



LAST CALL! Pawsome Critter Photo Contest Ends Tomorrow!

Still collecting votes for your purrr-tiest pet in the contest? Are you soooo close to being Number 1? You still have time to get more votes. The contest ends tomorrow at midnight (August 31.)

At that time, the pet with the most votes will be the Grand Prize Winner and will make an appearance in our 2020 calendar alongside the BCR cats! We'll make the big announcement on September 1! Don't wait, the clock is ticking!

#### HOW TO ENTER:

You may enter as many pets as you like by <u>CLICKING HERE</u>. Each entrance fee is \$25 and includes your very own BCR 2020 calendar just for entering!

Once your pet is entered, share the page with your friends and family so they can vote for your pet!

### HOW TO VOTE:

CLICK HERE to see the BCR contest entries and vote! Each vote is \$1 and ALL proceeds benefit the BCR cats.

Be sure to read all contest rules and instructions!

## When Disasters Strike - Will You and Your Cat Be Ready?

It's hurricane season and there's already one churning through the Atlantic right now. On top of that, we have another three months to go until it ends in November! And just about the time hurricane season ends, temperatures will cool down and it might get downright chilly at night, bringing the possibility of a whole different kind of storm.

Within this range of events, there's a lot of potential for natural disasters. BCR has had its fair share of them lately - remember Florence last year - the hurricane that camped out over BCR for several days? Just like BCR did then and still does, all pet owners should be ready in case of an emergency and have a plan for keeping pets safe.

First, always be aware of the weather in your area. Weather folks on the news can go a little crazy when reporting on a big storm or event, but at the heart of what they're saying is that something is coming. Stay on top of the reports so you know. If you live in a hurricane-prone area or one that experiences snow and ice in winter, you'll have time to put your plan into motion. Tornadoes and severe pop-up storms don't give much warning.

When you get the word that weather is happening, put your plan into motion.

Every pet owner should have these things ready to go:

\*Enough food and water for five days for each pet you have. Don't forget bowls and a can opener if you feed your pets canned food. Experts also suggest that you have extra water to wash your pet with if its been in polluted flood waters.

\*Your cat's litter box, extra litter, a scoop and garbage bags.

\*Cat carriers and harnesses or leashes. Also make sure your cat is wearing a collar with your correct contact information on it. Carriers and cages need to have enough room for your cat to stand up and move around in case it has to be in one for a long time. Putting a blanket or towel in the carrier - and maybe even a favorite toy - will help your cat feel safer.

\*Recent photos of you with your cat and detailed descriptions of them in case you get separated. This will help prove that your cat is yours when you're reunited.

\*Make sure your pet is microchipped and the company has your current address and phone number on file. Even in non-emergency situations, all pets should wear collars with ID tags as well as being microchipped. Pets' microchips can be registered free at Found.org!

\*A written record of your cat's medical conditions, behavior issues and a feeding schedule with the name and number of your veterinarian. This will help if you're forced to leave your cat with a temporary foster.

Other things that are helpful to have on hand include newspapers, paper towels, trash bags, household bleach and your cat's brush and maybe nail clippers.

Pet owners can also take a few tips from how shelters and rescues prepare for big weather events. The shelter emergency list includes some things pet owners would find helpful, like:

\*Flashlight

\*Heavy gloves that can help keep you safe if you have to pick up a panicked animal.

\*Tarp

\*A radio



Whatever you do, don't abandon your cat to fend for itself even if you think your house is secure. Remember sweet Gabriel (left), who managed to survive all alone through Hurricane Irma underneath a car in Miami? He was the rare exception and it's a miracle he did survive. He came to us very emaciated and covered with wounds, either from flying debris or from other animals. As covered extensively on the news, there were many other heartbreaking cases of pet abandonment in Florida and Texas during and after recent hurricane disasters. The truth is that it's very likely your pet won't survive on its own.

So, be ready! Have your emergency kit prepared and keep your cat safe! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to read more about disaster preparedness for your pets! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to read about how shelters get ready.



