



CATS CRADLE RESCUE REPORT



CCR Logo drawn by Meagan Day

www.CatsCradleRescue.org

Cats Cradle Rescue

*Please stop by our new location
at 1954 East Main Street in
Ventura, corner of Santa Cruz
and Main Streets! Discover neat
stuff and help our cats!*

**Now open Tuesday
through Sunday
Tues. – Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat.- Sun. 11 a.m.- 5 p.m.**



*We have lots of pAw-some items to PURRchase! Get a
FREE Cats Cradle logo tote bag with your \$25 minimum
purchase!*

*We have a wide variety of nearly new collectables,
books, vintage gift items, house wares, and seasonal
décor to enhance your home. As always, you will find a
generous assortment of classic and contemporary
clothing, accessories, (and purr-ses) too! Nice!*

*Advantage II Flea treatment available for sale for \$12 to
\$16.75 (\$12-14 for cat -\$15-16.75 for dog) & if time
permits \$5 "pawdicures" (manicures for kitty claws -
sorry, we don't do dogs!). We can also show you how
to trim kitty claws yourself!*

2015 Kittens are HERE & need help and homes!

This time of year our phone starts ringing non-stop. People find litters of small kittens, sometimes with an unwanted momcat and call to ask for assistance.

We have a small group of dedicated volunteers who foster the tiniest orphans who require care 24/7. We have a few other volunteers who can foster litters of kittens that are weaned and able to eat and use the litter box on their own.

We also have volunteers who are able to take a momcat and her babies and foster the little family until the kittens are weaned or ready for adoption. These volunteers typically have their own cat(s) and still they find room for a momma cat and her babies.

Our truly special families are the ones who can take in one or more adult cats and foster them until they find forever homes. Sometimes these angelic fosters have cats for many years before the right family comes along and wants to adopt.

Cats Cradle Rescue also has a few special volunteers who, while they are unable to foster at their homes, volunteer to do transport, take photos of cats for our website, work in our Thrift Store, and take care of cats housed 24/7 at the Newbury Park PetSmart until they find homes.

We can always use a few more good volunteers so if you have a few hours available and want to help, please give us a call!

If you have a few hours available to volunteer to help our foster cats, or at the Thrift Store, please call **Debi at 805-628-9586**.

With a Lot of Help from Our Friends....

With the ongoing support of our non-profit partners **SPAN (Spay/Neuter Animal Network)**, **Valley Vet Non-Profit Spay/Neuter Clinic**, **Mercy Crusade Spay/Neuter Clinic**, **Pink Paws Rescue & Adoptions**, and **The Herman Bennett Foundation**, we continue our mission to reduce the numbers of unwanted cats and kittens in Ventura County and find safe and loving homes for our rescued cats and kittens.

- 🐾 Since January 2015, **over 150** Cats Cradle Rescue **foster cats and kittens** were adopted into loving homes!
- 🐾 Around **100** kittens and cats are **currently** being fostered in CCR volunteers' homes.



Better Food for Healthier Cats & Kittens!

CCR is switching our kitty kibble to **Young Again Cat Food.**

Cats Cradle is currently in the process of switching over to **Young Again** low and no-carb kibble for our foster cats and kittens. This high quality kibble was researched and initially used by one of our volunteer fosters about a year ago. She has had great results with it. Her diabetic cats who required daily insulin injections are now healthy and thriving without supplemental insulin. A bonus is that her overweight cats gradually lost substantial fat and are also MUCH healthier after a year on this new diet.

The company that makes this low carb and no carb kibble has been in business since 1987. **Young Again** kibble is **Made in the USA** in Stacy, Minnesota. This company even has its own inhouse toxicology lab! Young Again isn't available in stores, at least not yet, just online, but shipping is usually free. The food at first seems a bit pricey compared to pet store and grocery store food, but since it is concentrated healthy goodness, your cat will eat less, poop less, and be satisfied faster than with the high carb "pet candy" foods that are currently marketed to pet owners.

Consider this, if a cat lives a healthier life, he/she is less likely to wind up in the vet's office with preventable (and expensive!) diseases like diabetes or thyroid disorders or other conditions linked to feline obesity.

