



# KAT'S KRITTERS RESCUE

January 2019 Newsletter

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

Happy New Year! As we enter 2019, our small, rural rescue has officially been in existence for 5 years! We are so proud that our tiny team has been able to help hundreds of animals since Kat's Kritters Rescue was founded. This past year was another tough one, and 2019 will be a year of learning and focusing our mission in order to find a way to ensure the rescue can be sustainable into the future. We have many goals we would like to accomplish this year and, with your support, we look forward to helping more animals in need! Please consider joining our efforts—ADOPT, DONATE, SPONSOR, VOLUNTEER! Wishing all of you a happy, healthy, prosperous year ahead!

*Kathy—Founder/Director of Kat's Kritters Rescue*

## COMPASSION FOR ALL ANIMALS

Did you know that Kat's Kritters Rescue firmly believes that ALL animals, not just companion animals, deserve our compassion? We encourage our supporters to make small changes this year to reduce/eliminate their use of animal products. Whether you make change for the sake of the animals, the environment, or your health, we are here to support you! Feel free to reach out with any questions to learn more. In 2018, we introduced the following policy: *Kat's Kritters Rescue believes that all animals, not just companion animals, deserve our respect and love. All events will serve food that is vegetarian and/or vegan and we will not exploit animals in any way to raise funds. Our hope is to extend our compassionate views towards animals to our followers and to foster respectful public dialogue. We recognize the value of all animals and desire to do our part to reduce animal suffering.*



### Inside this Edition:

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Donate, Foster, Adopt!
- Why I Volunteer
- Message from Foster family
- Upcoming Auction

## 2019 ONLINE AUCTION

The rescue relies on the generosity of the public to keep us operational. We do not receive any government funding and all of our veterinary and other animal care expenses must be raised through fundraising efforts. Our annual online auction is our largest fundraiser of the year. The 2019 auction will be held from March 12—16. This is fast approaching and we are in need of new or very gently used items. This auction will not be possible without your help!

Donations can be dropped off at one of the following locations, or email Crystal at [cjanmac@yahoo.com](mailto:cjanmac@yahoo.com) if other arrangements need to be made. February 1, 2019 is the deadline for auction donations.

- Carman, MB – 149 Main St. S. (If no one home leave in the garage)
- Homewood, MB – 18 Railway St.
- Winkler, MB – 225 1st St. (Winkler Veterinary Clinic)
- Winnipeg, MB – 1688 St. Annes Rd. (Discovery Automotive Centre)



**To participate in the auction:** Go to the Kat's Kritters Rescue Auction page on Facebook ([facebook.com/katskrittersauction](https://facebook.com/katskrittersauction)) and like the page so you see the updates! Watch for the album with the 2019 auction items. Carefully read the Rules page. Between March 12 & 16 bid on items. Pay for your items by March 20 and pick up at the designated pick up locations on the dates specified in the rules. Have fun bidding!!

## VOLUNTEER!

**We would love to have some reliable, dedicated people join our small, passionate team! We are always in need of volunteers in a variety of areas (see some ideas on the next page). Email [katskrittersmb@gmail.com](mailto:katskrittersmb@gmail.com) to request a volunteer application!**

### *Why I Volunteer by Jane Rance*

I can't remember the first time I volunteered for something, but being a volunteer has been a part of my life for a very long time. A few years ago, when I retired, I thought about what I would like to become involved with. Because I love animals, I even briefly considered volunteering at the Humane Society, but wasn't sure I wanted to commit to the drive into Winnipeg. Then I heard that Kat's Kritters was relocating to Sperling, and I thought that might be fate – so I inquired and was accepted to be a weekly volunteer doing kitty chores. I have done kitty chores for years at my own house, on a much smaller scale – one litter box seems like nothing after you cleanup 15 or 16. But much to my surprise the job goes by pretty quickly and the company is great. I am greeted by a group of furry friends who are attention seekers for a few minutes, and then mostly leave me alone to get on with the job. So my time in each of the three cat rooms goes like this: 5-10 minutes of greeting and head rubbing, filling up food and water dishes, cleaning litter boxes and refreshing litter, cleaning walls behind litter boxes, spot cleaning other areas where cats sit, i.e. the window ledges, sweeping up and sometimes mopping the floors. A funny thing happened after volunteering for a while - I discovered that I had bonded with my furry pals, and I actually miss them when I am away!