### ... While We're Talking About Being Prepared: Why not build a feral cat house?

As cold weather arrives, feral and stray cats as well as those who live outdoors will need warm shelters to go to. Any cat who lives outside must have a warm and dry place to go when the weather is bad. Shelters can be purchased but they're also very easy to build yourself. As fall comes and winter approaches, why not put together a few for your neighborhood community cat colony. You might just save a life. <u>Visit our Pinterest page</u> to see several DIY waterproof shelter designs! If you want to purchase a ready-made, water-proof shelter, <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see what's available at our Amazon store!



It's almost Fall Raffle time and we want to hear from you!

It's almost fail Kattle time and we want to hear from you: Have you participated in the BCR raffle before? What prizes did you like best or would like to be included? The survey takes just a minute or two - <u>CLICK HERE</u> to start! *Thanks for your input!* 



Every dollar you raise during your birthday fundraiser buys food for the cats, medicines, litter and even vet visits! Your fundraisers make it possible for them to have the healthy and happy life they deserve.

It's easy - use this link to go to Facebook and follow the instructions! You can personalize your message, ask your friends and family to donate to your special cause, set a target, and even monitor how it's going!

Thank you to everyone who has donated their birthday to BCR this year!

It's Time to Pre-Order Your BCR 2020 Calendar! Don't miss this 15th Anniversary year!



Make sure you're ready for 2020 with a BCR calendar! Your favorite cats will greet you every month of the year - and so will the winner of our Pawsome Critter Photo Contest! The price is still just \$20 (shipping included) for a year of sweet kitty faces! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to pre-order your calendar! (Hint: They make great Christmas gifts, too!)



Welcome to our Sponsor Spotlight! The BCR family is full of wonderful people who truly love the cats and we want you to meet them! Each sponsor is given a set of questions to answer and asked to send along their favorite photos of their sponsor cats. Are you interested in being a Sponsor Spotlight? Just email us and let us know!

#### How did you first learn about BCR?

From a fellow cat-loving friend, Brian Delaney, who has been a BCR sponsor much longer than I. He is on the BCR site a lot, and is great about forwarding photos to me. I finally decided to sponsor Carrot because of him.

No, not yet, but I definitely hope to do so !!



## If you haven't yet visited, what are you most excited about when you do?

Have you visited and, if so, what did you enjoy most? What surprised you most?

Just getting to meet the cats in person and see them for more than a few seconds at a time in a video, and to give them lots and lots of hugs and snuggles! Also, to be able to personally thank all of the BCR staff for the fabulous job they do!

# What cat or cats do you sponsor? Why did you choose them?

I had sponsored Carrot, now sadly deceased. I am now a new sponsor of two kitties -- Morris and Jellybean. Although I love all cats, I tend to be partial to tabbies. I also wanted to sponsor blind kitties; I'm just so amazed at how they can behave so normally without sight! If you could tell people one thing about BCR, what would it be? That you give them sooo much love and great care!



BCR's Florida Fluffies These BCR residents joined us from Florida!





Hi, everyone! Snicker here with my next BCR staff interview! I hope you enjoy getting to know the great folks who take such good care of us cats.

If you'd like me to interview someone in particular, <u>please email me</u> and let me know!

This time, I'm talking with LouAnn!



Snicker: Hi, LouAnn, and thank you for taking time out of your busy day to talk with me!

LouAnn: Snicker, it's my pleasure and this is very exciting.

<u>Snicker</u>: So, let's start with the basics. Can you tell me about your responsibilities at BCR?

*LouAnn*: Well, I work mainly in the office but when I am out in the buildings, I am mainly in house two to clean as well as make sure the cats are happy and looked after.

<u>Snicker</u>: I know it's a lot of work - I hear it going on around me all the time! What's a typical day like?

LouAnn: We come in and start at 7 a.m., with getting the dishes from overnight up and getting breakfast down for everyone.

Snicker: Those bowls are loud! - lots of clanking going on - just how many bowls does it take to feed us?

LouAnn: There are about 10 bowls per room between dry and canned food and then lobby bowls.

Snicker: WOW, LouAnn! So, for where I live in House 1 then, there are around 45 bowls every time we get meals! That's a lot of bowls - and food!

LouAnn: Yes, it is, Snicker, it adds up to about 180 cases per month and several hundred pounds of dry food, all from the amazing and very generous supporters.

