



SECOND CHANCE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
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Charitable Registration No. 890180 847 RR0001



2020

SANCTUARY

Year 2020 started well for Second Chance. There was the usual winter slow-down for intakes and adoptions and we were busy preparing for our first fundraising event of 2020, the Victorian Tea, at Vandermeer Nursery. The event held on February 16 was very well attended. Many ladies dressed in Victorian costume, we ran out of sandwiches and the bake tables sold out. A good time was had by all. Little did we know that the Tea would be the last good time for a long and as yet on-going time.

In our last newsletter, we described the annual eruption problems with the driveway and our attempt to fix it. In an otherwise Bad News year, it is nice to report that the excavating and backfilling work was successful. This spring there was no sign of our clay eruption problem.

Closing in of the steel sheds covering the walkway between the house and sanctuary buildings was completed and the ends were connected to the buildings and roofed in. As is often the case, one job leads to another and as well as making the roof connection at the sanctuary end, it was necessary to redo the roof of the sanctuary entrance porch. A few jobs remain, such as sealing the ribbed roof ends and installing some windows. In addition to their primary function of covering the pathway, we hope to make use of them for yard sale purposes once we can resume yard sales.

The back northwest corner of the sanctuary building needs some repairs. To prepare for this, the feral cats were consolidated with the main (front) area cats and the FIV cats were moved to the front part of what was the feral area. Additional shelving was installed to give the FIV cats more window seating. A welcome renovation was the removal of the monstrous old sink unit in the sanctuary. The new double sink, new faucet and countertop are much appreciated by all who use them.

Through to March, our primary business – cats – continued normally. There were the usual intakes, rescues and adoptions. Visitors came to see cats and volunteers came to do their supportive tasks.

In early December, the ladies caring for our cats noticed a black and white cat coming around the sanctuary and, after a couple of sightings, there was always food left for him. Of course, the next task was to try to catch him. The trap with food inside was set each day and ignored each day until – late one afternoon in February. The cat had been seen a few times during the day and, with just an hour of daylight left, we set the trap and caught him! This cat (with huge paws) was not happy to be in the trap or the cage to which he was transferred – he ignored the food and spent his time pushing at the walls of the cage, trying to escape. We named him Hunter which seemed to be appropriate (alluding to him having had to fend for himself before being rescued) and it wasn't until after he was neutered that we were able to touch him. Now Hunter, who is estimated to be 2 years old, is a very friendly cat and loves attention. Unfortunately, Hunter's time outside while not neutered, resulted in him being FIV positive. This doesn't change the fact that Hunter is a wonderful cat – it does mean that his immune system is compromised and he will be very lucky to be adopted. However, he has become a wonderful addition to the sanctuary.

As said above, 2020 started well but, in March the world was hit by COVID and, ever since, everything and everybody has been affected in some way. It is amazing that a microscopic ball of fat with prongs sticking out of it like a WW2 sea mine can wreak so much personal and economic havoc on a global scale. As of November, it seems that effective vaccines have been developed so we can look forward to better times.

When COVID struck in March, Second Chance followed the mandated safety precautions. We cancelled general visiting and put it on a “by appointment” basis with appointments mostly scheduled outside the caregiver hours. Volunteering was reduced to essential tasks that directly supported the cats. The adoption process was put on-line with necessary visits scheduled in the quiet hours. There was no Spring Fling and all yard sales were cancelled. It is unlikely that there will be a Victorian Tea in 2021. Fortunately, all our caregivers have remained healthy as has the “management” and we hope it stays this way until we can all be vaccinated.

The main effect of COVID on Second Chance has been the financial effect. Our only fundraising event in 2020 has been the Victorian Tea. There has been neither a Spring Fling nor yard sales. Regarding yard sales, we are preparing and organizing things so as to be ready when the situation allows. We are hoping to be able to do the May 2021 yard sale. We obtain significant funding as members of the Pickering Charitable Gaming Association from our participation at the Delta Bingo Hall in Pickering. With valiant effort, Delta Bingo has remained open throughout the crisis but COVID restrictions have severely limited attendance at bingo sessions. Some charities, us included, have received some funds but much less than in normal times. In late November, with Durham Region put into the Red Zone, attendance at the Delta

Bingo Hall is restricted to 10 patrons at a time. We have been advised that the Hall might shut down entirely for some period of time. If that happens, Bingo funding will cease.

Revenue from our donation cans is substantially down due to access restrictions. We have produced the 2021 Second Chance Calendar, now sold out, and continued to sell, with good success, donated items on Kijiji. The brightest spot has been our ongoing bottle drive where revenue is considerably more than last year. This is mainly due to the generosity of our bottle and can donors and to the Beer Store whose temporary shutdown and further restrictions encouraged people to bring their returns to Second Chance. This is an ongoing activity and we invite anyone to bring us their wine and beer container returns. You can do it without interaction with anyone or waiting in line. Just leave your returns in or in front of the sanctuary porch (there is a sign) and we will do the rest.

