



Spring 2010 Newsletter

SANCTUARY

The arrival of spring makes many of the volunteers aware and appreciative of all the work that has been done on the laneway. Until the frost started coming out of the ground it has been the first time in a lot of years, one could travel the laneway without holding their breath at the thought of getting stuck in the soft mud or the possibility of losing car parts on the "wash board" type laneway. The frost leaving the ground has caused the laneway to heave in a few spots but the hill leading up to the sanctuary/house is in "A1" condition. In our fall newsletter, we talked about the necessity of moving the cats out of the portable due to the approaching cold weather. However, a few of our handy volunteers installed a new cover on the roof of the portable, put up some new wall board and added some insulating panels to the ceiling. A few portable heaters made the portable bearable for some of the cats and their caregiver.

Thoughts are turning to spring and summer and all the duties that come with the nice weather. We will be having another grounds cleanup day on April 25 --- please plan on joining us. We are hoping to make some improvements to the sanctuary during the warm weather, so please

SECOND CHANCE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

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ww.petfinder.org/shelters/ON99.html.

Charitable Registration No. 890180 847 RR0001

Members of the Board of Directors are:

Phyllis Healey, President
Fiona Forrest, Vice-President
Christy Whitehead, Treasurer
Petra Goodhead, Secretary
George Healey, Buildings and Grounds



visit the sanctuary and complete a volunteer information sheet so we can contact you.

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 21st at the sanctuary. There were no new nominations for positions on the board and the existing board members were voted in by acclamation

Do you know that 100% of every donation goes directly to sanctuary activities. SCWS Directors are not paid. There are no paid staff other than those who directly handle and care for the animals. SCWS does not pay fundraisers. SCWS does not make investments or lend money. Administrative expenses consist of things for which we are charged, for example, phone, cable, bank charges, mailing costs.

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Thus, donations to SCWS are used for the expenses of keeping the buildings operating, food, veterinary expenses and, as just noted, ordinary admin costs. Veterinary expense is a very large item (burden) usually running to several thousand dollars per month. When you donate to SCWS, your money goes directly to the welfare and care of the animals. It is spent carefully and responsibly just as you would want it to be.

If you are already a donor, please consider increasing your donation; if not, please consider becoming a donor.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Second Chance continues to get many, many calls regarding cats/kittens that the owners can no longer keep due to moving or allergies. Many calls are pleas for help for kittens/cats that have been found or people have been feeding but when the cold weather came, the people providing food knew the animal also required shelter. We have taken in a number of these animals and, just recently, three mothers-to-be! It seems that people **cannot/will not** realize that the biggest favour they can do for their pet is to spay or neuter them so that they never have a chance to add to the overpopulation of felines.

The following table, based on an unsprayed female cat and all of her offspring, producing two litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter provides an idea of the dangerous result of not spaying or neutering your cat:

1 year -	12 cats
2 years -	67 cats
3 years -	376 cats
4 years -	2,107 cats
5 years -	11,801 cats
6 years -	66,088 cats

7 years - 370,092 cats
8 years - 2,072,514 cats
9 years - 11,606,077 cats

Based on this information, it is **MOST** difficult to understand how some people believe that their cat should be allowed to produce at least **ONE** litter before spaying!

As we have over 200 cats at Second Chance we very often encourage people asking for help for an animal to foster the strays until we have room for them. Second Chance will provide food and litter for all cats fostered – the people fostering need only supply shelter and love.

As mentioned in our previous newsletters, **SPCA is now operating a low-cost spay and neuter clinic in Newmarket. The spay or neuter fee is \$50 for cats and vaccines are \$10 each. Female dogs are \$80 and males are \$60. For more information, please visit the web site www.ontariospca.ca**

REMEMBERING

DIABLO

Diablo, who was on the verge of being feral, had been a resident of the sanctuary for many years when one of our long-time volunteers decided to foster him. The volunteer was happy that Diablo had become very friendly with one of her cats and, in general, he seemed to be friendlier. Then, suddenly, Diablo went off his food and was taken to the vet. The sad news was that Diablo was in kidney failure and nothing more could be done for him. We are grateful to Diablo's caregiver for making his last year of life his best year.

