

KATS' TALES

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Purring...Through Time

Take a minute and put yourself back in ancient Egypt in the early beginnings of that civilization. The mice and rats have been attacking and eating your grain that you worked so hard to harvest. Cats have migrated up from what is now Ethiopia and have been hanging around the outskirts of the community. At first you think they might be another pest to deal with. Then you notice that they are catching and killing those pesky mice that are destroying your grain storage. Wow...what a great solution to this terrible problem!

Little by little the cats become more used to humans and come closer and closer. One day, you put down a saucer of milk to try and entice a couple of friendly ones to come inside. After a few weeks, they can't resist the treat anymore. Slowly you gain their trust and are able to pat them.

What? What is that strange sound coming from the cat?? It's mysterious and yet very soothing at the same time. The sound later is referred to as purring. This pleasant and relaxing sound must have helped endear the cats to the early Egyptians, a bonus to their catching mice and rats.

As time went by into later periods of Egyptian history, the cat was eventually elevated to the status of a god. The god's name was Bast. The cats caught and purred their way into a strong position in human civilization. We have been forever side by side with the cats purring away ever since.

From ancient Egypt, the cats spread out across the globe as humans traded with each other and new lands were discovered. Imagine all the situations since then that the cat's purr has soothed or comforted a human or another cat that was in distress.

The cats quickly spread up to Rome and the Roman Empire and its vast reaches helped the cat to quickly conquer new territory with its wondrous purring and mousing abilities. Imagine you are a young lady in Caesar's Rome. Your handsome young legion soldier has just been sent off to war in a far away land. You are in your room feeling very sad for yourself and very frightened about what will happen to him. Suddenly the family cat jumps up on your bed and curls up next to you. You begin to pat her, and her soft purring makes you feel so much better. Just for a few minutes, your fears are softened.

Fast forward to the Blitz of London during WWII. You are an elderly man living in a small flat in the heart of London. Bombs have been falling all around your building night after night for weeks now. You don't feel comfortable going to the bomb shelter; your legs just don't work as well as they used to on stairs. The wild look of fear is in your eyes. While you are there sipping a cup of tea, suddenly you feel something against your leg. You reach down, and there is Oscar, your cat, purring and rubbing your leg. He jumps up and sits on your lap and purrs away. You don't know what tonight will bring when the German bombs begin raining down again, but for this moment, Oscar's purring is like a soothing tonic for your soul.

Move forward in time to 1979 New York City. You are a 10 year old boy living in the Bronx and your family has just been evicted; your dad lost his job and the family is homeless. Everybody huddles in a back alley for warmth during the cold nights until hopefully dad can find work again and get another apartment. While you are lying there on the pavement, a friendly alley cat comes up and after a few dubious moments decides that the warmth of your blanket helps to overcome the fear she has of you. You are hungry and worried what is going to happen with your family, but still welcome this equally homeless cat to lay with you. She curls up and begins to purr. What a wonderful comforting sound comes out of her, the only pleasant thing that has happened to you in weeks! It is absolutely free and one of the best sounds in the world to hear during difficult times.

If you need to get yourself a new feline friend to purr for you and continue this ageless bond we have with cats, please stop by Kingdom Animal Shelter and check out some of the purrs waiting for you there!

Rod Lauman, KAS Board member



These two little cuties, Arlo and Marley, now about five weeks old, were found sitting in a very cold puddle, soaking wet. At that point, they were about 2-3 weeks old. With the loving care of one of our foster parents, they are doing wonderfully well, are playful, cuddly, and incredibly precious. If you need a little kitten joy in your life, let us know at Kingdom Animal Shelter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 21 Raffle tickets go on sale for the 12 Days of Christmas. Great prizes! Drawings from 12/13-12/24 Stay tuned...
- Dec. 10 Photos with Santa Paws at the American Legion in Lyndonville from 10:00 to 2:00

KAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Helen Morrison - President
Klari Emmons - Secretary
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Rod Lauman - Board member
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Do you know.....how old your cat really is? If your cat is 3, your cat is 21 in human years. If your cat is 8, your cat is 40 in human years. If your cat is 14, your cat is 70 in human years.

Remember: Black Friday is Nov. 25th!



NOVEMBER is
Adopt a Senior Shelter Pet Month

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.