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Donate Now!



****BIG NEWS****
Triple your Paw Points!

Cici wants you to know that there's a free way to help the BCR cats in a **BIG** way: donate your Fresh Step Paw Points! Right now, Fresh Step is **tripling** all Paw Points donations. With so many cats at BCR, they use 85 boxes of litter each month, at a cost of \$1,000! (That's \$12,000 a year!) We thank everyone who regularly donates paw points for the cats - your generosity has given BCR three pallets of free Fresh Step litter. If you've never donated points before, this is a great time to start! Your donated points times three!

Hint: When you get ready to donate, click "secret code" for Place Purchased. When you enter a Bonus Code, use SHELTERBONUS116 and LOVEMYSHELTER for 25 extra bonus points! If you've never used the SHELTERBONUS116 code before, they should both work!
[CLICK HERE](#) to donate Paw Points!

Thank you, Fresh Step, for helping shelters!

It's National Hairball Day!



Yes, it's National Hairball Day and, while it's easy to laugh at this and think there must be better things to celebrate, it is a great time to talk about them and how they impact your cat's overall health. Since it's now springtime, we may see our cats shedding more than usual to thin out that winter coat. That might lead to more frequent hairball cough-ups than normal so we need to know what is normal and what isn't.

A great article by [cattime.com](#) explains what hairballs actually are. That may seem pretty obvious to anyone who's had to clean up after a cat has thrown up a hairball, but it's worth being sure.

Every time a cat grooms, its barbed tongue - which to us feels like sandpaper - acts like a brush through its fur, pulling out the undercoat of hair, dirt, and anything else that could be in the fur. This fur has to go somewhere. A cat's system is set up to process and get rid of this build-up of stuff. Normally, the hair goes through a cat's stomach and the digestive system and goes right into the litter box.

Sometimes, though, it can get caught in the stomach, where it sits building up into a ball and absorbing bile, which will eventually cause the cat to throw it up.

So, when are hairballs NOT normal? Some vets say that a cat might only throw up one or two hairballs in a year. Every cat is different, though, so the number of hairballs an owner might see will be different for each cat.

As with all things around being a cat parent, owners need to pay attention and stay vigilant. If a cat throws up hairballs frequently and also gags, coughs or hacks while doing it, there may be something else going on. Other signs related to frequent vomiting are diarrhea or even constipation, and noticing a lot of cat hair in the litter box. That's the time to call the vet. At the same time, cats who seem to have difficulty throwing up a hairball may also need to see a vet, since not expelling one can cause an obstruction.

There are several ways to help prevent hairballs in cats. The best one is regular grooming with a soft bristled brush. The BCR cats, like Snicker, Misty, Morticia and Lisa, get regular brushing sessions from staff and volunteers along with some summer hair cuts! That helps keep their coats healthy and them from developing hairballs. This is especially helpful for longer-haired cats.

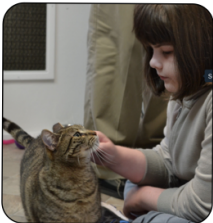
There are also cat treats and special cat foods that help cats pass the hairballs through the stomach. The food also helps reduce shedded hair and adds fiber to their diets to help digestion. Keeping plenty of fresh water available for cats is also critical. The article also notes that bored cats tend to groom more often so keep lots of entertaining toys around!

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full [cattime.com](#) article on hairballs.

Get in the Grooming Grove!

As the above article points out, regular cat grooming is one of the best ways to keep hairball problems to a minimum. It's also a great way to bond with your cat and, if they're young, to socialize them to being touched, petted and groomed. But, is there a right way and wrong way to groom a cat?

Turns out there is! [Cattime.com](#) posts six common mistakes in grooming:



- 1. Failing to begin grooming at an early age.
- 2. Not grooming regularly.
- 3. Not dealing with mats cautiously.
- 4. Picking the wrong brush.
- 5. Making the grooming session unpleasant.
- 6. Providing the wrong nail care.*

To be sure you've got this covered, [CLICK HERE](#) to read the whole story.

*To see BCR's suggested "how to" on trimming your cat's nails, [CLICK HERE](#).

Sponsor
Spotlight:

Nancy
Damrow

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?


I first learned of BCR on Facebook. A girl I know was watching a tour, so I went ahead and watched it, too. I instantly fell in love with Colonel. I was hoping to meet him in person. I keep picturing Colonel at the rainbow bridge smacking at each cat as they come by!

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

I visited BCR in 2018. It was the first place on my bucket list. I've got gastroparesis, which makes it difficult for me to travel right now. My good friend, Elaine, made a promise that each year I survive I can go back to BCR, so I went back this year. The first thing I noticed at BCR are the metal animal sculptures as you drive in - especially the orange cat on the tractor. The gate was open so I didn't see the big BCR sign at first. I thought maybe I was lost!



Chester



Helen

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

Now that Samantha, Odie and Penny are gone, I started sponsoring Helen. I fell in love with her. I'm eager to meet her. I also started sponsoring Chester. I always visit him when I go. Now I want him to walk me around the room like he does with Melinda!

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

I'd tell them to bring a lint roller! I forgot the first time I visited and got hair all over my clothes. I wasn't allowed to get in the car until I cleaned up! Seriously, I'd tell people to visit, sit down and let the cats love on you. Chester has me trained now! Snicker has earned his title as president. They will love you to death. I love brushing Sterling. The more fur the better!