GILMORE

Gilmore was brought to the sanctuary about 4 years ago – his owner had been placed in an

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institution and, the only other person who would care for Gilmore had just died. Life in the sanctuary was a huge adjustment for Gilmore and, although he was declawed, he let you know when he didn't want something or wanted to be left alone – quite a few volunteers have heeded Gilly's warning growl or ended up feeling his teeth. Gilly mellowed a lot over the years and found a special place in the hearts of a few volunteers and especially his main caretaker in the sanctuary. Gilly's health had been failing for many months before he passed away at the age of twelve.

TINY BLACKIE

Tiny Blackie was part of our large black cat population at the sanctuary. That is, until November when we began to notice that Tiny Blackie was becoming more true to his name. He was losing weight quickly although his appetite was ravenous! A visit to the vet gave us heartbreaking news – Tiny Blackie was diagnosed as being diabetic. What do we do? The sanctuary is not equipped to deal with diabetic cats requiring insulin injections two times a day at regular intervals. A plea was sent out for a foster home for Tiny Blackie and luckily a volunteer offered to care for him. Tiny Blackie was started on insulin in late December and he seemed to be making some progress. Then, after a small increase in the insulin injection, Tiny Blackie went into diabetic shock, he was rushed to the vet and recovered – we thought. It was only a day later that Tiny Blackie was taken to the Emergency Clinic where they found the possibility of numerous things going wrong. As Tiny Blackie was too frail to undergo many tests and his eyes, which were so sad, seemed to be asking why were we doing this to him, the vet was asked to end his suffering. Tiny Blackie was only 6 years of age.

TIMBER

Timber was well known by all volunteers at the sanctuary. For years, ever since Joyce started the sanctuary in 1996, Timber and Bear (both german shepherds) were always standing guard and ready to greet (and sometimes not in a welcoming way) every one visiting the sanctuary. After Bear passed away in December 2007, one of the volunteers offered to foster Timber and so she lived her remaining last couple of years with the companionship and inside comforts she had missed out on all her life. Timber, who it is believed was 14, is missed by all volunteers but especially so by the volunteer who welcomed her into his heart and home.



FUNDRAISING THANKS

Many thanks to the people involved with organizing the following events:

1. In December and February, some of the employees of the News Advertiser organized a bake sale and donated the proceeds to Second Chance.
2. On February 13th, volunteers of Second Chance organized a Valentine Fundraiser at St. Andrews Community Centre in Ajax. The evening started with cocktails followed by a buffet dinner, silent auction and dance. A special thank you to **Dickson Printing** for, once again, supplying the admission tickets; **3 Sheets 2 the Wind band** for supplying an evening of enjoyable music; and **a friend** of one of the volunteers who donated valentine gingerbread houses to decorate all the dinner tables. The evening was very successful and enjoyed by all!
3. In early February, one of our members, Duncan Ward, canvassed his fellow

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workers and donated the contributions to Second Chance.



Second Chance, in memory of --

Derek Penny
Jazz, my very much loved cat
Pekoes, my beloved cat
Robert Cable
Rocky, my friend's dog
Tigger
Joyce Smith

BIRTHDAY WISHES to Alexandra Savor who recently celebrated 8 years. Alexandra requested that birthday gifts be monetary which in turn was very generously donated to Second Chance – thank you!

BIRTHDAY WISHES to Nicole Behm who celebrated 10 years on January 12. Nicole requested that birthday gifts be monetary which in turn was very generously donated to Second Chance – thank you!

BIRTHDAY WISHES to Heather Bell who recently celebrated her 80th birthday. Second Chance received a donation in honour of this special occasion -- thank you!

 **THANK YOU**

Second Chance gratefully acknowledges current and past assistance received from the following organizations as well as all those individuals too numerous to list but without whose generous support the Sanctuary could not continue.

DONATIONS IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Second Chance is grateful to the following people who very generously requested, that in lieu of christmas gifts, donations be given to Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary –

Anneliese and Iris Schmidt
Jill Simpson



Eden Conservation Trust



IN-MEMORIUM DONATIONS

Donations have been gratefully received by



The Beatrice Watson-Acheson Foundation

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The Sanctuary would like to express a special thank you to **Precious Pets** whose expertise in grooming is welcomed by our felines. When our cats return from a visit to Precious Pets, it's obvious how much better they feel after having received a thorough combing or the "lion cut"!

DONATIONS

It is now possible to make donations to the Sanctuary securely on line through CanadaHelps.org. - simply access the Second Chance web site and follow the instructions.