<u>Snicker:</u> Those people are very nice to send us boxes full of food. We say thanks to you all!

I can tell when breakfast is over because I hear lots of water running and other sounds like furniture moving and stuff like that. What are you all doing then?

LouAnn: Yes, after you all eat we then clean all the rooms, inside and the catio from top to bottom, walls, floors, windows, all the parts of stands and towers and the litter boxes.

Snicker: I'm tired just hearing you talk about all that work. We all do appreciate all you do for us - our houses and rooms always smell good and feel very clean.

LouAnn: After that we wash all the food bowls and water bowls and then we do about 12 loads of laundry, oh, and that's per building!!

Snicker: WAIT... 12 loads PER BUILDING?

LouAnn: Yes, and it takes about three hours to do all that. And it happens seven days a week.

<u>Snicker</u>: That's a lot of laundry - I guess our beds, blankets, pillows and toys might get dirty since we use them so much. We all love them so we sleep on them a lot! What happens after that?

LouAnn: HA HA! That's the best part of the day, when we get to sit with you cats and cuddle and love on you and you love on us right back.

Snicker: Ah-ha! Now I understand how it all works - and how hard you all work for us! For my next question, how did you hear about the job at BCR?

LouAnn: I heard about BCR through an internship at my school and I decided to start volunteering here! I had been volunteering for about a year before I was officially hired!

<u>Snicker:</u> What can you tell me about some of my fellow BCR residents who are in your building?

LouAnn: In house two, we have blind, leukemia-positive, and FIV-positive kitties. They are all super sweet with different and fun personalities!

Snicker: I know this is a hard question but do you have a favorite?

LouAnn: I love them all so its hard to pick one. I would have to say Ginger and Lurch are my favorites!

Snicker: I bet you're their favorite, too, LouAnn! Thank you so much for doing this interview. As President of BCR, I know I can speak for all my fellow residents in thanking you all for taking great care of us and loving us. We love you, too!

LouAnn: Thank you, Snicker! We all love you furry babies, too!

I hope you enjoyed this interview with LouAnn! I'll be back next month with another interview.



Have you found <u>BCR on YouTube</u> yet? If not, you're missing our very own cat-tastic dedicated channel that his home to the latest kitty videos, helpful catcare hints, the shelter tours and boxes sessions and even the history of BCR. You can catch up on any tours that you missed right here. Be sure to subscribe to this all-BCR spot on YouTube! It's easy, just



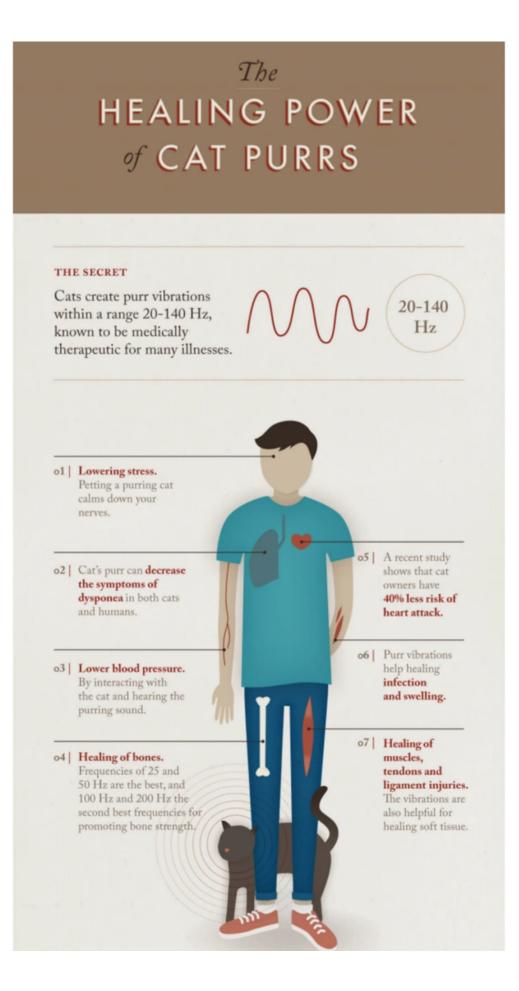
Click on the Subscribe button to sign up.

and then



Then click on the bell so you'll know when the latest video gets posted!

