley Loos, second prize went to Lauralee Porter and third prize went to Marilyn Wolfe. Many thanks to the organizers of the Cat Walk - Lois Vandermoor, Carol and Chris Briner.

When you least expect it and need it most, help can come from amazing sources. Thanks to our Vice President, Gail Carruthers, and her quick response to an email from the Beastie Boys organization, C.A.R.E.S. was the recipient of a generous donation from the group.

On September 20, 2004, the Beastie Boys performed in Vancouver and graciously donated 50¢ per ticket sold to C.A.R.E.S. Lois Vandermoor and Donna Healey-Ogden, with helpers Sean and Kevin, sat at the C.A.R.E.S. display table, talking to the crowd about our shelter and then were treated to the unique performance style of the Beastie Boys. The Beastie Boys consist of Mike D (aka Mike Diamond), Ad Rock (aka Adam Horovitz) and MCA (aka Adam Yauch). Their love for animals is shown by their choice of a warm up dog act, their name (BEASTIE Boys) and their generous donations to small animal charities.

This was no small gesture and it meant the world to our cats, our shelter and us. We thank you, Beastie Boys, from the bottom of our hearts.

EVENTS TO COME

- 1) C.A.R.E.S. will have two tables at Semiahmoo Mall on Sunday, November 7th, 2004. We will have a few cats and kittens there as well as a donation box, Entertainment books, pamphlets and various items to increase awareness of our shelter and its mission.
- 2) C.A.R.E.S. will be hosting a Bowl-a-thon at the Clova Lanes in Cloverdale on Saturday, February 19, 2005. Tickets will be available soon, so invite your friends to an evening of fun and comraderie with us. There will be a silent auction, 50/50 draw as well as a bar (wine and beer) and finger food.

2004-2005 C.A.R.E.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Marietta Ashton
Carol Briner
Gail Carruthers
Marian Haney
Donna Healey-Ogden
Charley Loos
Lauralee Porter**

A Tribute to CARES Volunteers

“Morty”

Six years ago, my new husband and I experienced a very sad Christmas when we lost both of our beloved cats within a week of each other. Kyla and Minew were step-kitties. We had each brought a cat into our newly blended family. Kyla, my shaded silver Persian princess, was 14 at the time and not impressed with the likes of the lunky, 6 year old orange tabby, Minew. He had a nasty habit of lying in wait for her and, as she pranced by him, he liked to leap up and smack her on the head – just for the heck of it.

While deeply grieving their loss, we vowed to each other, no more kitties for a while. Well, as many of you who have experienced the loss of a beloved pet know, after a couple of months, a house can become very, very quiet. So, with our grief easing up a bit,

we decided it was time to adopt another baby.

I can't remember how we ended up at Petsmart but I'm sure glad we did. There, inside one of the steel cages, was another big orange boy, who seemed to be patiently waiting for us to come and get him. We debated for a while because of his resemblance to Minew and wondered if this was too painful. But when I opened Morty's cage to pet him and he leaned over and lightly, licked me on the forehead, there was no more debate. He was our new boy.

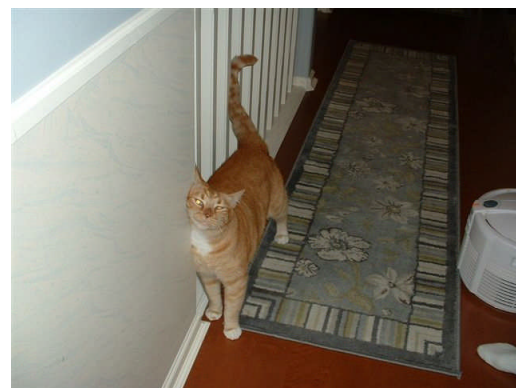
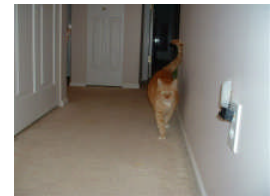
Morty has a wise stillness about him, almost a resignation to his fate. We don't know anything about his past, except that C.A.R.E.S. figured he was about 2 years old and he had been living at the shelter for about 5 months. I often wonder what happened to him before he had the good luck of being taken in by C.A.R.E.S. I wonder if he was abused or if

he simply got lost. We'll never know but I do know this. I am so grateful for C.A.R.E.S. because, without them, this wonderful cat would have never joined our family.

Fate is a mysterious thing, but the work of C.A.R.E.S. gives fate a helping hand. I marvel at the lives they've changed (both animal and human).

On behalf of Morty, and the hundreds and hundreds of other homeless cats you've helped situate, thank you C.A.R.E.S. volunteers, from the bottom of our hearts.