Cats Cradle is now providing information and a sample packet of Young Again to every adopter. We think you will like it if you try it. If you do try it and decide to buy it online, please mention Cats Cradle Rescue or use our special code **(188322)** and Cats Cradle will get a small portion of the purchase price donated to us. That way, you help cats **3** ways, once by adopting, and again by feeding a quality pet food, and finally by providing food to help other cats with each purchase you make of Young Again cat (or dog) food.

Information is available by calling 1-800-311-6646, online at <https://www.youngagainpetfood.com>, or we can provide you with a flyer about Young Again at the Cats Cradle Adoption Center at 1954 E. Main St. in Ventura – just ask!

Please read the information available at the Young Again website before you make changes to your cat's diet and always consult with your veterinarian BEFORE switching foods if your cat has a chronic condition that requires medication or special prescription food.

Pros & Cons, Our Scoop on Litter!

CCR Volunteers Laura Beth and Georgetta reporting

Pro Plan: Uses cedar or something that smells great! Really light too, no dust. Loved it at first! But when it gets wet with urine, it does not dry enough and sticks to the litter scooper so the scooper gets clogged up and it is too hard to scoop.

Arm & Hammer: Probably the all-around best. But so light that when you scoop, the solid parts (clumped urine and the other) shake out when you are sifting out the still-clean part. So you have to go scoop it again. And it shakes out again. So you have to go scoop again. Maybe I am just a clod. I sometimes mix this with hard, as a sort of compromise that is not bad. *Georgetta's input on the A & H Reg. Clump and Seal: I liked this one, very little dust and clumped well.*

Tidy Cat: Get a dust mask!!!!
OMG. I could not breathe.

Fresh Step Extreme: P-U!!!
What a terrible scent they added! Yeech! I emailed them and asked if they have unscented. They said no. If they come out with unscented, it will definitely be worth a try -- the litter was otherwise good.



I know I tried a couple of others but cannot recall which ones or why I did not like them. I really want to find one I like! Right now I am either using all heavy litter or a mixture of heavy and Scoop Away. I noticed that some say "50% lighter" and one says "30% lighter." I thought the 30% lighter might be the magic answer but then realized that it makes no sense to pay so much more for 30% lighter when it would be cheaper overall to mix 50% lighter with the usual cheap heavy.

Scoop Away (Costco) This litter clumps fairly well, but is somewhat dusty and the manufacturer has changed the scent of the product from a somewhat perfumey/soapy clean smell, to sort of a stale laundry basket smell – yuck. It clumps well, but isn't a favorite anymore!

Blue Buffalo Naturally Fresh Walnut-Based Alpine Meadow Scent Multi-Cat Quick-Clumping Cat Litter This litter sounded very good. It claims to be quick clumping, low dust and several other CCR volunteers like it... so I tried it. It seemed pretty dusty to me and didn't clump very hard. It is very dark in color and seems to control odor well, but it isn't my first choice.

Please let us know what litter YOU use and what you like or dislike about it!

12th Annual Love Your Pet Dinner and Fundraiser

Cats Cradle Rescue Volunteers were recognized for our tireless efforts in TNR, volunteer support for spay/neuter and fostering and adoption programs in Ventura County during the **Love Your Pet Dinner and Fundraiser** on June 7th at the Sunset Hills Country Club.

Valley Vet Non-Profit Spay Neuter and Dr. Novy, DVM were instrumental in getting large volume spay/neuter programs going for feral cat colonies as well as pets needing low cost spay/neuter procedures.

VALLEY VET NON-PROFIT GOALS

- 🐾 Have no overproduction of pets in Ventura County and assist other communities to reach this goal.
- 🐾 Assist in feral cat trappings for the purpose of spaying and neutering.
- 🐾 Educate and publicize the necessity of controlling the overpopulation of animals.
- 🐾 Assist homeless injured animals.
- 🐾 Inform and assist other communities to start spay/neuter programs.
- 🐾 Fund raise to ensure the continuation of VVCCNC.
- 🐾 Provide financial assistance for spaying and neutering of pets for those in need

This organization deserves your financial and volunteer support. Ventura County would not be even close to being a no-kill county without the many years of work by the dedicated staff and volunteers of Valley Vet Non-Profit Spay/Neuter Clinic in Simi Valley. We are almost there!

