



KATS' TALES

Volume 8, Issue 10

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

OCTOBER
2017

WHAT DO DIFFERENT CAT MEOW SOUNDS MEAN? By Kellie B. Gormly

Not all cat meow sounds are the same. Let's take a look at six different cat meows and the meanings behind each of them. Is a Meow Just a Meow? We cat owners — particularly those with talkative cats — hear many vocalizations, but is a cat meow sound just a one-size-fits-all kitty word? Or do cats have a meow vocabulary of sorts, with different pitches, pronunciation and rhythms of the same basic sounds denoting different messages? It appears that felines do speak to us in varying cat meow sounds, says Marilyn Krieger, certified cat behavior consultant. And some breeds even have their own distinctive meow — like the Siamese, known for a voice that sounds like a baby crying. "Generally speaking, meows and the different meows you hear are for people," Krieger says. "They are so capable of so many different types of vocalization." If we respond to our cat's meows — like feeding him when he makes a certain vocal demand — then that sound becomes tailored to you, because it produces results, Krieger says. She has two Bengals named Olivia and Jinniyah, and a Savannah named Sudan — each of whom has unique sounds to communicate with Krieger. I have identified six different cat meow sounds, though, as people's anecdotes have confirmed, many cats have highly individual noises that aren't necessarily part of all cats' vocabularies. It's difficult to spell a sound with a made-up onomatopoeia, but I'll do my best. 1. The 'I Caught It' Moan: "Owww" This is a meow that sounds a bit like a muffled moan. Imagine a slightly faint "Owww, Mowwww," and you'll get the idea. Many cats use this when they carry in their mouths plush mice, socks, and anything else that feels like prey. I assume they're celebrating their catch and showing it off to their humans. 2. The Mama Cat Chortle: "Rrrruh" You'll hear this sound when mother cats communicate with their kittens or sometimes if your cat is just being friendly. I hear it sometimes when my cats jump up onto my couch or bed, kind of as a "Here I am!" greeting. A cat chortle is a birdlike, endearing sound, somewhere between a chirp and a purr. It has a bit of a vibration to it, perhaps spelling something like "Rrrrrruh." "It's almost like we're rolling our Rs in a way, but it is a soft roll of the Rs," Krieger says. "That's a sweet kind of affectionate type of vocalization." 3. The Growl: "Grrrow" Growling may be mostly a dog thing, but cats have their own version of the low-pitched, menacing sound. A growling sound is not a happy one, unless it is part of play wrestling. Heed the warning. If your cats are making waverling, growling "Grrrow" noises at each other during mealtime, they're feeling stressed about another cat poaching their food. You can fix this problem by not putting each cat's bowl too close to another, Krieger says. Cats are, by nature, solitary hunters and eaters. (cont. next issue) Source: *catster.com*; 9/27/17; retrieved 10/3/17



Luna was adopted from Kingdom Animal Shelter in 2014. Her family can no longer care for her so she has been brought back. She is the sweetest, dearest girl, a bit shy...but loves to be petted. She would need a quiet, gentle home where she could be showered with love and affection. She deserves that. Doesn't that precious face make you just want to take her in your arms?

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 21 Yard Sale Butler's Bus Service, Red Village Road, Lyndonville, 9:00-1:00 Call 802-249-3199 for more info

KAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Helen Morrison – President
Jennifer Smith – Vice President
Klari Emmons – Secretary
David Gile – Treasurer
Rod Lauman – Board member
Nancy Rivet – Board member
Deborah Moore – Board member



Did you know... Like dogs, cats' tapetum lucidum helps their eyes use reflected light to see under dim conditions. No need for night-vision goggles!

NEW FEATURES COMING SOON TO KATS' TALES

We are working on the addition of some new features to freshen up our monthly newsletter. Some of the ideas being discussed include: "Penny's Thoughts"...about shelter life, why it is better to adopt, etc., "Dear KAS"...where readers can ask questions about the shelter or cats....and "Happy Tails"...where we could update you on how our cats that have been adopted out are doing now. Tell us what you'd like to see more (or less) of in upcoming issues. You can email us at: info@kingdomanimalshelter.com.

****NEW MONTHLY FEATURE**** SEPTEMBER ADOPTIONS: Murray, Captain, Shelby, Amire, Ben, Nellie, Shadow, Sunshine, Kristofferson, Lily, Luna, Anna, Harry, Grace, Grady, Cinder, Rielly, Stormie, and Nina

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.