It is also possible to make donations to Second Chance through the United Way via your employer. All you need do is establish the amount to be passed on to Second Chance.

A donation to benefit one of our special needs cats can be made to the "**Amber**" fund. As mentioned in our previous newsletter, Amber would have been blind (due to ulcers rupturing in her eyes) if we had not decided to have the surgery on her remaining eye. The "**Amber**" fund will cover care/operations for cats who require special treatments.

As a matter of interest, Amber is currently being fostered and is doing very well. She is able to see and is a very active cat who loves to play. Unfortunately, she does not like other cats and must be kept in a room on her own.

HUDSON BAY COMPANY

Second Chance is a member of HBC Rewards Community program. The public ID number for Second Chance is **ID 8925939**. Points may be collected at the **Bay, Zeller's** and **Home Outfitters**. Anyone wishing to donate their points to Second Chance may do so by setting

up a donation from their own personal account. The transfer of reward points may be accomplished in one of the following ways:

1. Go to the HBC reward desk in any Bay Store and provide the Second Chance ID 8925939
2. Telephone 1-800-844-8131 and provide the Second Chance ID 8925939
3. On the internet, go to www.hbc rewards.com
If a problem is encountered while trying to donate points on line, please contact Phyllis (905-426-2922) for assistance.

These points will help Second Chance to obtain many items needed for the Sanctuary such as paper towels, facial tissue, and pillows for the cages.

We also gratefully accept Canadian Tire Money!

SUPPORT SECOND CHANCE

Visit Second Chance website and view our T-Shirts and Sweatshirts available for sale. Cat angel pins are also available - \$10 each.



CANDY DISPENSING PROGRAM

Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary receives a portion of the proceeds from a Candy Dispensing Program that is operated by Craig Bigelow. Craig will deliver the dispenser to your place of business **AT NO COST TO YOU**. Each dispenser carries the Second Chance logo and says you care about the animals. Please contact Craig (416-492-5074)

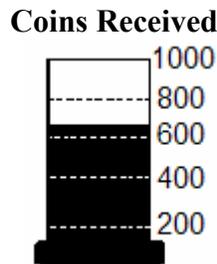
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or email craig.bigelow@yahoo.ca for more information.



BRING US YOUR LOONIES/PENNIES

As mentioned in past newsletters, donation of loose change is gratefully accepted! Our coin cylinder is gradually climbing --- please help us reach the top.



PetSmart

A selection of Second Chance cats were at PetsMart during February. This visit in PetsMart proved to be very successful for Second Chance with thirteen cats being adopted, namely; Gwyneviere, Sir Galahad, Solomon, Shanty, Dartanian, Alex, Elsie, Precious, Henry, Gordon Ramsey, Mindy, Mango, Arlene.

Please drop by to visit the next time Second Chance cats are at PetsMart which will be during May.

ALLS WELL THAT ENDS WELL

We don't usually mention the cats who are adopted from the sanctuary. However, this adoption is quite memorable or painful! Aesop,

black and white cat, arrived at the sanctuary about 5 years ago when he was a little kitten and, as he was a little timid, was never adopted. Then one day recently, we received a call from a man who was interested in Aesop – the unbelievable had happened! Attempts to put Aesop in a pet carrier resulted in both the volunteer and prospective adopter being bitten. When we suggested that perhaps the prospective adopter would prefer to choose another cat, his response was “no thanks, I came for Aesop and hope to leave with him”. Such determination is most unusual but very lucky for Aesop. We finally had to corner Aesop to get him into the carrying case. Aesop's owner tells us that Aesop is becoming a little braver in his new home but still feels most comfortable in hiding.

FOSTERING CATS

In every newsletter, we mention the need for foster homes for some of our special needs cats. Two of our older ladies, Cody – 15 years of age and Lady – 13 years of age, have been placed in foster homes and are doing very well. We understand that Cody is eating almost everything in sight and has gained some weight.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE A CHAMPION (possibly adopt a winner)



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Newman, along with four other cats came into the sanctuary in April 2009. Second Chance had all of these cats neutered/spayed, microchipped and vaccinated. We brought Newman into PetSmart last May and he was adopted immediately. The couple who adopted Newman were not new to Second Chance as they had adopted a cat from Second Chance previously. Newman is a very handsome cat (brown/beige with white on his feet) and, as it turns out, a Snowshoe breed which is a cross between a siamese and an american short hair. The couple who adopted Newman show their cats and, as Newman is a purebred, they decided to show Newman who is now a Grand Companion in the household pet competition which is sanctioned by the Canadian Cat Association. Yeah Newman!!

