Blind Cat Rescue: The Blind Cats Are Itchin' for Spring!

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The Flea-Bitten Season

As warmer days increase so do the pests that bug our pets - fleas and ticks. There are many options for keeping fleas at bay and your cat from scratching. We offer some natural things to try from BCR's blogs:



1. Rinse them with rosemary

Boil a couple liters of rosemary tea (you can buy it or make your own with fresh or dried rosemary) let the tea cool down to room temperature, drain out the leaves, and use as a final rinse during bath time. You can also put it in a spay bottle and spay your pet's coat once a day.



2. Make a protective bandanna

Using fresh or dried lavender, pinch off 2 Tbsps of the buds into a bowl. Bring 1/2 C of water to a rolling boil and pour over the buds. Cover the bowl and let them steep for a few hours or overnight. Strain the buds from the water and put the water in a spray bottle. Spray liberally on a stylish bandanna and rub the sides together to evenly spread it. Reapply as needed. Another option is to sew a pocket in the bandana and put some dried or fresh lavender in it.



3. Cook up a holistic flea dip

Here are two recipes:

- Cut an entire lemon into thin slices, boil in one pint of water, and steep overnight for eight hours. Cool and use as a dip or spritz.
- Mix 2 cups of fresh rosemary or 2 cups of peppermint with 5 quarts of warm water, steep for 30 minutes, let it cool, use as a dip.



4. Feed your pets Brewers yeast

If your pet doesn't like the way it tastes try mixing it with coconut oil. It makes your pets blood smell and taste like the brewers yeast making fleas less likely to bite.



5. Remove fleas from your home

Make sure you regularly vacuum rugs, carpets, and upholstered furniture, as well as other flooring surfaces!



6. Introduce your yard to nematodes

Nematodes are microscopic worms. They are harmless to people and pets but they kill fleas.



7. Plant flea repelling plants

Flowers such as chrysanthemums, marigolds, and geraniums can help deter fleas. Many herbs such as mint, rosemary, lavender, and even catnip are also good for repelling fleas.



8. Check your home for other flea-bearing creatures

Animals such as squirrels and mice can bring fleas so it's a good idea to check your home for signs of these little guys.

Try them all and see what works best for you!

CLICK HERE to see the whole blog!

An important reminder as we go into April!





The BCR family is full of wonderful people who truly love the cats and we want you to meet them!

Each BCR cat sponsor is given a set of questions to answer and asked to send along
their favorite photos of their sponsor cat.

Are you interested in being in the Sponsor Spotlight? Email us and let us know!

How did you first learn about BCR?

Early year 2018, I was not doing anything one night at home, so I ended up surfing on Facebook. I was watching cats' videos, and then, I stumbled on BCR websites. I read the word "Blind Cats," so I clicked on it. That night, I went to their website, and watched the kitty's videos, and my heart just melted. Ever since then, I am drawn to BCR. I had to watch the kitties. I requested to follow them, and then, I started watching their live tours and other posts. I told myself I want to visit them one day.

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

Yes, I have visited for three times already! First time was after Thanksgiving Day of year 2017, and then around August 2018, and June 2019. One of my female friends, Stephanie came with me for the first two visits. We stayed in hotel on our first visit, and then, we stayed in the Guest House on the second time. I enjoyed the feeling of anticipation as I was driving from Jacksonville, Florida to St. Pauls, NC. Stephanie, my female friend said I was flying to get to BCR the first time we went to visit. Who would not be excited to drive up, and see the kitties? I did not care if it took us almost six hours to get there.

I cannot begin to say what I enjoyed the most, but as soon as got there, I was so excited to see the kitties. I knew from the moment I stepped in the kitty's rooms, I fell in love with all of them! I enjoyed meeting, taking selfies, petting, loving, and holding each one of them. The BCR kitties are so adorable!