You can help by getting your pets fixed, helping by adopting not shopping for a new pet, and if you have the time, please consider some volunteer hours for a local non-profit or your county shelter. Foster homes are urgently needed, but financial support and community service hours are welcome too.

Quote from <http://valleyvetnonprofit.com/>

- 🐾 **Adopt, don't shop.**
- 🐾 **If you can't adopt, foster.**
- 🐾 **If you can't foster, donate.**
- 🐾 **If you can't donate, volunteer.**
- 🐾 **If you can't volunteer, educate.**

Valley Vet Non-Profit – Thanks for Being there for the cat rescuers AND our feline families!

Always Needed!

Funding for Feeding Hungry Fixed Feral Cats

Cats Cradle Rescue currently supplies basic subsistence food for over 1000 TNR'd cats (trapped/neutered/returned) at various feral cat colonies in Ventura County. These cats are fed as often as our budget permits – sometimes as little as once a week – by our dedicated volunteers.

These are stable, non-reproducing feral colonies that should slowly shrink in population numbers over time since any fertile newcomers are identified, and trapped, examined and neutered, evaluated for possible adoption, and if not adoptable, returned to colony to live out their lives.



Help Wanted!

Bilingual volunteer needed to help with TNR projects in Ventura County. Must be able to speak and write Spanish fluently. For more info, call **Debi at 805-628-9586**.



Volunteers needed to help with trapping cats during our TNR projects, staff adoptions and help out at our 1954 E. Main Street Thrift Store. Even if you can spare only a few hours per week, please call 805-628-9586. Youth volunteers must be at least 14 years old or be accompanied by parent.



Foster homes for cats and kittens are always needed. If you have room to foster even one easy care adult cat or a few lively loving kittens, you can help us save lives! Please call 805-485-8811 and leave your name and contact info. We will call you back and give you more details about how fostering works! We supply food, vet care, and litter – YOU supply the LOVE!



Sanctuary homes for feral and unadoptable cats and older kittens. This could be a stable, a ranch, or even a backyard of someone who likes cats, but doesn't need or want a lap cat. The requirements are simple - available food and water and nighttime protection from owls, hawks, and coyotes.

Congratulations Alli!



CCR Volunteer Allison Hyatt recently graduated from Adolfo Camarillo High School in Camarillo. Allison has been volunteering with Cats Cradle Rescue since 2009.

She has become an expert at trimming kitty claws, putting together adoption packets, helping set up and take down equipment at our adoptions and is willing and able to tackle any challenge we throw at her. She has put in

hundreds (maybe thousands) of hours of volunteer work for Cats Cradle and has helped get hundreds of cats and kittens new homes.

Alli is currently working at 2 jobs, but still finds time to volunteer with Cats Cradle at our Camarillo Adoptions at PETCO and at the CCR Thrift Store and Adoption Center in Ventura. She plans to attend Ventura College this Fall, focusing on animal science with the immediate goal of becoming a certified veterinary technician. Her dream is to someday become a veterinarian.



Who are our volunteers?

we are not all crazy cat ladies! Well, maybe a few - LOL... Our volunteers come from all walks of life. Some still work fulltime at jobs in our local community, others are retired from private or government employment. Several of our volunteers started out as youth volunteers and have put in many hundreds of volunteer hours. We often get calls from young people looking for community service hours and that can be a win/win for both CCR and the students!

Some of our volunteers started out as fosters for cats or kittens then expanded their commitment as our organization grew. Others started out in TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) projects and providing staffing for our Thrift Store.

Many people donate items to be sold at the Thrift Store that funds most of our Kitten Rescue, TNR, and Feral Feeding Site projects. Other people don't have time to volunteer due to work or family commitments, but are able to help us with cash donations.

The one thing they have in common is that they love cats and want to help them. We can always use a few more good volunteers so give us a call if you have some free time and love cats.

Stray Cats in your Neighborhood?

If you have stray or feral cats running loose on your street, in your neighborhood, or at your workplace, please contact **SPAN** or **Valley Vet Non-Profit** (see below) for information and assistance in trapping and fixing them.

