

FELINE DEFENDERS

of the
National Cat Protection Society



SPRING/SUMMER 2010

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The National Cat Protection Society is a shelter whose primary mission is dedicated to the protection and welfare of cats.



EDUCATION

Providing humane education to keep expectant families with their cats...



Expecting a baby doesn't mean giving up your cat. Just follow these tips to keep the family whole.

Prevent Toxoplasmosis. Many expectant mothers fear the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*, because it may cause miscarriage, stillbirth, and birth defects.

Don't fret – you can avoid it. Here's how:

- Keep your cat indoors
- Keep possibly infected stray cats away from your cat
- Since toxoplasmosis cysts are in infected animals' feces, avoid or protect yourself from outdoor areas that animals commonly tread, such as gardens
- Avoid or wear gloves while washing raw vegetables, meat, and fruit
- Avoid eating or feeding your cat raw or rare meat. Also, thoroughly wash your hands and kitchenware after contact
- Avoid or wear gloves while cleaning the litterbox

Prepare Your Cat for the Baby. Here's how:

- Play recordings of baby noises
- Pet him with baby lotion or powder on your hands
- Promptly introduce him to nursery furniture. Just make sure you discourage him from sleeping on it at least a month before birth. "Cut sheets of cardboard to the size of the furniture surfaces and cover one side with double-sided adhesive/masking tape," recommends the ASPCA
- If your partner will handle any cat care duties after birth, start transferring them at least a month beforehand

Acclimate Your Cat to the Baby. Here's how:

- Let him smell an item used in the hospital such as a blanket while spending 5-10 minutes alone together before he meets the baby
- "Offer a toe, never the head, for the pet to sniff or inspect," It's Training Cats and Dogs Owner Jessica Auster-Levy tells Disney Family.com
- Try to maintain his regular routine

Continued on page 6

EVENTS

Keeping you informed of community events...

Newport Beach Events

August 7, 2010, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pet First Aid
at the American Red Cross, Santa Ana
600 N. Parkcenter Dr., in the George M. Chitty Building
(714) 481-5355

September 25, 2010, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pet Trek and Health Fair
at Woodbridge Community Park
(benefiting the Irvine Animal Care Center)
(949) 724-7740

TBD 2010, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

National Cat Protection Society Open House and Fundraiser
at the Newport Beach shelter
RSVP (949) 650-1232

Spring Valley Events

August 15, 2010, 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Pet First Aid
at the American Red Cross, San Diego
3950 Calle Fortunada
(858) 309-1200

August 31, 2010, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat Workshop
at the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, San Diego
5500 Gaines St.
(619) 299-7012

TBD 2010, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

National Cat Protection Society Open House and Fundraiser
at the Spring Valley shelter
RSVP (619) 469-8771

For updated event information, don't forget to check out the next issue! If you'd like to receive the latest news and announcements from NatCAT, please send your e-mail address to newport@natcat.org.

NATIONAL CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY, INC. www.natcat.org

Founder: The Late C. Richard Calore

President: Denise Johnston

Vice President & PR Director: Gerri Calore

Financial VP & Legal Counsel: Richard Tanzer

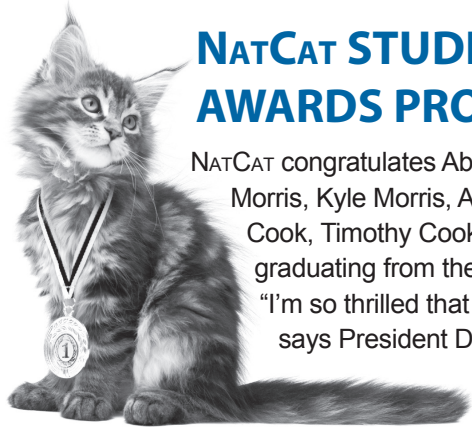
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NEWPORT BEACH

NATCAT STUDENT AWARDS PROGRAM



NATCAT congratulates Abigail McGovern, Grant Morris, Kyle Morris, Anica Carnahan, Katie Cook, Timothy Cook, and Darren Kimble for graduating from the Student Awards Program! "I'm so thrilled that these students participated," says President Denise Johnston. "The Program has been a great success."

Are you a student who wants to volunteer with cats? NATCAT invites you to join the Student Awards Program! Here are the requirements to graduate from the level that interests you:

Bronze Tabby

Open to elementary, middle, and high school students, you must volunteer for 10 hours.

Silver Tabby

For students in middle and high school, you must volunteer for 20 hours and learn grooming techniques such as how to:

- Brush matted and other types of fur
- Minimally retrain
- Clean eyes and ears
- Trim nails

Gold Tabby

Welcoming middle, high, and post-high school students, you must volunteer 20 hours and over two days, learn shelter care techniques such as how to:

- Clean cages
- Feed
- Check health
- Count cats
- Clean dishes and litter pans
- Launder items
- Groom

Continued on page 5

AWARDS *(Continued from page 4)*

Silver and Gold Tabbies will also learn about the importance of spaying and neutering. At the end of the course, we'll ask you to write a paper on the covered topics.