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## AT THE RESCUE

- \* Cat Chores—cleaning cat rooms/kennels, feeding/watering
- \* Sanitizing litterboxes and kennels
- \* Cleaning—general and deep cleaning
- \* Laundry—folding, putting away
- \* Yard work/maintenance—landscaping, general yard work
- \* Dog Chores—picking up poop, cleaning dishes, toys, kennels



One of our youngest volunteers helping to build ramps for the dogs

## DONATIONS

- \* Picking up donations from our drop off locations or from individuals and delivering to the rescue
- \* Sorting, labeling, organizing donations

## EVENTS

- \* Transporting animals and supplies to and from events
- \* Attending events on behalf of KKR and representing our organization, including set up and tear down of displays
- \* Handling animals at events

## FUNDRAISING

- \* Help coordinate and plan fundraisers for the rescue
- \* Assist at any fundraising events as required



Volunteer Debbie at an event in Winnipeg

## CONSTRUCTION/REPAIR

- \* Help with repairs, maintenance, improvements, construction at the rescue



We rely 100% on donations to remain operational. The best way for us to meet our financial needs is to have donation income we can rely on each and every month. Since introducing Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) agreements late last year, where supporters can sign up to donate directly from their bank account to ours, in an amount and on a schedule of their choosing, we have had 7 wonderful people sign up as monthly donors! We would love to build our monthly donations up to a level where we could breathe easy knowing that our expenses were covered each month. Please email [katskritismbfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:katskritismbfundraising@gmail.com) to request a form to become a monthly donor! Visit [www.katskritismb.com/donate](http://www.katskritismb.com/donate) for more ways to help us help animals in need.

# FOSTER

For a variety of reasons, Kat's Kritters Rescue operates primarily as a shelter, with the majority of animals at the main location (our Director's home/property.) We do, however, sometimes require either short term relief fosters, long term/permanent fosters, or medical fosters in specific situations. One such example is Sheba, who was recently adopted after more than 3 years in the care of the rescue! Much of that time was spent in the care of Shannon and Ian, one of our committed foster homes! Sheba originally came into care, with her siblings, as an orphaned pup. She was bottle fed and when old enough was moved to a foster home. Sheba's siblings got adopted one by one as she was overlooked time and again. During her time in care, Sheba was diagnosed with severe hip dysplasia and had to undergo 2 FHO (femoral head osteotomy) surgeries. Thanks to her foster family, Sheba recovered well and was able to finally find the forever home she deserved! It is not easy for long term fosters to say good-bye, but they know they must so that another animal in need can take it's place. Here are a few words from Sheba's foster family: When you have a love for puppies/dogs what a better way to share that love than to foster those in rescue waiting for their forever home. I am unable to work outside the home due to health issues, so I needed something I could do in home that would be fun and rewarding at the same time. Fostering!

Because I am home all the time we are able to take in young puppies. We house train, kennel train, teach basic commands & get them used to a leash. If they are with us long enough we also socialize the puppies to as much as we are able, including visits to the vet, rides in the vehicle, and introduction to all our family, friends, kids, other animals, noises and scenery. We have a dog of our own and 2 cats so they get used to living with other pets as well, and there is always time for play and sleeping when you are a puppy. We usually don't have puppies in our care for very long because, as everyone knows, puppies are cute and lovable and are adopted fairly quick. People always ask, how can you foster them and let them go? Some are easier then others, but I always tell them that there are so many in rescues and shelters waiting for a home. We have also had some other dogs in our home. The easier ones that we didn't have to house train or kennel train. What a difference they are to have in your home! They know the ropes already and just need us to show them where the door is so they know where to ask to go out. They go to bed when tired, and they want to play, have exercise, be fed and most of all be loved. Fostering is very rewarding!



The goal is always to find forever homes for all adoptable animals in the care of rescue. We do our best to find homes that are best suited to each individual animal's needs. Some wonderful animals have been adopted into fantastic homes and we are so thankful to all of our adopters for choosing to adopt from Kat's Kritters! We

hope to find more fantastic homes for many deserving animals in 2019. Please make adoption an option!