For more information on TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) please see page 4 of the **Holiday 2012** issue of this newsletter online at www.CatsCradleRescue.org

For Spay/Neuter Assistance:

SPAN at 805-641-1170

<http://www.spanonline.org/>

Valley Vet Non-Profit Clinic

<http://valleyvetnonprofit.com/>

1659 E Los Angeles Ave.

Simi Valley, CA 93065 (805) 584-3823

To learn more about Feral Cats and TNR please visit http://www.neighborhoodcats.org/HOW_TO_WHAT_IS_TNR

Do you need help to trap and neuter feral cats in your backyard? Cats Cradle Rescue has loanable traps and instructions for safe and effective Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) available at our Main St. Adoption Center.

Please call 805-485-8811 or 805-628-9586 for more information.



Cat's motto: "No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look as if the dog did it."

Cats Cradle Rescue Adoption Center & Thrift Store

Please come and visit our brand new facility at 1954 East Main Street (corner of Santa Cruz and Main St. about one block west of Ventura High School). For donation or drop-off information for thrift store items, please call (805) 628-9586 or leave a message at (805) 485-8811.

Thrift Store hours: Tue. – Fri. 11-6, Sat. & Sun. 11-5 (Store Closed most holidays)
Adoption Center Sat. & Sun. 11-5 (No adoptions on holiday weekends at all locations)

Other Adoption venues:

- * **Camarillo PETCO**, 77 W. Ventura Blvd, Camarillo, (805) 384-5435
Most Saturdays & Selected Sundays. 11-4 pm
- * **Newbury Park PetSmart**, 2685 W Hillcrest Dr, Thousand Oaks, (805) 499-3767
Adoption Hours: Select Saturdays 11am-3pm and by appointment



Can You Help?

Any donation, large or small, helps the volunteers of our non-profit group provide food, veterinary care, spay and neuter programs, vaccinations, and emergency care for **Cats Cradle** cats and kittens. All donations are tax deductible, and will be acknowledged.

At the <http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com> you can donate a bowl of food to an animal rescue with a click – it's free and easy to do. Please click on "Vote - Shelter Challenge" and vote for Cats Cradle Rescue, Oxnard, CA.

Our Wish List:



Cat & Kitten Food – always needed!

Purina brand cat food weight circles cut from the bags

Cat care items (scratchers, carriers, beds, towels, blankets, etc.)

Recycle your old cell phones, and digital cameras here

Financial \$upport (every dollar and cent helps!)

Safe sites for feral cats to call home and people to feed and monitor colonies

Foster homes for cats/kittens until "forever" homes are found

Volunteers to help with:

Adoptions & Thrift Store (staffing, sorting, paperwork, etc.)

Transportation (to and from vet clinics) & **Temporary care** for rescued cats and kittens

Please call to arrange a drop-off if you have gently used items to donate to our Thrift Store or cat-related items. Please mail your financial support to

Cats Cradle Rescue, P.O. Box 5774, Oxnard, CA 93031

Website: <http://www.catscradlerescue.org/>

(805) 485-8811 (message) or (805) 628-9586 (Thrift Store & Adoption Center)

President:
Karen Ryan

Vice President:
Monica Harrer

Co-Treasurers:
Debra Polk and
BonnieThaanum

Secretary:
Lisa Kuklenski

Thrift Store Manager:
Debra Polk

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Buying Online? Please start shopping at AmazonSmile.com for your Amazon.com purchases. You can choose Cats Cradle Rescue to receive a portion of the selling price of the items you purchase. Best of all – it's FREE to use!

<http://smile.amazon.com/about>



Cats Cradle Rescue
P.O. Box 5774
Oxnard, CA 93031

Yes, I would like to make a donation to Cats Cradle Rescue in the amount of:

_____ \$10	_____ (____) _____
_____ \$25	Name _____ Telephone _____
_____ \$50	_____
_____ \$100	Address _____
_____ Other \$ _____	_____
	City, State, Zip Code _____

Please direct my donation to ☐ The Feral Food Fund ☐ The Louie Fund

I prefer to receive my newsletter:

☐ US Mail ☐ view online ☐ via email _____
Email address – please print clearly

Then clip and mail your tax-deductible donation to:

Cats Cradle Rescue, P.O. Box 5774, Oxnard, CA 93031

Please ☐ mail ☐ email my thank you letter. ☐ Save \$\$ - my check will be my donation receipt. Thank You

We are a non-profit 501c3 organization. EIN: 77-0552733



for Saving a Life!