Did you know that a purring cat has healing powers? Not feeling 100%? Hug your cat!

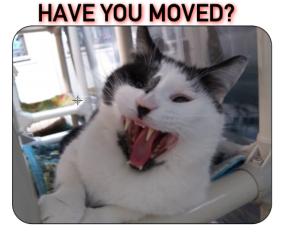


# Friends of BCR Facebook Group



Pearl is waiting for you to join the Friends of BCR Facebook group! You'll see plenty of BCR Pearl and the other BCR cats there along with cat-care info and tips and fun. Oh, and we want to see YOUR cats, too! <u>Join our Friends of Blind Cat</u> <u>Rescue Facebook page today!</u>

BONUS FACEBOOK HINT! We get asked all the time why people aren't seeing BCR in their Facebook feeds. Well, there's a reason! Facebook's algorithm changes have made it harder and harder for you to see our posts! CLICK HERE for some great instructions to make sure you see the BCR cats!



## Hermes paws-itively wants to know your new address! He knows the holidays are coming soon so <u>please send us your new address</u> if you've moved in the last year.

We do not share personal information with other organizations or individuals.

# BCR Cats in Action!

The dedicated BCR staffers spend every day with our very wonderful resident cats, seeing them play, learning about their personalities and finding out what they love! We want you to see what they see so we hope you enjoy these video clips of the BCR cats in action - doing what they do best! To view a video, just click where it says CLICK HERE or in the photos and sample life with the BCR cats!



We're always thrilled when a new BCR kitty starts to feel safe and happy enough to let loose and do what cats love to do - play! Caramel is one of our newer cats who has embraced this philosophy 100% and we couldn't be happier! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see Caramel in action!



In the same spirit, some of the BCR cats who arrived a few years ago as kittens and have grown up at BCR still think they are kittens! **CLICK HERE** to take a look at Wifi and his "inner kitten."



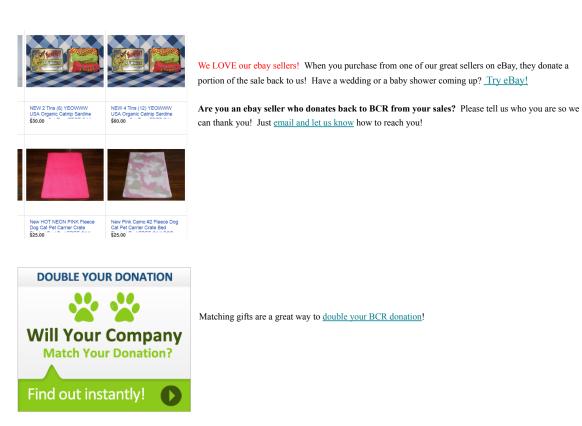
How do you know a cat is relaxed and happy? CLICK HERE and Emily, Lily, Molly and Candy will show you!



Cici LOVES opening boxes and finding out what wonderful things BCR's friends have sent her. BCR always needs food and supplies and Cici thanks everyone who has generously donated from the BCR wish list!

# Helping the cats is EZ!







When you shop online, please <u>use Amazon Smile</u> and pick Blind Cat Rescue as your charity. With every purchase, their foundation donates to BCR. There is no charge to you!

Direct link: https://goo.gl/4DJHX2



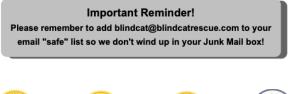
Are you a Fresh Step Litter user? If you don't use your <u>Fresh Step Litter</u> paw points, please donate them to the cats! You'll help provide shelters with free litter in exchange for paw points!! We use more than 90 boxes of litter every month! Your points help us get free litter for the cats!! <u>CLICK HERE</u> for details.



Wonder what to do with your old car? Donate it and help the cats! If you have an old car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or even an airplane, you can donate it BCR. Find out how here.



Shhhhh! Glen and Scotty want you to know that one of the best things about Open House is napping with the cats! Come give it a try on Saturday, September 7 noon - 4 p.m.





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