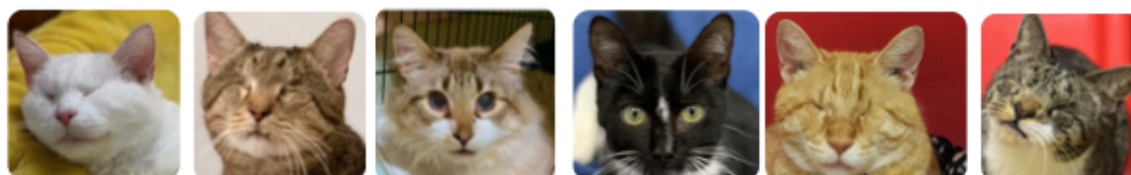


[View this email in your browser](#)

Donate Now!



❤️ **Happy New Year to our BCR Family!** ❤️

As we all happily welcome 2021, we want to take a moment to say **THANK YOU** for all you do to support the cats. Your love and care are the reasons they all have a happy, love-filled and safe life. They know as we do that the BCR human family is an amazing, strong, positive, dedicated and faithful one!

You do so much for the cats each day - from filling the pantry to providing things like syringes, gas drops and test strips that we use every day to make sure the cats get the medications they need. On top of that, you send them treats, wonderful beds, blankets, scratchers and toys - all things that they love and enjoy! You've given them what they would never have had if they hadn't come to BCR: soft and warm beds, consistent healthy food and a safe and secure place to live. We are so grateful that you care so much!

For all of this we thank you and hope 2021 is a safe, happy and healthy one for all!

The cats hope you enjoy this very special
New Year's video from them to you!

[CLICK HERE](#) or on the picture below!



Does Weather Affect Cats?

The condition called SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) is pretty common in humans. That's the one where a person who may be just fine in the warmer months gets gloomy and depressed in the colder months. Guess what - cats can experience it, too! In fact, some science shows that there is a direct link between a cat's mood and the weather. A recent study found that eight million pets show some of the symptoms of SAD in the colder months. If you think about the evolution of cats, it makes sense!

Before cats were domesticated, they were predatory animals that had to find ways to survive in the wild. Being able to do that successfully made it necessary for cats to develop very heightened awareness. Since the availability of food could depend a lot on the temperature where they lived or if it was dry or wet, cats evolved to be acutely aware of and sensitive to those factors. Cats learned to tune their psychology and physiology to the conditions around them. Even after thousands of years of domestication, cats can still do that.



Ever heard that animals can predict the weather or know when a natural disaster is coming? Well, whether it's true or not, they do seem to be aware of things coming before we humans are. Again, it's a result of those evolutionary skills. Cats' hypersensitivity to their environment means they have extraordinary senses of smell

and hearing. With them, cats can pick up even the smallest vibration or electrical impulse in the atmosphere! Imagine if humans had these same abilities! Just getting through a day would be super hard! But cats learned how to use those skills for their survival. They translate into today's world, too. If your cat senses a storm coming, the instincts may kick in and they may want to hide out and could be less loving than they normally are. Does your cat get scared during thunderstorms? The smell or rainwater and the loud sounds of thunder and lighting are can trigger the same behavior.

So, it's natural that the super tuned-in cat will perhaps get grumpy in the winter months and seem less like their normal selves. The echoes of the ancient cat would feel cold, threatened by not having as much food available, and possibly want to conserve energy. What can you do to cheer up your furry friends? Spend some extra time playing with them and make sure they get plenty of exercise. Sounds a lot like what people need to do in winter, too! Cats need to be stimulated with toys that challenge them (like the treat balls that they can chase for a treat reward or chasing a ball in a maze). We can't change millions of years of evolutionary instinct but we can help our cats thrive even when it's cold outside!

[CLICK HERE](#) to read thepawzlab.com article!

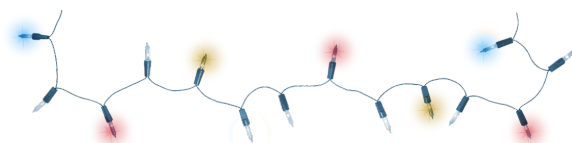
Thank You!