Your Fun and Free Way to Help the Cats is Here!

Donate your birthday!

Every birthday fundraiser makes a HUGE impact on the cats' lives! Creating one is so easy with the [Facebook birthday donation tool](#). Give it your own personal touch - it's easy and free to you!

Every birthday donation your friends make helps the cats get the food they need, the medicines they take and even the regular checkups and dental vet visits that keep them healthy. You 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 and say thanks when your friends contribute!

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!

The SCOOP

Did you know?



Meet Karen Harper
One of BCR's Amazing ebay Sellers

Karen has an amazing store on ebay! You can [find her at twobuynow](#).

Karen is an ebay veteran, having started selling on the site back in 2007-2008. After dabbling in it casually for a while, today she and her husband operate a thriving site that includes more than 100 items that appeal to both men and women. For the ladies, you'll find glassware, figurines (people and animals, including cats!), beautiful mid-century and Depression glass. Karen particularly likes the collection of vintage Tupperware from the 1950s to the 1980s available on her site. They don't make them like that anymore! For the guys, she has collectible Hot Wheels cars, Matchbox cars and wooden toys from Finland.

It's all personal to Karen, who loves to attend estate sales and auctions where she finds things that were very valuable to their previous owners. With each item comes a story and a history. Because Karen feels it's important to know about an item and appreciate its past, she includes a note reminding buyers that their purchase was owned by someone who thought of it as a prized possession.

Karen discovered BCR on Facebook and is a supporter of the cats. She was happy to discover that ebay sales can also support BCR and now she does both. Karen donates 10-15% of her sales to BCR to help the cats. Thank you Karen!

Karen and her husband are real animal lovers having had both dogs and cats over the years. She's planning a trip to NC to see her sister as soon as it's safe to travel again and BCR is also on her itinerary. She's very excited to visit even though she says, "BCR is somewhere that you actually see and feel no matter where you are! You can see how much love the cats give and the love the staff has as they take care of them. Everyone should see the videos and watch the cats play. It's an important place to donate to or visit."

That BCR takes in FIV+ cats along with the blind cats is also important to Karen, knowing that those cats are euthanized instead of being given the chance to be adopted. "It takes such an endearing heart to do what Alana has done," Karen says. We totally agree!

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit Karen's ebay site.
See what might be there for you!

Separated at Birth?
Not really, but it sure looks like they could be!



We talk about the *BCR Magic* - when scared or injured cats come to BCR and respond to the wonderful love and care they receive. One of our cats, [Precious](#), actually regained his sight when he was treated for his high blood pressure! He's a wonderful boy and we're thrilled his forever home is BCR.





Pearl says spring is the perfect time to join Friends of BCR Facebook group! You'll find Pearl there, along with all the BCR kitties and fellow cat fans! 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!*



Daily exercise is really important and [Charity](#) embraces that idea - well, some of it! [CLICK HERE](#) to see Charity do her own special workout!

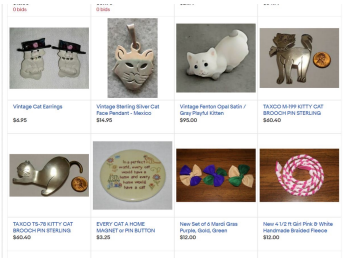


[Tabitha](#) is sometimes a shy girl, but turn on the love and watch her go! [CLICK HERE](#) to see how cute and wiggly Tabs is when she gets love!



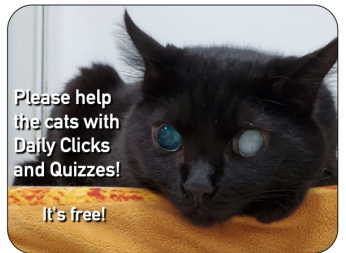
Catch the BCR Kitties - After Dark! Do you watch the cats' overnight antics? Peanut taking a midnight stroll? Gumdrop and Gomez having playtime? Eggroll investigating the patio? Grab a shot or video and post them on the [Friends of BCR Facebook page](#)! We'd all love to know what they're up to "after hours!" When you post one, use the hashtag #BCRCatsAfterDark.

Get started on our 24-hour Zmodo Cameras! [CLICK HERE](#) to find them!

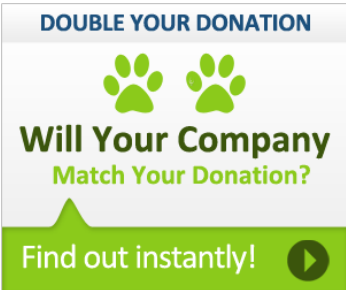


We LOVE our ebay sellers! When you purchase from one of our great sellers on ebay, they donate a portion of the sale back to us! Have a wedding or a baby shower coming up? [Try ebay!](#)

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! [Just email us](#) and we'll be in touch with you!



A few free clicks each day can help the BCR cats! [CLICK HERE](#) to go to the ShopforYourCause website and start with the daily click, that gives 2 cents to BCR! Then take a quiz or two to add to that donation!



Matching gifts are a great way to [double your BCR donation!](#)



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.](#)

We thank those who have already donated a car this year!



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, [BCR on YouTube](#) - 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 - [follow BCR on Pinterest!](#) 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 pandemic and to ensure the health of the staff,
BCR is not open to visitors at this time.
The April and May Open Houses have been cancelled.

Smudge and Jewell are resting up and hoping to see you at BCR's
June Open House on

Saturday, June 13
noon - 4 p.m.

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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