



Phone: (269) 226-8570

KAR Friends - December 2019

Dear Peter;

Ready or not (I'm not), we've come to the end of 2019, and all of us at Kalamazoo Animal Rescue are delighted to close out the year by thanking all of you for your generous support. Because of you, our rescue cats and dogs have a chance to be cared for and to find their forever homes. Thank you all for helping KAR to spread light and warmth and comfort, especially when it's chilly and dark outside!

We would like to extend **special thanks** to the many adopters, sponsors, donors and volunteers who have pitched in to help Kalamazoo Animal Rescue over the last year. Best wishes to you, your family and your beloved pets for a wonderful, peaceful holiday season!

Please feel free to share this issue with friends and family. We appreciate your continued support of KAR's mission to help homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs. Together we make a difference!

Sincerely,

Pat Hollahan
KAR Friends Editor

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Sharing Your Love During The Holidays



By Karren Jensen

What is it about the December holiday season that puts us in touch with our inner child? **Whatever your faith experience and holiday traditions, there is often a nostalgia which accompanies our year-end festivities.** This special experience has been celebrated in poetry, prose, and music by so many creative people but one of the best expressions of holiday hope and kindness comes from Charles Dickens in his seminal work "A Christmas Carol." After his transformation, Ebenezer Scrooge declares "I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a school-boy. I am as giddy as a drunken man. A merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world!" As we share these feelings of holiday cheer it is only natural to want to do things which will make those closest to us joyful too and this includes our animal friends. Of course, it is only right that we share our love with all of our friends and family but there are a few things to bear in mind so that our exuberance is channeled thoughtfully:



- As an animal lover you might be tempted to think that gifting a feline or canine companion to a loved one is the ultimate way of sharing the delightful experience of pet ownership. Although your intentions are the best, this can often result in tragedy for the pet if the recipient is not ready or

Pets of the Month



Read [Buffy's](#) Story



Read [Shevi's](#) Story

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 21, **Chow Hound**
Westnedge Ave.
- Dec. 21, **Chow Hound**
Drake Rd.
- Dec. 28, **MVPets**
Westnedge Ave.
- Dec. 28, **PetSmart**
West Main St.

For details on these and other upcoming events, please [see our Events page](#) on the KAR website.

KAR Links

- [VOLUNTEER](#)
- [Become a Foster Family](#)
- [Adoptable Dogs](#)
- [Adoptable Cats](#)
- [Adoptable Kittens](#)
- [Special Needs Pets](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)
- [KAR Website](#)
- [Donate Today!](#)

Newsletter Team

- Pat Hollahan, Editor
- Lynn Bolhuis
- Kim Bourner
- Kara Harmsen
- Karren Jensen

[Email us](#) with any newsletter suggestions or questions!

Contact Us

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue
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Kalamazoo, MI 49003
[\(269\) 226-8570](tel:(269)226-8570)



willing to adopt a companion animal. **Taking the circumstances and capability of the potential adopter into account, it is always better to let him/her choose whether to adopt and then to find a pet which suits their lifestyle and budget.** You might encourage a loved one to consider adopting a pet and even offer to subsidize the pet's costs but leave the decision to the potential owner. Alternatively, you might think about making a donation to a pet rescue organization in that special person's name.

- **Sharing holiday joy with our furry family members also should be approached with the animal's needs in mind.** Human food and treats can be unhealthy and even deadly to a precious pooch or cherished cat. Give a small number of treats specifically made for your cat or dog and a pet-safe toy or two. Your attention and love are what they crave, so playing with a new toy together would be the ultimate treat for your four-legged friend.
- **One more important consideration is ensuring that holiday decorations are pet friendly.** Remember that holiday plants can be poisonous and sparkly decorations which can be broken and/or swallowed could result in tragedy. Carefully consider how to pet-proof your seasonal décor so that everybody can enjoy the festivities safely. Here are some helpful suggestions you can check out online:
 - [Holiday safety tips](#)
 - [Cat-friendly home decor](#)
 - [Decorations to avoid](#)

Your friends at KAR want to wish you very happy holidays as you celebrate with your human and furry family members and look forward to a bright and hopeful New Year!

The Twelve Days Of Christmas (as sung by the cat and the dog)



By Kim Bourner

The Dog's Version

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

- 12 doorbells ringing
- 11 fire hydrants for sniffing
- 10 Frisbees flying
- 9 doormen in waiting
- 8 maids to brush me
- 7 ponds to play in
- 6 feasts of my favorite biscuits
- 5 golden retriever friends
- 4 fallen table scraps
- 3 soft doggie beds
- 2 belly rubs
- And a peanut-butter Kong in a very low tree.



The Cat's Version

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

- 12 straight hours of sleeping
- 11 secret spots for hiding
- 10 baskets of clean clothes to roll in
- 9 servants serving me
- 8 big bowls for dining
- 7 cat beds for napping
- 6 feasts a'waiting



- 5 golden milk rings
- 4 houseplants for digging
- 3 fresh catnip toys
- 2 head scratchings
- And a chicken snack in a cat tree.

A Wish List From The Cats And Dogs



Of course, what our KAR cats and dogs want most is their forever homes! But while they're waiting, here are some suggestions for holiday giving:

- Catfood: Friskies canned food, Purina One kitten food, Purina One sensitive stomach food
- Dishes: heavy medium and large ceramic food dishes
- Litter: scoopable cat litter, litter scoops (small/medium), extra-large litter boxes, especially new ones
- Pet heating pads
- Top-loading carriers, small and medium
- Storage totes
- Cat toys (crinkle, feather teasers, springs, balls with bells)
- Nail clippers
- Tear-free baby shampoo
- Break-away collars
- Dog food: Grain Free dry and canned dog food (4 health brand)
- No-pull harnesses for small, medium, large, and extra-large dogs
- Tennis balls
- Nail clippers
- Shampoo

In addition to gifts of supplies and toys, KAR is also very grateful for your financial support. If you would like to make a year-end gift, [you may make an online donation here](#) or you can mail a check to:

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue
P.O. Box 3295
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

You can also help by participating in other programs that earn money for KAR and our rescued pets at *no cost to you*. These programs include: BISSELL's Partners for Pets, Harding's Markets, AmazonSmile, GoodSearch, iGive, eBay GivingWorks, PayPal Giving Fund, and Advia Credit Union. Check out the [Donations page](#) on our website for more details.

Special Thanks



Kalamazoo Animal Rescue would like to thank **all the volunteers, donors, and friends who participated in the December Bissell Empty-the-Shelters Adoption Event.** We're especially grateful to be sending so many cats to their new homes in time to settle in for the

holidays!



About Us

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue is an all-volunteer, federally recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization that was founded in 1991 and is funded entirely through donations from the public.

KAR is dedicated to providing refuge to homeless, stray and abandoned cats and dogs in Kalamazoo and the surrounding communities.

Our volunteers give their time and energy to the efforts of rescuing animals and helping them to find permanent, committed and life-long homes.



Visit our website [here](#) for more KAR information!



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