The cats had a very paw-ly jolly Christmas this year thanks to you!

The pantry is looking great and they have lots of the food they love!

Added bonus for the cats - more boxes to play in!

If you'd like to help keep this pantry full, just [CLICK HERE](#).



We also thank everyone who helped decorate our virtual tree this year. It looks spectacular!

Thank you for sharing your good wishes and memories, too.



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

*Each BCR cat sponsor gets a set of questions to answer and asked to send along
a photo of themselves or with their cat(s).*

Are you interested in being in the Sponsor Spotlight? [Email us and let us know!](#)

How did you first learn about BCR?

To be honest, I've known about BCR for so long that I cannot remember how I first learned about this great group of folks. I do remember that as soon as I learned about BCR and read about the organization, I knew it was special. I, like many people and sponsors, have a soft spot for cats, especially cats that have a disability. There are many great organizations to support, but animal groups tend to receive less support. With that said, it was a no-brainer for me to not only support but to sponsor one of the beautiful cats, too. As any pet parent knows, the costs will add up when looking after even just one pet, let alone the number of cats BCR takes care of on a daily basis. To focus on looking after blind cats and cats that are FIV+, the folks at BCR are absolute angels and have hearts of gold.

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

Unfortunately, I have not had the chance to visit BCR yet. Once the pandemic is over, I absolutely plan on having a road trip to make a visit.

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

I cannot wait to meet Chester, who I've sponsored for years. I know poor Chester is not well, but I know he is in good hands and he is comfortable. I am also looking forward to meeting many of the other cat residents at the sanctuary. From watching the Open House videos, you really do get a feel for what an amazing place this is and the great people who do such good work on a daily basis. Can't wait!

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

Currently, I sponsor Chester. At the time of deciding on a cat to sponsor, Chester had very few sponsors. It was very difficult to choose and I really wish I had capital to sponsor them all!

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

BCR is a fantastic organization with folks who have hearts of gold.

Considering that BCR is a non-profit organization, it is even more critical that they receive a solid foundation of continuous support from as many people as possible. Disabled and 'imperfect' animals do not tend to get adopted at shelters. We cannot save them all, but this is a fantastic avenue to really help blind cats. For those that are thinking about supporting or donating to BCR, I encourage folks to watch a video of the Open House and visit their website and Facebook page. You'll fall in love with many of the cats and you won't regret support this group of wonderful people and all they do for cats every day! Thank you to everyone who works so hard on BCR to allow the cats to have wonderful lives. You guys are the best!



Bunny will SMILE if you share your birthday with the BCR cats!

It's super easy and a great way to start off the new year.

Just create a [Facebook birthday donation fundraiser!](#)

Each one helps the cats so much - here's how:

If your birthday raises even \$100, that pays for:

A vet office visit ** A big bag of food ** A box of Fresh Step litter

YOUR fundraisers help make it possible for the cats to have the healthy and happy lives they deserve.

Set up is fun - [use this link to go to Facebook](#) and follow the instructions. 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!

The cats hope 2021 will be the year YOU donate your birthday to help them!

The SCOOP

Did you know?



**THIS MONTH,
BE SURE TO
CELEBRATE ...**



January 2: Happy Mew Year for Cats Day -

We get why cats need their own special New Year's Day. There is some history to it, though! [CLICK HERE](#) to read more about this special day!

January 2: National Pet Travel Safety Day -

Every day is a good day to be sure your cat or dog is safe when traveling but why not give it a special day to really get the message out? There are lots of great ways to be sure your cat is safe on the road. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

The CFC is Winding Down!



Are you a federal employee, retiree or military personnel? Pebble hopes you'll show the BCR cats some love through the federal combined campaign (CFC)!

This CFC ends soon on January 15! If you're still completing your picks for this year, please remember BCR! **Our CFC number is 67324.**

NC State employees, your campaign ends March 1! As you work on your picks, please keep the cats in mind! **Our SECC number is 3859.**

[CLICK HERE to find out more!](#)

Turkey Time!