Second Chance is facing a significant reduction in funding in 2020 and going into 2021. In the Fall, as the Second Wave of Covid started things looked bleak. Now, with the availability of three vaccines, the future looks considerably brighter and the world will be able to return to “normalcy” although it might not quite be the normalcy we were all used to.

Once again, Christmas is nigh upon us, but, COVID is still with us so it will be a different Christmas this year. Again, we have put up a few lights including a string in the sidewalk cover (the Galleria) and we have hung all our Christmas wreaths. The cats will get their extra treats and toys. We thank our dedicated and reliable caregivers who come, rain/snow or shine in these stressful COVID days to look after their 4-pawed charges. Thanks also to our volunteers whose assistance helps keep things going. We also thank all our donors whose generosity does, indeed, keep us in operation. With the flood of donation requests at this time of year, it can look like charities only think of money. Nevertheless, it takes money to run a sanctuary and, if the money supply reduces, there must, inevitably, be changes made, because income and expenditures must balance - be it for Second Chance or General Motors.

On behalf of all the people and cats of Second Chance, best wishes for the holiday season, a Happy and Safe New Year and sincere hopes for better times in 2021.

SCWS 2021 CALENDAR

Thanks to everyone who supported our eighth annual calendar by submitting pictures of their pets and purchasing our calendar. The Second Chance calendar is one of our major fundraisers – and this year almost the only fundraiser. Our ninth annual calendar, year 2021, as mentioned previously, is sold out.

FUNDRAISING THANKS

Fundraisers are very important to the sanctuary and would not be possible without the efforts of many people –

1. **Global Pets**, Salem Road North in Ajax donated all funds raised during their Show Us Your Heart campaign to Second Chance.
2. **George Healey**, together with Second Chance volunteers, organized a **Victorian Afternoon Tea** on February 16, 2020 at **Vandermeer Nursery** in Ajax. This has become an annual event and, as usual, there were many people attending who dressed up in costumes appropriate to the Victorian period. The Victorian Tea makes for a delightful afternoon and one can also shop for spring flowers or decorations while at the Nursery.
3. **Intek Communications Inc.**, Markham hosts a Family Holiday Party for all employees and their families every December. The money raised at this event was used to buy food and cleaning supplies for Second Chance cats.

DONATIONS HONOURING

Second Chance is grateful for donations received in honour of -

Angie Provenzano

Judi Ross.



BIRTHDAYS

Second Chance is grateful to Amanda Ellis who very generously requested that, in lieu of birthday gifts, donations be given to Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary.

DONATIONS IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Second Chance is grateful to Joyce Bishop who very generously requested that, in lieu of a Christmas gift, a donation be given to Second Chance Wildlife Sanctuary.

THANK YOU

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

CLUBLINK
CORPORATION



IN-MEMORIUM DONATIONS

Donations have been gratefully received by Second Chance, in memory of –

Adam
Ann Smith
Anne (Edwards) Walters
Alex
Charlie
Joyce
Mandy Dymond
Pauline Ward
Levi
Rambo P. Tkachuk

Russell Spencer Blakely
Sammy, a furry friend
Squeek
Toby
Felix, Parker, Misty, Yellar, Inky,
Jack and all cats who lived at
Second Chance
Red, Zoe, Max and Pita
Sam, Corey, Sandy, Charlie and
Casey

UPCOMING EVENTS

Unfortunately, due to covid, there are no upcoming events at this time.

DONATIONS

Did you know that 100% of every donation goes directly to sanctuary activities? SCWS Directors are not paid. There is 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.

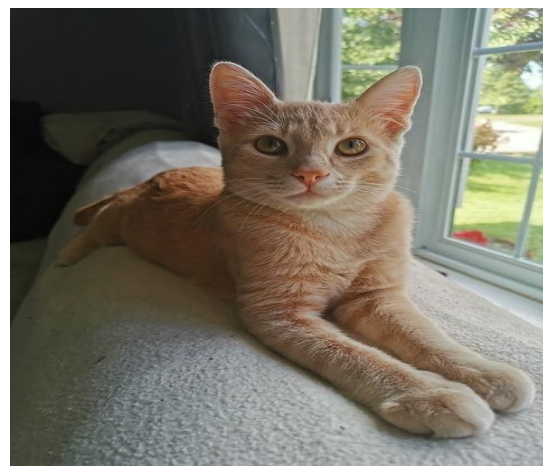
Thus, donations to SCWS are used for the expenses of keeping the buildings operating, food, veterinary expenses and, as just noted, ordinary administrative costs. Veterinary expense is a very large item (burden) usually running to several thousand dollars per month. When you donate to SCWS, your money 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.

Moo and Buffy are 10-month-old kittens, currently in foster care, waiting for adoption.



Moo



Buffy