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CATS BANNER

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www.nanoosecatspan.petfinder.com

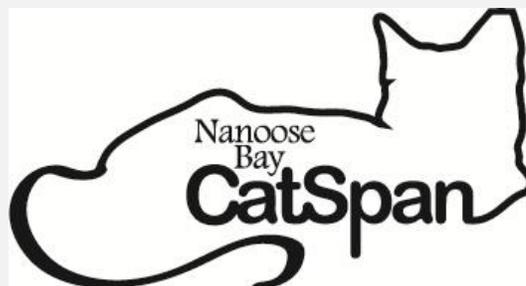
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Read All About It!

Welcome to the 1st edition of Nanoose Bay CatSpan's newsletter.

CatSpan was started almost 20 years ago in Nanoose Bay by a group of concerned locals who had noted upwards of 30 feral cats in their area, many of them in obvious distress. Rather than continue to add to the problem by only feeding them (which would increase the population even faster) they formed Nanoose Bay CatSpan (NBC) and began to raise money to neuter the cats. Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) is more than just that as the cats are also fed and the colony monitored for newcomers. Newcomers are neutered (if feral) and released or if they are kittens and able to be socialized (if they are caught young enough) they are adopted into good homes.

Caring for feral cats for over 20 years



Cont'd....

The last of the Schooner Cove colony cats (big black male named Heba) died last year at the age of 18. Today, CatSpan TNR's feral & abandoned cats anywhere in the Oceanside area as long as there is enough money and volunteers to support the program. We look forward to your feedback about our newsletter and encourage ideas and article submissions for future issues. Contact Jennifer at jsaina@telus.net if you would like to contribute.

Ciao (or should we say "Miao") for now.

How You Can Help



Visit our website at www.nanoosecatspan.petfinder.com to donate online. Simply click on the "Donate Now" button at the bottom of our homepage. Within minutes you will receive your official tax receipt from CanadaHelps. *This is a quick and easy way to help.* Sympathy E-cards can be sent automatically when making an "In Memoriam" online donation.

Or mail donations to:
PO Box 64, Nanoose Bay, BC V9P 9J9.

Check out our **WISH LIST** section of this newsletter to see How You Can Help more. All contributions are appreciated.

In Memoriam

May & June (2010) have been difficult months for 2 of CatSpan members; Donna and Barbara who both lost a beloved cat. Donna's "**Coho**" (Fairwinds Golf Club feral) passed away in May. Barbara's "**Blackie**" (Fairwinds Golf Club feral) passed in early June. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to both Donna and Barbara. May Coho's and Blackie's spirits live on in peace. Donations were made to CatSpan in honour of both cats thru CanadaHelps.org.

What's Happening?

Since January 1st NBC has spayed/neutered 45 cats. The season started early this year with most of the TNR completed by April.

The Schooner Cove colony is in the midst of being relocated off Fairwinds property and the Rath Trevor Park colony cats have been relocated to a safe outdoor home in Nanoose Bay.

This month Gregg Bolderson has TNR'd a mother cat and 5 kittens that were fostered by Gregg and Sue Godfreyson. They have since been released back to their mother and outdoor home. Only 1 kitten was adopted out.

April was a busy month for NBC volunteers organizing not one but 2 fundraisers. \$12,000 was raised between the Silent Auction at the Rocking Horse Pub and the Wembley Mall Book Sale. Both were a great success and well attended & supported by Oceanside locals. No time to rest though as we are already collecting books for the 2011 Book Sale. See our **WISH LIST** section for the types of books and items we need and the locations to drop them off.

Heather and Belinda attended a local Grants-In-Aid proposal writing course to learn more about how to expand our grant requests to more foundations for more funds.



*2 of the 5 kittens
Gregg Bolderson
TNR'd in
Nanoose Bay*

Many Thanks To.....

A special thanks to the following for their support and contribution to NBC:

to **Bosley's** pet food store (Canadian Tire mall in Nanaimo), **Pet Mania** (Errington), **Petsville** (Parksville), **Shar-Kare** (in Parksville) and **Qualicum Pet Foods** for their generous donations of cat food.