Newman can be seen in Cat shows all across Ontario.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Second Chance will hold a barbeque/bake sale on June 19 at the Wal-Mart in Pickering (Brock Road and Pickering Parkway) commencing at 11 a.m. **Hope to see you there** -- mark your calendars!

Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary operates a charity bingo **every other Monday morning at 12:15. Hope to see you there!**

**The place is: DELTA BINGO HALL,
975 Dillingham Road, Pickering, Ontario**
The dates are: March 29, April 6, 12 and 26
-- (and randomly thereafter).

Second Chance thanks **Anna** for sharing her winnings at a recent bingo – her generosity is very much appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Second Chance is always in need of people to help care for the animals both at the Sanctuary and during our time at PetsMart.

Volunteer drivers are also needed for transporting the cats for medical attention and the occasional grooming.

We have a large number of feral cats and these cats would benefit substantially from having someone spend time in the room with them. Just go to their room, learn their names, a little bit about them and talk to them -- maybe offer a few treats.

SECOND CHANCE ANIMALS URGENTLY NEED A PERMANENT HOME

A large section of one of our previous newsletters was devoted to making our readers aware of this urgent need for property and a permanent home for Second Chance cats and other animals. This is a need that has existed since Joyce Smith first founded Second Chance in 1996. The sanctuary's mandate is to aid orphaned, sick or injured, and abandoned animals.

If you would be willing to donate land (ideally in the Durham area) or money to **purchase property please contact a member of the board at your earliest convenience at 905-649-8282.**

NEWSLETTERS

As previously requested, and if you haven't already done so, please provide your email address. The newsletters are also available on the Second Chance website. Please advise

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us if you receive your newsletter through the mail and also via email.

CATS WAITING TO BE ADOPTED

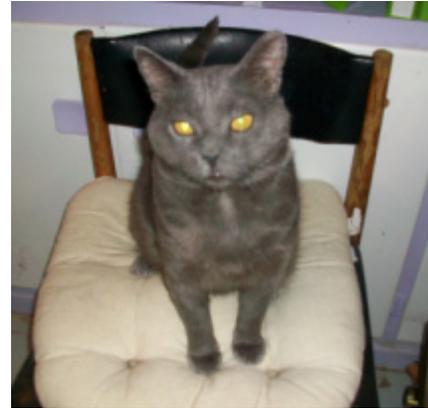
The Stray Cat's Prayer

Dear God, please send me to somebody who'll care. I'm so tired and sick with despair. My body is aching and filled with such pain. And dear God I pray, as I run in the rain, that someone will love me and give me a home. A warm cozy bed, and food of my own.

My last owner left me alone in the yard, I watched as they moved, and God it was hard. So I waited a while, then went on my way, to rummage in garbage and live as a stray. But now, God, I'm so tired, hungry and cold, and I'm so afraid that I'll never grow old. They have chased me with sticks and hit me with straps, while I run through the streets just looking for scraps. I'm really not bad God, please help me if you can, for I have become just a "Victim of Man". I'm worthy dear God, and I'm ridden with fleas, and all that I want is an owner to please. If you find one for me God, I'll try to be good, I won't scratch the carpet; I'll do as I should. I'll love them and play with them and try to obey. I will be so grateful if they'll let me stay.

I don't think I'll make it too long on my own, 'cause I'm getting weak and I'm so all alone. Each night as I sleep in the bushes I cry, I am so afraid, God, that I'm going to die. I've got so much love and devotion to give, that I should be given a new chance to live. So dear God, please hear me, please answer my prayer and send me someone who will **REALLY CARE.**

Streets



Streets was brought into the sanctuary in the spring of 2009. He had a large wound on his neck which we had treated. Streets should go to a home where he is the only cat – he loves attention and would be a constant companion for any TV watchers.

Nibbles



Nibbles has been at the sanctuary for about four years. He, and his friend Cuddles, were brought in by their owner who was experiencing a major upset in her personal life. Her two cats were only supposed to be at the sanctuary until she got settled Nibbles is a friendly cat who loves attention.

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