



KATS' TALES

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Kingdom Animal Shelter

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GET INVOLVED IN THE MVP PHOTO CONTEST!

The Bissell Corporation is again sponsoring its Most Valuable Pet Photo Contest and you can be a winner! Each week for 12 weeks, pet owners can upload their pet's photo to the Bissell website and vote for that week. Even if you don't have a pet photo to share, your voice can be heard. New entry and voting periods begin each Wednesday; you can even submit a new photo each week. The top pets each week move on to the finalist round for a chance to win the Grand Prize. The top 5 weekly winners will receive a \$25 Visa gift card, and the overall winner of the week gets a Bissell pet vacuum or deep cleaner. There are numerous 2nd through 5th place prizes, with the Grand Prize being \$10,000 for a favorite pet charity, a \$500 pet shopping spree, a Bissell pet vacuum or deep cleaner, and your pet's photo on the Bissell box. You can get your friends involved through your favorite social sites (Facebook) and can vote for your favorite photo once a day! Check out their website today for details and Official Rules. Good luck! www.bissell.com/pet-contest.



Tigger and Kiki Relaxing at Home

The Great Debate: Indoor Versus Outdoor Cats (part 1)

(Editor's Note: The following article was written by Dr. Nicholas Dodand reprinted without permission from the website: PetPlace.com) Most U.S. cat experts—the Cat Fanciers Association, humane organizations and others—are continually trying to reach the public with the message that keeping cats indoors protects them from disease and all manner of dangers. Risks of outdoor life include exposure to infectious diseases such as feline leukemia, feline immunodeficiency virus, feline infectious peritonitis, and rabies; injury or death occurring on busy roads; and attacks by predators. Not only does keeping cats indoors protect their health, it also protects the lives of countless birds that they would otherwise kill. In some areas, the cats have severely reduced the populations of certain songbirds—almost to the point of extinction. **What Has Changed and Why** Many things have changed since the days when most cats ran wild and caught mice for a living. Here are but a few of them:

- Cat owners today view their cats as family members and

- cats have become incorporated into many aspects of their owners' lives. No longer are cats simply kept as ratters to protect the grain supply.
- House cats of today are often given the very best of medical attention and sometimes, at quite an expense to their owners. Because of this and because they are fed better, cats now live longer, healthier lives than ever before.
- The average life span of indoor cats is about 14 years—though this is reduced to 4 years in cats that are allowed to roam free, exposing themselves to the hazards of outdoor life.
- Family structure has changed so that both owners often work, spending long hours away from the home. Cats are viewed as independent and able to cope better than dogs in this situation.
- The population of pet cats has rapidly increased so that there are now some 73 millions cats in the United States.
- We have progressively become a nation of city dwellers. Country life is becoming a thing of the past. With cities come roads, traffic, and increased density of human and animal life. Dangers abound for free-ranging pets, and diseases thrive better in crowded urban environments. Not all can be fully protected against with vaccines and no vaccine is 100% effective. *Next month: Letting Your Cat Out—Pros and Cons*

BEN'S BOOTCAMPS HELP KAS

Ben Warstler, owner of the ever-popular Ben's Bootcamps, is holding a special fundraiser all this month to benefit KAS. Clients of the bootcamps are donating money or cleaning staples that will help keep our shelter in operation. We want to thank Ben and his partner Nedah Barrett (KAS volunteer!), and we wish them well as they open a new location above Green Mountain Books in Lyndonville. **THANK YOU!**

Here's a photo sent to us by proud owners Jim and Kate, who are happy to report the two have settled into their forever home quite well. Says Kate, "I think we entertain them as much as they do us. Tigger seems to like to answer telephones, but hasn't gotten down taking messages yet, so we are sure to unplug the ones he has access to until he develops that skill. The cordless he is clueless to, which is a good thing, we find. Kiki and I are still in disagreement on where the throw rugs go; we are the typical females always moving them where we want them." Thank you Kate and Jim for taking the time to share with us, and for those thinking about adopting one (or two!) of your own, stop by the shelter weekends noon to 3, Mondays 4-7 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Yard Sale - Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011 8:00 to 2:00 at the Kingdom Canine Center, 100 Hemlock Lane, just off Main Street in Lyndonville. If you have items to donate, please call Deanna at (802) 274-6033 or Sandy at (802) 673-7954 to arrange a time to drop things off or to make arrangements to pick up your larger items.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT The purpose of the Kingdom Animal Shelter is to facilitate the placement of stray and unwanted animals and pets in desirable homes; to establish and maintain an animal shelter and associated procedures which promote the health, care and handling, and prevent over population and the prevention of cruelty to animals. The animals in our care, our guests, are never euthanized merely because we lack space or because the animal's stay with us has exceeded a predefined amount of time.

Please forward this to your friends, family, co-workers, or anyone interested in supporting our shelter. If you no longer wish to receive emails from Kingdom Animal Shelter, please hit "Reply" and change the subject line to UNSUBSCRIBE. Kingdom Animal Shelter respects your privacy and will never share or sell your email address or other information.