You can buy cat food at any of these fine stores and donate it to CatSpan. They will keep the food until one of our volunteers picks it up. If you are buying your own pet food at one of these stores, please let them know you are a CatSpan supporter and thank them for their contribution.

To **Priscilla Walker** (of *Prim Rose Graphics* in Nanoose Bay) for creating our lovely LOGO.

To **Gerri Hemphill** for offering her shed for CatSpan storage.

Rural Properties Needed

While feral cats are best left in the areas where they have formed colonies, sometimes they have to be moved to a safer location. NBC needs to find rural properties, preferably well away from the main roads where a colony of cats can be relocated. NBC sets everything up and when the cats settle in they will return the favour with some light "mousekeeping".



Farms, barns & stables make great homes for feral cat colonies.

CatSpan Store

The new CatSpan T-Shirts and Hoodies are a great success. They are very smart looking and are available in 3 different styles and men's/women's sizes. Contact Gini Eder at (250) 468-9875 or regine.eder@shaw.ca if you would like to order some.

CatSpan member Shirley Lee is creating beautiful assorted hand towels and gift baskets for all occasions as a fundraiser for NBC. If you would like to see her lovely creations, please contact Shirley at kokomick@shaw.ca.

NBC Thank You cards & prints are available from Heather Henderson who created them from an original sketch she had gifted to her. The print is of cats & kittens at night in the forest. It is delightful and so are the cards and prints Heather generously created from it. Contact her at (250) 468-5527 or Heather.Henderson@viha.ca for more info and prices.



Wish List

- ✓ Secure dry storage areas in Parksville and/or Nanoose Bay for things like pet food & cages
- ✓ Books and food donation "Drop Off" spots with public access (stores, Vet clinics etc...)
- ✓ Dry cat food (see the "How You Can Help" section for more info)
- ✓ Donations of money (one-time or monthly) – you can now donate online (see "How You Can Help" section)
- ✓ **Recent, good quality books, CDs, DVDs & videos** for Book Sale. Please NO text books, encyclopedias, Readers Digests condensed, magazines, out of date or books in poor condition. Drop off at **Petsville** (across from Tim Horton's – Parksville), **Red Gap Video** (Nanoose) or **Qualicum Animal Hospital**.

Calling All Volunteers



Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Mary Linn at (250) 468-7904 or maryandlyle@shaw.ca if you are interested in volunteering with NBC. We always need more hands to help feed our feral cat colonies, Trap Neuter & Return, provide warm & dry places for cats to recuperate after surgery and to transport cats to & from Vet clinics. We also need volunteers with carpentry and/or fundraising skills and volunteers who are willing to foster feral kittens.

Around The World

by Belinda Davies

I came across the 9th Life Hawaii cat rescue group when I was in Maui this spring. I spotted 2 ear-tipped feral cats outside my hotel and knew someone had TNR'd these cats. They were fairly relaxed and certainly not hungry and hiding in the low bushes from the heat of the sun. With the help of Google, I found 9th Life Hawaii and called them. They confirmed they had TNR'd several feral cats in this area and they were well looked after. What wonderful news....I could now relax and enjoy my holiday.

I read on their website they had TNR'd 1250 cats on Maui in 2009. What an impressive accomplishment. They have a large group of volunteers and donors who work together for these lucky Maui feral cats. Check out their website at: www.9thlifehawaii.org . You'll be impressed and amazed.



Lost & Found!

A 2-3 yr. old fixed male cat was found near Notch Hill on June 29th. He was extremely hungry but in good condition. He appears to have been shaven (lion cut). He has a faded tattoo ID which we believe may be **YZ248** - but there is no record of him or that #. He is long-haired/brown and 9 lbs. (small size). We continue to search for his owners. If you have info please contact Belinda at (250) 468-0255.

Pictures From The Past



A few of the first Schooner Cove cats Barbara McGowan and Liv & Hugh Kennedy TNR'd in the mid 1990's. Are these the original SPICE GIRLS?

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.nanoosecatspan.petfinder.com



Does anyone recognize this cat?

Meet **Gorf** - Jennifer Coleman's feline friend trying out his new cat carrier purchased at NBC's 2010 Silent Auction. What is that look on his face?