Some of the kitties came up to me, so I pet them. Some of them just chilling, trying to see who was out there to see them. I could say I petted all of them except the ones that were at the vet. I had tears holding and petting them. I could not get enough of them. I was in Heaven's Cat Place! I can go on and on talking about what I enjoyed the most about all these precious kitties, but one thing for sure I noticed about all of them was they knew they were cared and loved from us in a distance, all the BCR staff, and Alana.

BCR surroundings are very calm, peaceful, and quiet. Seven welcomed me the most because he was at the parking lot. Seven will come to you, and he will jump on your car LOL! Every room of the kitties are very clean, tidy, smells fresh, and organize.

I was very surprised on my first visit because with all the kitties in every room, I would expect they will be smelly, but nope, not BCR! Even on my second and third visit, the facility is still clean as the first time I visited.

On my third visit last year, I was able to volunteer, and I loved it. On my second visit, my female friend and I helped

cleaned the room. It is wiped from the top to the bottom! They change their water fountains every day, and their foods are replaced every day! Ms. Kitty let me clean a few of their water fountains, and boy, I tell you, I had to remove every piece of the water fountain's parts! It is so amazing all the dedications of the BCR staff every day. However, those cleaning, wiping down, removing litters, moping, washing dishes, and doing laundry are not nothing if you love the BCR kitties. Plus, once you are done helping on cleaning up, you get a chance to play with the kitties. What else can you ask for?

I will not get tired on driving for almost six hours to see these precious and loving kitties. If only I lived closer, I would visit them every week. I have so much love for them, and I wished I could do more, but I do my daily clicks from different devices, I donate Fresh Step points, donate few dollars sometimes during live tours, if I am able.

Require

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

On top of my 14 rescued kitties that live in my house, I could say I love each one of the BCR kitties, and I thank the staff, Melinda, sponsors, viewers, and Alana for caring and loving all these beautiful kitties. BCR kitties are part of my daily living now, and I do my best to watch the live tours when I am not busy at work. I sponsor Boomer! Yes, the kitty who loves you to rub his stomach. I was there when he just got transported at BCR in 2018. He was still in quarantine, but this sweet kitty let me rub his stomach. His unique face marking is incredible! He looks like an old man, yet, he is young in the heart and loveable. I was debating sponsoring Coconut or Piper that time because

they were kittens, but BCR said there are other kitties needed sponsor. I clicked on Boomer again, and he was calling me, so I chose him LOL! [NOTE: Boomer crossed the Rainbow Bridge this week.]

As you watch him during the live tours, he does not want anything but rub his stomach LOL! He loves to chill and hang out with his roomies. You cannot help but fall in love for this sweet and gorgeous kitty. Besides, who cannot turn down Boomer with his beautiful stomach to rub on?

If you could tell people one thing about BCR, what would it be?

There are many words I can use to describe about BCR, but one of the best things I could tell people about it is their devotion to all of the kitties. Also, their dedication and sincerity about making sure all the kitties live happy lives in spite of their past abuses, neglect, getting close to being euthanized and illnesses. The kitties can depend on BCR's care, patience, and undeniable love. BCR is committed to letting each kitty live comfortably, peacefully, and lovingly. They will never feel unwanted again for the rest of their lives, and their well-being is BCR's first priority.



Marshmallow, Voldo, Licorice and Yoshi really hope you'll use YOUR birthday to help THEM! They want you to know that your special day can help them and all the BCR cats if you create a Facebook birthday fundraiser! It's super easy, costs you nothing and has a BIG impact on the cats!

Every BCR birthday fundraiser helps get the cats the food they need, the medicines they take and even the regular checkup and dental vet visits that keep them healthy. You can help make it possible for them to continue to have the healthy and happy lives they deserve.

Set up is 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!

Make 2020 the year you donate your birthday to help the cats!

The cats give a big HEAD BONK to those who have donated birthdays so far this year!



More Kitties to !!

