



KATS' TALES

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Kingdom Animal Shelter

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Hooray for Radio!

Thanks to the kindness of a KAS supporter, we are thrilled to announce that Radio has found a temporary foster home and is making great progress! According to foster mom Diana, he is getting used to the other cats and dogs in the household, and even rubs up against her legs and purrs a little. No biting issues as of yet, and she is re-training him with treats as positive reinforcement for his appropriate behavior. She cautions that any potential adopter must have lots of patience, keep him away from cages (which is a stressor for all cats), and keep him as an 'indoor only' cat. Thank you so much, Diana, for your compassion and determination to help a cat in need. If you would like more information on adopting Radio or any of our other cats, please contact KAS at the number above, or stop by the shelter during regular adoption hours.



ASPCA Subaru Grant Award

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, KAS tied for third place in the nationwide Subaru Share the Love contest, in collaboration with the ASPCA. More than 100 Subaru dealers teamed up with shelters around the US to save over 1,000 lives and raise \$105,000 for these agencies. KAS was awarded \$2,000 for their efforts, but we also gained the opportunity to display an "adoption board" at St. J. Subaru. Stop in next time you're in that area and check it out! Special thanks again to Mike Loschiavo at SJS for generously offering to post our wonderful cats and kittens! And check out the February edition of the ASPCA online newsletter for some special pictures of our own Santa and Copper!

Ryegate Cat Update

Many of you have been wondering how the cats are doing that were rescued in November from a home in Ryegate. We are happy to report that many of them that went to foster homes are now being adopted by those homes, but we are desperately looking for homes and/or barns to adopt the remainder that we still have. These are NOT domestic house cats, have special needs, they can't be picked up/held, but they get along great with other animals. They really need a home that will be able to provide them with good care. Horse barns, especially those with a separate tack room or other enclosed rooms, would serve to keep the cats in for the first several months as they transition into a new home. In addition, we have FOUR adorable kittens born from one of these rescues that would just love to go home with you! 😊

Is Your Cat a Finicky Eater?

(Editor's Note: The following article contains excerpts from a column written by Valerie Wagner, Pet-care Advisor in Weekends Are For Pets e-newsletter, PetFoodDirect.com.)

Finicky eating habits in cats can be the result of several factors. It's important to rule out any health problems before seeking a solution. If your cat has always had a good



"Give me different flavors now!"

appetite, but suddenly is refusing to eat, have him/her examined by your vet to rule out any dental problems, stomach or intestinal blockage or other illness that could cause a loss of appetite. Cats can be more finicky about food than dogs. They are more prone to form food addictions to one particular flavor or formula in their food. This becomes a problem if the manufacturer changes

the food's ingredients or discontinues that flavor or formula. Preventing finicky eating habits in cats can be accomplished but you must remain persistent. When offering a new food for your cat, don't eliminate the old food immediately. Place a portion of the new food next to some of the old food and allow the cat to decide which he/she will try. Keep your cat's food bowl clean at all times. Residual odors from spoiled food could obviously cause your cat to reject his/her food, but plastic food bowls may also retain the odor of bacteria or even detergents, so stainless steel or ceramic food bowls are preferred. Provide your cat with a stress-free feeding area, away from distractions, noises, or interference from other pets which could prevent them from eating. Place food and water bowls well away from litter box areas. Food should be served at room temperature or warmer. Most cats don't like food that has been chilled. Microwave any cold portion for a few seconds before serving. Provide each cat with his/her own food bowl to prevent conflict or dominance issues. Allow cats to free feed on

dry food unless obesity is a problem. Some cats prefer to nibble small amounts several times a day or night rather than eat just one meal.

Carefully monitor your cat's weight to determine if he/she is losing weight due to finicky eating habits. As long as your cat is eliminating normally and not losing weight, his/her food motivation level may simply be lower than another animal's. Pet obesity is widespread and forcing your cat to eat by adding goodies and treats is not a healthy solution. Your cat may simply be satisfied consuming the calories he/she requires even though it may not seem to match your meal schedule.



"Thank you for caring about me!"

"I have noticed that what cats appreciate most in a human being is not the ability to produce food which they take for granted-but his or her entertainment value."
Geoffrey Household

WHITE MARKET FUNDRAISER
Shoppers at the White Market plaza store in Lyndonville can help support KAS by donating \$1 at the checkout and signing a special card that will be displayed in that store. This will be going on during the month of April, so be sure to stop by and show your support as often as you can that month. Thank you!

UPCOMING KAS EVENTS

- April 16--St. J. Maple Fest (Railroad Street event)
- May 21--Volunteer Appreciation Night & Fundraiser Dance, LSC
- June 11--Yard Sale at Kingdom Canine Center, Lyndonville (more details in future issues)



Did you know.....

A cat has 517 muscles in its body and 32 muscles in its ears?

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.