

# KATS' TALES

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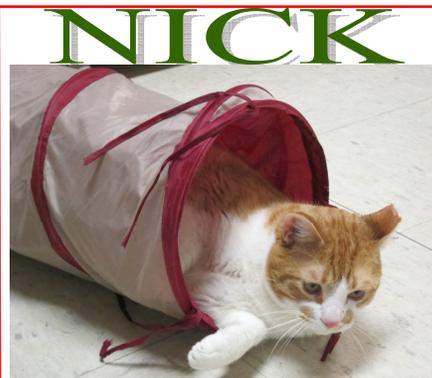


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## JOIN US FOR A BITE.....

We are pleased to invite you to a benefit fundraiser buffet on Sunday, April 24th from 5 P.M. on, at the Danville Inn and Restaurant on Route 2 in Danville, Vermont. Owner/operator Steve Cobb has graciously agreed to open his lovely dining room to benefit Kingdom Animal Shelter. You will be able to enjoy turkey pie, mashed potatoes, chop suey, baked beans, assorted vegetables and side dishes, as well as homemade desserts. This is by donation only, no reservation, until closing at 8:00. Bring the family for a chance to sample Steve's fabulous epicurean delights and support the shelter, too. You'll be glad you did!



## HOW TO KEEP YOUR CATS HAPPY by Marilyn Krieger

Interacting with your cat, observing behavior, and making your home feline-friendly will help keep your cat mentally and physically happy. Everyone who loves cats recognizes when their kitties are happy and free of stress. We delight in hearing the purrs and chortles of contentment, seeing the sweet body language and facial expressions and endearing interactions with household members. And, typically, we will do everything we can to keep our little ones happy. Here are some easy steps you can take that will help keep your cats contented. *Spend quality time with your cats* Cats and their people mutually benefit from spending quality time hanging out together. The definition of quality time varies, based on each individual. Some kitties are hands on—reveling in cuddles and naps with their favorite people—while others are content just being in the same space. There are shy cats who are satisfied by a soft voice or a treat tossed in their direction, and those kitties who enjoy intense play session, treasure hunts, and clicker training. Spend quality time with your cat every day—everyone will benefit. *Increase the resources* Although cats can live happily together, sometimes there are tensions and squabbles between them. These are often triggered by too few resources and living in tight quarters. Cats are territorial. Sometimes they have problems sharing. If you live with more than one cat, help promote harmony by distributing additional resources throughout your home. Like with some human siblings, you can reduce the competition by having at least one coveted object for every kitty. Each cat needs her own feeding station. One communal feeding bowl for a clowder or even shared between two cats isn't enough. Instead of clustering bowls together, put space between them or place them in separate areas. In addition, put a number of water sources, scratching posts, litter boxes, toys, and vertical territory in different areas of your home. *Provide stimulation* Cats of all ages need a combination of activities and enrichment to keep them from changing into bored and obese couch potatoes. Some kitties, lacking exercise, become lethargic and dull. Although many homes are full of interesting objects, they might be uninspiring and blasé to the feline residents. Providing enrichment for your cat doesn't mean you have to transform your home into Cat Disneyland or spend a fortune. Cardboard boxes, paper bags without handles, ball-and-track toys, soft toys, ping pong balls, and other toys will keep your cats engaged and occupied for hours. You can make these objects more appealing by rotating them every week and periodically rubbing them with favorite treats. In addition to using toys, engaging your cat in play, clicker training, treasure hunts, and other activities will also help her stay alert and stimulated. An added benefit is that these games will strengthen the bonds between you. Keep in mind the age and health of your cat. What is stimulating for a 14-year-old cat may be boring to a 6-month-old kitten. Personalize the activities according to the needs, age, and condition of your kitty. *Get health checks* It isn't always easy to recognize when cats are feeling under the weather. Cats are subtle, they don't show they're sick and injured until the problem has significantly progressed. Although it would benefit household cats to show when they aren't well, their behavior helps them survive in the wild. Compromised kitties are weak and unable to escape threats quickly. Hiding injuries helps trick predators into thinking they're not easy targets for dinner. Sometimes the only hints that cats have medical issues are through changes in their behavior. These include eliminating outside litter boxes, aggression, crankiness, and hiding, among others. Pay attention to your little one's behavior. At the first sign of a behavior changes, schedule an appointment with the veterinarian. Also, be proactive and have her examined yearly. An ounce of prevention is worth...well, you know the rest. (continued next issue)

Nick is such a goof. He is a 3 year old orange and white fella. He would prefer a home without other cats and with a patient person to help him adjust. He's not a fan of change, but he is a fan of chasing toys and loves to be doted on. He is a personal favorite of many of the Shelter volunteers. Stop by and meet Nick today!

### \*UPCOMING EVENTS\*

- April 24 5:00 P.M. Benefit Buffet at the Danville Inn & Restaurant
- May 15 Quince de Meow, North Cong. Church, St. Johnsbury, 1-4 P.M.
- Don't forget about the photo of your cat that you would like to enter into the 2017 KAS Cat Calendar contest. Entries will be taken in June.
- Mid-June Pet Parade, Main Street, St. Johnsbury

### KAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Helen Morrison – Co-President  
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Klari Emmons – Secretary  
David Gile – Treasurer  
Rod Lauman – Board member  
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Did you know.....A cat's body is covered with roughly 130,000 hairs for each square inch.

**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 that promote health, care and handling; and to prevent overpopulation 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.