



KATS' TALES

Volume 1, Issue 6

June 2010

Kingdom Animal Shelter
1664 Memorial Drive
P.O. Box 462 St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 (802) 741-7387

Do You Speak Cat? (Part 2...)

Those Engaging Ears A cat's ears have as much of a range of movement as they do a vocabulary. Cats can move their ears together and independently in all directions, and each direction makes its own statement.

- If a cat's ears are straight up and forward, he is feeling alert, affectionate and is relaxed.
- If his ears are to the side, he is likely concentrating on something and curious. It is best not to disrupt him at this time.
- Ears that are down slightly may indicate that the cat is feeling unsure and defensive.
- If his ears are up and back, the cat probably hears something that is intriguing, or he is concentrating on something.
- Ears that are down and back usually mean the cat is feeling fearful. Fear can lead to aggression, so best to stay away.
- Flat, sideways ears indicate aggression or severe aggression, and extreme caution should be used. It's best not to bother the cat at this time.

Get Mesmer"eyes"ed

There's no denying the hypnotic allure of a cat's eyes.



You can get lost in their wild beauty. Though you can't determine a cat's behavior or mood by his eyes alone, you can get a good read on him

by incorporating his eye language with the rest of his body language.

- Rule number one with cat eyes: never stare directly into your cat's eyes. In the cat world, staring is a showdown and usually indicates aggression. Blinking, however, is a sign of friendship. Cats will blink at each other to say, "I mean you no harm." In addition, if there is a staring showdown between two cats, a neutral feline party may enter blinking—easing the situation into safety. Blink slowly at your cat to show you are his friend.
- Wide eyes indicate that the cat is being attentive.
- Eyes that are half-closed mean a sleepy cat.

- If your cat's eyes are cloudy, it can mean he is sleepy, or it can indicate an illness. If your cat's eyes are cloudy all day, you should have him seen by your veterinarian.
- When a cat's eyes are dilated, it can mean either extreme fear, aggression, pain, or excitement. Make sure to pay attention to other body language signs for a more accurate mood analysis.

The Language of the Body



Along with the tail, ears, eyes and voice, a cat also uses his body to convey a message. While kittens are more

vocal to one another, older cats rely on nonverbal communication. How cats communicate with people is different still. Cats use their entire bodies, including verbal and nonverbal messaging, to communicate with people. It seems they have more to say than we think.



KAS Receives Grant to Help Reduce Pet Population

NEW YORK — The ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) today announced a grant of \$4,000 to Kingdom Animal Shelter in St. Johnsbury, Vt. The funding will be used to provide support to local residents for a targeted low-cost spay/neuter program for cats.

"KAS's initiative is creating a more humane society and serving as an inspiration to other shelters across the country," said Julie Morris, Senior Vice President of Community Outreach for the ASPCA. "The ASPCA believes spaying and neutering is the most humane and effective way of controlling feral cat colonies and has a direct correlation to reducing pet overpopulation and the numbers of animals entering local shelters."

The community of St. Johnsbury has seen an increase in abandoned cats in recent years. As a result, the community is determined to maintain the homeless cat population and reduce feral cats via trap-neuter-return (TNR) and provide essential services for pet owners.

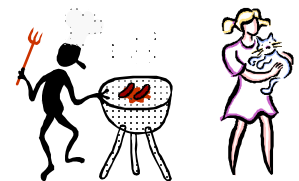
Kingdom Animal Shelter frequently receives calls about abandoned cats and many of our residents want to be responsible pet owners, but cannot afford the cost of surgery," said Joyce Littlefield, Board President of Kingdom Animal Shelter. "The grant, made possible by the ASPCA, will offer Kingdom Animal Shelter the opportunity to assist our neighbors directly in preventing unwanted litters of kittens and thus reduce the burden on local shelters."

The state of Vermont recently created VSNIP (Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program), which provides low-cost spay/neuter for residents on public assistance. The remaining funds from the ASPCA grant will allow KAS to assist those involved in VSNIP and provide additional veterinary care when needed. KAS have begun canvassing a local neighborhood to inform local residents of this opportunity, and will continue their efforts throughout the summer. For more information, contact KAS at 741-7387.



Join Us As We Celebrate Adopt-A-Cat Month®

Approximately 4 million cats end up in shelters every year, including thousands born every spring and summer during "kitten season." To help promote adoptions of these fun, affectionate animals, the American Humane Association celebrates Adopt-A-Cat Month® each June. KAS is having an Open House Weekend June 19-20, to increase awareness of the plight of all shelter pets in need of adoption. We will be open our regular adoption hours on Saturday, June 19th, from noon until 3:00 P.M., offering special adoption rates to all who come in and fill out an application. In addition, we will be serving hot dogs, chips, etc., on Sunday, June 20th, from noon until 2:00 P.M. We'd love to have you to stop by for a 'bite', so please tell your family and friends to come help us celebrate. Now is the time to Adopt A Shelter Cat!! As always, we thank you for supporting Kingdom Animal Shelter.



Upcoming Events

- **June 19-20** Open House Weekend ~ BBQ Sunday 12-2:00
- **June 23** Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction - Junipers, Lyndonville 5:00 and 6:45 P.M. Call: 626-8310 for reservations
- **July 3** Bark in the Park Fairgrounds, Lyndonville 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (in collaboration with PETS of the Kingdom)

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.