Love, **Barbara and Denis Faucher** (And love from Morty and his furry step-brothers, Beau, Casper and Opie).



There is a legend that many little kittens were thrown into a river to drown. The mother cat wept and was so distraught that the willows on the bank felt compassion and held out their branches to the struggling kittens. The little kittens clung to them and were saved. Ever since that time, each Spring, the willow wears grey buds that feel as soft and silky as the coats of little kittens. Thus, these trees were called 'pussy willows'.

RINGWORM

Ringworm is caused by a fungus that grows on the hairs, not by a worm. Ringworm is common in many species and can be transferred from one species to another, including man. The ringworm most commonly found is called *Microsporum canis*, and usually causes white, scaly, bald patches, especially around the head region. Certain cats may even be carriers of ringworm without having the infection themselves. It is, therefore, very difficult for a veterinarian to examine a cat and say it is definitely free of ringworm. Cat ringworm can usually be seen to glow green under a special

ultraviolet light known as a Wood's Lamp. It may also be visible on the hairs under a microscope.

The disease is not uncommon and the spores of the fungus are resistant to disinfectants. They can stay in the environment for a long time remaining infectious; therefore, ridding the area of the fungus can be difficult. Certain medical preparations can be used for localized problems, but affected cats usually have to be treated with tablets of an antifungal drug called griseofulvin. This drug protects the cat by being incorporated into new hairs as they grow, so initial clipping of the hair followed by up to three months of treatment may be necessary.

UPPER RESPIRATORY DISEASE

Feline "Cat Flu" is a disease that can be caused by several different agents, but about 80% of cases are caused by one of the two feline respiratory viruses - feline herpesvirus (FVR) and feline calicivirus (FCI). Cats cannot catch influenza or cold viruses from humans. These two types of virus are much less resistant than the feline distemper virus, and, while they can be spread indirectly, they are usually spread by direct cat to cat contact or by aerosol inhalation due to sneezing. Each of the two types of virus tend to produce somewhat different symptoms which can develop as early as 24 hours after infection. FVR causes the most severe form of feline respiratory disease, with runny eyes and nose and sneezing, making the cat feel very unwell. Some cats die due to dehydration or a secondary pneumonia. FCI may also cause runny eyes and nose, but typically results in the development of painful ulcers on the tongue, and sometimes on the mouth and nose.

At present, there are no drugs that are effective in killing off the viruses once the cat has caught them

and treatment relies on antibiotics to prevent secondary infection, multivitamins to try to improve the cat's resistance and careful nursing to keep the cat's strength up while it is trying to fight off the virus. Both viruses may linger in the nerve cells for many years, multiplying and causing bouts of illness when the cat is stressed and its defenses are lowered. The damage caused by the viruses may also leave the cat with long-term conjunctivitis or runny nose (known descriptively as "chronic snuffles"). Vaccines are also available against these two major causes of feline respiratory disease and are widely used to prevent the disease. It is too late to consider vaccination once your cat has contracted the disease. All kittens should be vaccinated at 8 weeks, given a booster shot at 12 weeks and given annual booster injections. Eliminating the virus from the environment is not much of a problem since the viruses are susceptible to most common disinfectants or even to a dose of sunlight, but in multi-cat households, it may be virtually impossible to identify and eliminate the cats that are carrying the viruses.

KUDOS to the people and businesses who have donated their time and money!

Chris and Carol Briner
Cat Fanciers of BC
Jessica Clark
Collette from PetSmart
Judge T.D. Devitt
High Point Electric Ltd.
Rose and Wilf Longfoot
Charley Loos
Holly and Bonny Loos
House of Blues and Beastie Boys

Shane Murphy
Carol Parker
Lauralee Porter
Verna Pyplacz
Restwell Mattress
The Staff of BDO Dunwoody LLP
Hazel Stoddart
Marnie Walsh
Marilyn Wolfe

VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to volunteer? There are many opportunities available! If you have a few hours a week or month to spare, call us at 604-532-5632 or visit "Contact Us" on our website at www.langleycare.com.

I am interested in:

- _____ helping at the shelter
- _____ fostering cats and/or kittens
- _____ working at adoption centre
- _____ assisting with the newsletter/web site
- _____ assisting with fundraising



DONATIONS

You can help by making a tax deductible donation.

Yes, I would like to help by contributing

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$OTHER |



MEMBERSHIPS

I would like to become a member for an annual fee of \$25. A tax receipt will be issued.
(NOTE: The annual fee for volunteers is \$10.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____

PHONE # _____ POSTAL CODE _____

EMAIL _____



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