Meet our newest arrival, sweet Lynx! This leukemia-positive kitty came all the way from Alabama, where he had been living in a shelter's laundry room in a 2x2 kennel with no natural light or interaction with people or other cats. Happily, the shelter didn't euthanize him right away when he tested positive and one of their volunteers saw what a sweet cat he is and wanted a better life for him. She contacted us and then she and her fiance drove more than 10 hours to get him here. She was right! He loves humans and can't get enough love. He likes the other cats but is not a dog fan. You can see for yourself how sweet Lynx is by watching him in House 2, Room 2 on our 24-hour cameras. If you'd like to sponsor this very sweet and handsome boy, CLICK HERE.



FREE ways to help the BCR cats are just a click away!

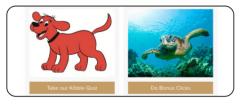


Each and every day you can help the BCR cats for free by taking some fun quizzes and clicking on the Shop for your Cause website! This online shopping site is dedicated to helping non-profits. Even if you aren't in the market to purchase, each visit gives you several opportunities to help the cats with a click!

Follow the prompts to get to the click of the day, which donates 2 cents to BCR every time. Does it add up? You bet:

Thank You for Donating Two Cents to Your Cause! Together we've clicked 2,137,452 times to Blind Cat Rescue.

You'll also find there some bonus click opportunities and fun quizzes to do that also add to the funds going to BCR. Test your knowledge and help the cats at the same time. Win - win!



Thank you for clicking every day to help the cats!



Meet Beth Wicker - one of BCR's Amazing ebay Sellers!

One of our dedicated ebay seller/supporters is Beth Wicker, who is a talented goldsmith as well as a collector and seller of what she describes as an "odd collection of vintage stuff." Her ebay site is chapelhillnative, where you'll find a large and entertaining selection of collectibles and things she makes herself. From her sales, Beth generally donates 10% to BCR. Thank you, Beth!







Beth came to ebay about 15 years ago, when she was taking care of her husband, who was ill. She had discovered lots of great vintage items in in her parents' home and thought others would find them interesting, too, and she launched her site. Beth finds ebay a very unique place to sell things and is always interested to see who's buying what! She's found that men seem to like to browse through ebay to search for things and that they frequently purchase for their wives!

Women shoppers love her metal jewelry and Beth operates an esty.com/shop to sell it. Her beautiful work is also included in several galleries and stores. Beth creates her jewelry from various metals, including gold, silver, copper and bronze. As an animal lover, her creations include cats (see below) and other animals. Beth loves doing customized jewelry of beloved pets. If someone sends her a photo, she'll create a piece of jewelry from it. The horse pendant below is one of those custom pieces, which is offered on ebay.



Beth notes that, although esty is not set up to offer donations to non-profits, she will arrange to make a 10% donation to BCR from any sales there! If someone makes a purchase from her etsy.page they should say "BCR donation" in the message to the seller and she'll make it happen.

Beth is a true animal lover. After volunteering as a transporter for The Goat House Rescue in Pittsboro, NC, Beth was hooked! Blind cats came into Beth's life when she was looking after a feral cat who lived in her husband's plant building. This kitty developed an eye infection and Beth took him to the vet, where it was discovered he really wasn't feral at all. When Beth put him in the carrier, instead of struggling or hissing, he purred! At the vet's office they discovered he was a neutered boy cat. His eye infection caused him to lose one eye but he adjusted to life that way, as we know cats do.

Beth now has two indoor cats and also takes care of two feral outdoor cats on her farm. Her indoor cats both have interesting stories! Tenzing (named after climber Tenzing Norgay, the first man to reach Mt. Everest) came to her farm as a small kitten. Intrepid explorer that he was, he came all alone across the property, braving coyotes, owls and other predators to reach Beth's house. He's been there ever since! Good Girl, her other cat, began life with another owner who called her Miss Lilli Marlene! When her owner died, Beth offered Miss Lilli Marlene a home. It wasn't an easy transition for either of them. Finally, as Beth was praising Miss Lilli, she said Good Girl! Miss Lilli looked up at her in that moment and the connection was made. Her name has been Good Girl ever since. Both Tenzing and Good Girl are now about 12 years old and loving life with Beth!