Thanks to Jim and Joan Richter, the BCR cats enjoyed their annual turkey dinner!

Jim cooks the turkey and the cats all get to indulge in some amazing food.

As you can see, they all love it! Thank you Jim and Joan!



**Have some fun with the
Friends of BCR!**



Like fun in the snow? Licorice and Charity want to hear all about it! Join the [**Friends of BCR Facebook group**](#) and find a whole bunch of people who love cats, fun and sharing photos, stories and videos about cats - your own kitties, too! [**Join our Friends of Blind Cat Rescue Facebook page today!**](#)



BCR's Famous Couples and Best Buddies!

Peanut and Valencia

They often compete for wheel time, but Peanut has been Valencia's loving uncle since she got to BCR!

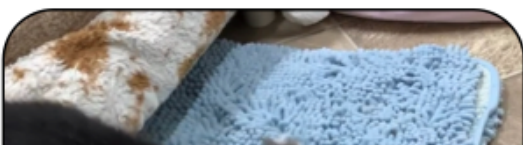


BCR Cats in Action!

*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!*



Handsome [Dobby](#) often looks so serious! Considering his pre-BCR life, it's understandable. But hang around him long enough and you'll see the amazingly playful side of this sweet boy! [CLICK HERE](#) to see Dobby having some fun!



The BCR staff says [Merlin](#) is magical for many reasons.



This amazing little girl is blind, deaf, has cerebellar hypoplasia and still manages to rule the roost in her room!
[CLICK HERE](#) to see Merlin playing around!

Helping the cats is EZ!



Thank you!

You can **Donate** just by **Shopping!**
It doesn't cost anything extra.



Want!

Support Blind Cat Rescue when you shop
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-3410498>

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

When holiday shopping 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>



We LOVE our ebay sellers! The cats thank them for donating a portion of every sale back to them! Holiday shopping? [Give ebay a try!](#)

Are You an ebay Seller who supports BCR?

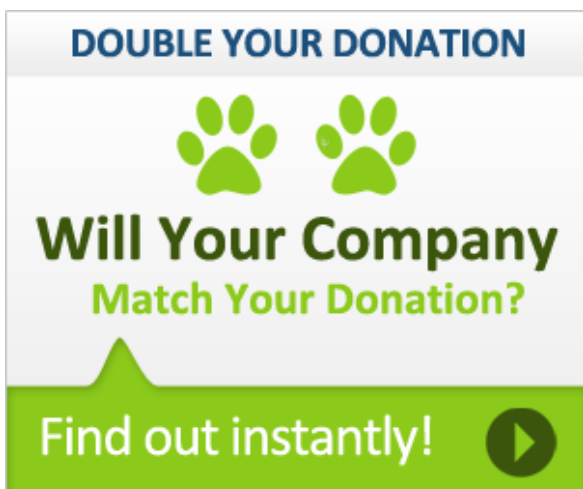


Please let us know so we can thank you and shine some light on your special ebay auction page! [Just email us](#) and we'll be in touch with you!



Meredith hopes you'll help the cats by doing Daily Clicks and Quizzes! It's free!

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! They really do add up!



More and more companies are launching Matching Gift programs! Is your company one of them? Check here to see if you can [double your BCR donation](#)!



Do you use Fresh Step Litter? Need your Paw Points? If not, please donate them to the BCR cats! They go through more than 2,000 pounds of litter every month so the free litter your donated points give us helps a lot! [CLICK HERE](#) for details.



The cats want you to know that you can help them by donating your old car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or even an airplane to BCR! We'll even arrange pickup! [Find out how here.](#)

*We thank those who
donated a vehicle in 2020!*



Hey Alexa fans! Did you know that you can **make charitable donations on 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](#).



Tik Tok

Like seeing videos of the BCR cats?

[Check them out on TikTok!](#)



Are you a regular walker, runner or biker? As you 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, there are no open houses scheduled yet for 2021.

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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