

OCTOBER 2017 ISSUE #38 A VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER



Black Cat Appreciation



If you share your life with one or more of these black beauties, every day is Black Cat Appreciation Day, because you already know just how special they are.

Black cat superstitions

Prejudices and misconceptions about black cats range from the ridiculous to the bizarre. They have played a major role in superstitions, folklore and mythology for centuries. In the Middle Ages, black cats were believed to be witches' familiars, and many even believed that black cats were reincarnated witches or messengers of witches or demons. This association of black cats with witches has become so ingrained in our culture that they've become synonymous with Halloween.

Black cats in different cultures

Interestingly, the folklore surrounding black cats varies from culture to culture. In Britain and Japan, having a black cat cross your path is considered good luck; in the United States and several European countries, having a black cat walk by is considered bad luck. The direction from which the black cat comes also seems to make a difference: In Germany, some believe that black cats crossing a person's path from right to left is a bad omen, but from left to right brings good luck.

Black cats help us find romance

In Japan, young women are encouraged to own a black cat to attract romance. I suppose attracting a guy who loves black cats is a pretty good way to start a relationship!

Taken and modified from: http://consciouscat.net/2017/08/17/black-cat-appreciation-day-2/

<u>In this issue</u>	October Calendar of Events
ZIP & ZAP – OUR TAKE Calendar of Events Birthday Call Training Timeout Volunteer Spotlight Milestones Monthly Fun Facts Coordinator's Corner	 4th – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm 9th – Columbus Day 11th – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm 16th – National Bosses Day 18th – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm 18th – ACS Meeting – 6 pm County Admin Building, 1115 Truxtun Ave, 3rd fl 25th – Wednesday Night Clinic – 5pm 31st - Halloween

OUR TAKE



ZIP

A look at animal welfare from the eyes of ... these two!

ZAP: Happy Meolloween everybody! Oh ... and you Zip ... you too.

ZAP: Zip? What the heck?? Where is Zip? Geez ... figures he would skip out on me and costume day!

ZIP: (whimper)

ZAP: YIKES!!! What was THAT??

ZAP: AWW COME ON ZIP! Where are you?

ZIP: Well right where I always am next to you! I'm the INVISIBLE DOG!!!! TA DA!

ZAP: Nice. How did you get that gig? I mean seriously, I told our human editor Jeff to pick out my costume and this is the nonsense that he got me LOOK AT MY EYES!!!!

ZIP: (hehe) Well Jeff and I had a long talk about my costume, then we saw one for you. Such beautiful eyes you have Sir!

ZAP: OH I see collusion! I get the creepy little girl's outfit last year and this year I wanted to have a decent outfit and you got me this

ZIP: Oh Zap you need to have some fun! It is, as you call it, Meolloween! Not to mention that in some cultures, black cats signify romance and help with finding a mate!

ZAP: Zip, do you have any clue about how old I am? In human years, I am nine. That makes me 54 in cat years I ain't got no time for mates!

ZIP: Oh big deal. 54 is still young you have no problem chasing after me!!

ZAP: Well that's 'cause you irritate me.

ZIP: You're just too sensitive, ZAP! I'm going to find you someone....maybe it will calm you down.

ZAP: I wish I wasn't declawed. Maybe I wish I could see you.....grrrrrr

ZIP: Fine ZIP. Have a fun and safe Meolloween everyone!

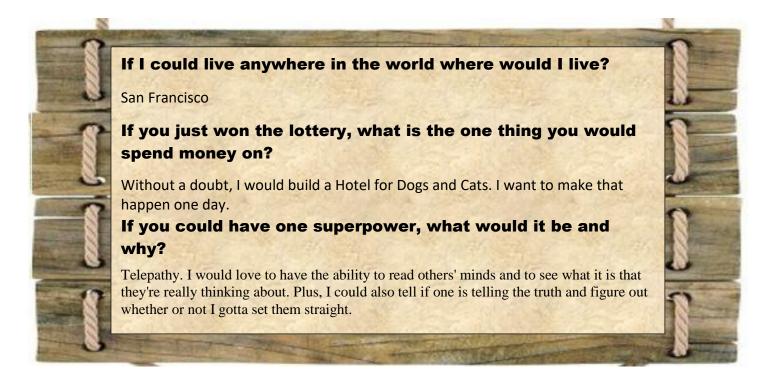


I was born in Bakersfield, California and lived here basically all my life. I live with my parents, and my older brother and 2 dogs, Baylee and Ladee. We have an ordinary life here, and I wouldn't wish for it to be any other way.

I've been volunteering at the Kern County Animal Services for over a year now and the experience has been so amazing and rewarding, I can't even put it into words. Helping animals for a living is what I want to do for the rest of my life, and the fact that I can help out here at the shelter is all that I want.

All my life, I've always dedicated myself to taking care of the animals who are unable to care for themselves. Seeing that they're able to be provided with the care that they need here is absolutely amazing. I strive to have that type of impact in an animal's life someday. My favorite part of volunteering here is seeing the cats. Especially the ones who I get to hold or play around with, have a fun time with them. Give them the attention that they deserve to have.

I hope to continue volunteering here for a very long time. I consider it to be less of a job if you will, but more than a hobby of mine that I actually enjoy doing. The volunteers, the staff and the animals are all outstanding. And I hope that someday I'm able to continue to help Kern County reach their goal of being "No Kill".



NEWS & NOTES

MILESTONE HOURS

(as of Aug 31st)		
Rhonda Montgomery	2252	
Shawn Fernberg	989	
Deborah Waits	824	
Barbara Fowler	761	
Megan Reyes	742	
Crystal Struckhoff	660	
Julie Langers	659	
Jean Absher	602	
Barbara Beckstrom	512	
Ben Neal	511	
Rhonda Smith	460	
Rowena Yong	434	
Danny Spanks	425	
Teddi Rawles	417	
Stan Cameron	406	
Nancy Apodoca	373	
Nancy Ballinger	336	
Tabitha Sanchez	289	
Kristen Danley	285	
Sarah Abate	282	



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS	DAY
Chene Gonzales	1^{st}
Gina Mattson	2 nd
Sarah Abate	$4^{ ext{th}}$
Ariel Lopez	5^{th}
Victoria Olmos	18^{th}
Trinity Farugie	21 st
Rhonda Smith	24 th
Gabby Salazar	29 th





Coordinator's

Corner

Hey Volunteers!

What a wonderful month we have upon us! I love Halloween as I think you all remember from the Orientation.

But one thing to think about is this: Halloween is similar to New Year's Eve and the Fourth of July. It's a very stressful day for dogs and cats as they do not like the noise of the kids running around screaming and yelling and the door bell ringing and then if they do catch a glimpse of those scary costumes, this can become a potential bite situation. So as a good owner of your animal, think proactively like we do for the other holidays and protect your animal from all things scary!

If you ever come across any training videos that you think are worth watching, please email the link to me to share with the group. If you watch one and write me a synopsis of the video approximately 150 – 250 words and submit it to me, I will credit you for one service hour of training. This is an ongoing opportunity that starts on October 1st.

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Volunteers....it is very important that you read the policy and procedures that were given to you when you first joined us and which are resent to you with updates from time to time. We have come across some volunteers that are still not following proper procedures and finding ways to "cheat" the system that has been built and put into place for the benefit of the animals and for which you have been trained. Be vigilant and make sure that you read and **re**read all procedures, especially if you think you may not be doing something right. In addition, do not be afraid to ask for clarification from me or one of the Ambassadors. We want to help you do the best job you can for our furry critters.

Have a great month and we will see you in November.