When Beth opened her ebay site, she saw BCR as one of the non-profits she could help and she knew it was the right fit. She's thrilled to help out a non-profit doing such good work and says that donations from sales "do add up and make a big difference to a non-profit!"

We're happy she feels that way and say thank you again, to Beth, for supporting BCR!

CLICK HERE to visit Beth's ebay site.
CLICK HERE to visit her esty site.
See what might be there for you!



Always important! BCR uses 85 boxes of litter every month! Greta, Felix and Oreo ask you to help them and the other BCR cats get Fresh Step litter by donating your <u>Fresh Step Litter</u> paw points! With 102 cats at BCR, there are a lot of litter boxes that get scooped several times a day. That's a lot of litter and it's big expense.

With Fresh Step's paw-some donation program, you can donate your points to give BCR free cat litter. CLICK HERE for details.



Candy knows that everyone claps as she goes by! You can join the parade on the Friends of BCR Facebook group!

Candy is there along with all the BCR kitties and kindred spirits, pals and cat lovers. It's not just about BCR - it's about YOU, too! Chat with fellow cat fans, share stories and photos and find lots of useful cat info! Join our Friends of Blind Cat Rescue Facebook page today!

BONUS FACEBOOK HINT!

Ever wonder why you don't see BCR in your Facebook feed? 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!

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 on the photos and sample life with the BCR cats!



<u>Cici</u> is a well-known BCR hunter. To keep in shape for the hunt, she likes to chase the staff! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to watch Cici in action with Sam.

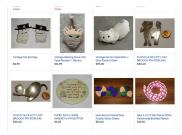


Sweet <u>Cassie</u> has lately gone from being a little bit shy to being an attention hog and we couldn't be happier! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to take a look at this little girl when she first arrived at BCR!



Missing your favorite BCR cats? You can watch them anytime on our 24-hour Zmodo Cameras! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to get started!!





We LOVE our ebay sellers! When you purchase from one of our great sellers on ebay, they donate a portion of the sale back to us! Have a wedding or a baby shower coming up? <u>Try ebay!</u>

Are You an ebay Seller who supports BCR?

Please let us know so we can thank you and shine some light on your special ebay auction page! <u>Just email us</u> and we'll be in touch with you!



Matching gifts are a great way to <u>double your BCR donation!</u>



When you shop online, please use Amazon Smile 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



No need to hang on to 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.



Are you an Alexa user? Did you know that you can make charitable donations using Alexa? It's true. It's very easy and secure! All you have to say is: Alexa, make a donation to Blind Cat Rescue! She'll take it from there. Need more information on how this works? CLICK HERE.



Are you a runner, walker or biker? You can get your daily exercise, track your route and help the BCR cats at the same time! Sponsored by BestFriends, ResQwalk is a free app you can put on any phone.



Check out our very own cat-tastic dedicated site, <u>BCR on YouTube</u> - the home channel for the latest kitty videos, helpful cat-care hints, shelter tours and boxes sessions and even the history of BCR and its resident cats.



For all things cats - <u>follow BCR on Pinterest!</u> From DIY cat projects to articles and stories on cat health to cat tattoos and just fun photos, you'll find it all here!



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and to ensure the health of the staff, BCR is not open to visitors at this time. The April Open House has been cancelled.

Valencia hopes you'll join her and the cats on

Saturday, May 16 noon - 4 p.m. Blind Cat Rescue: The Blind Cats Are Itchin' for Spring!

Important Reminder!

Please remember to add blindcat@blindcatrescue.com to your email "safe" list so we don't wind up in your Junk Mail box!



















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