All graduates earn a:

- Certificate of Appreciation
- Paw Medal for their level
- Photo taken with President Denise Johnston, to appear on NATCAT.org if requested and in the shelter



42ND OPEN HOUSE AND FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our annual Open House and Fundraiser, celebrating our 42nd birthday with guests, volunteers and of course, our shelter kitties. Attendees were welcomed to share plenty of TLC with our cats and kittens, while the adoptable ones charmed them in hopes of finding a loving home. Trent Slatton graciously hosted our event, rattling off feline trivia and giving away door prizes as attendees viewed our silent auction items. Donated by local businesses and residents, these items helped us raise the funds needed to continue our mission to protect and defend all felines. We'd like to extend our deep appreciation to all of the gracious donors and to NATCAT volunteers Barbara Atwood, Ellen Diamond, Alice Fowlie, Karen Goodson, Darren Kimble, Jean Ostrowski, Sue Paris, Warren Sabor, Trent Slatton, and Vanessa Verdugo for helping in many ways. The entire event was a fur-bulous success – thanks, everybody who came out to help NATCAT continue fighting for felines!

CAT CLUE

Many think that the Abyssinian cat was named after the country once believed to be its origin. In reality, the British named the breed after the cats imported from the country at the end of the Abyssinian War to be in 19th-century English cat shows. *For more on the Abyssinian cat, check out our special cat breed series on page 8.*

SPRING VALLEY

A RAINY SATURDAY MORNING



It was a rainy Saturday morning,
I said, “Marble, I don’t want you to go.”
Her eyes were very bright, her breathing slow.
Then I noticed her slip under the bed,
She looked up at me, then dropped her head.

It was a rainy Saturday morning,
The lively twinkle in that lovely man’s eyes;
I know Dr. Greer will never tell lies.
He said, “Dotty, this kitty cannot open her mouth
Without a lot of pain, as the tumor’s gone south.”

It was a rainy Saturday morning,
I looked at my husband that loved this cat so,
I said, “Do you think it’s her time to go?”
He said, “My dear love, you’re doing the right thing;
Our cat’s been so good, she deserves angels’ sing.”

It was a rainy, sad Saturday morning,
And I knew that there was no cat tougher,
But I would not let this happy kitty suffer.
The neighbors knew, my family knew also
That today was the day we would let Marble go.

It was a rainy, sad, cold Saturday morning,
I’m crying here as I write these lines.
To all cat owners and you who read this,
Let’s thank all the cats who have enriched our lives
This rainy Saturday morning.

By Dotty Foxworthy, San Diego

EDUCATION *(Continued from page 2)*

- Allow him to check out receiving blankets and clothing

Remember, naptime for your baby is the ideal time to rest with your cat!

Based on information from:

Schultz, Jacque Lynn, CPDT. *Cats and Babies*. (2010). ASPCA.

Loewenthal, Gary. *Human Pregnancy, Babies, and Your Cat*. (2010). About.com.

Introducing Pets and New Babies. (2010). Disney.

FEATURED FRIEND, ERIC THE RED



Animal Control was going to euthanize Eric the Red when we whisked him away to NATCAT. Now, we simply can’t imagine days without his handsome face and meows when people visit – unless of course, he finds a loving home. This long-haired, 7-year-old orange and white male loves people, to lie in laps,

and to lick paper and plastic, cracking us up with the trail of crinkly paper he leaves behind. While he doesn’t care for a lot of cats around him, he’d be happy in a home with a single feline friend.

CAT CABLE *(Continued from page 10)*

- Pick your cat up if she starts to scratch, bite, or exhibit any intensity. Just walk away – you can try playing again after she calms down

If these techniques don’t work, ask a veterinarian to check your cat for any medical issues. She may just need behavior modification by a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist (CAAB) or board-certified veterinary behaviorist (Dip ACVB).

Based on information from:

Cat Aggression Toward People. (2009). Humane Society of the United States.

Cats Who Play Rough. (2010). ASPCA.

Visit Cat Cable in Feline Defenders every issue to read the latest in cat care. If there’s any specific information you’d like to see in Feline Field or Cat Cable, please notify the Newport Beach shelter.

CAT TIP

Cats often try to play with their owner’s fingers or toes, which can damage skin and cause infection. Discourage this habit by saying “nuh-uh” and tossing a toy away from you. *For more on discouraging rough play, check out page 10.*

FELINE FIELD

Helping you get to know more about your cat...

Cat Breed Series: The Abyssinian



In this ongoing series on cat breeds, you'll learn about the Abyssinian – “the Border Collie of cats.”

The Abyssinian cat was originally thought to be from Ethiopia (formerly Abyssinia), but geneticists now believe that the breed was born in Southeast Asia. One of the oldest and America’s most popular breeds, the Abyssinian closely resembles all cats’ ancestor, the African wildcat. It wears a tabby, ticked coat in four colors: blue, fawn, red, and ruddy. What does ticked mean? The hair gradually contrasts in color from the skin to the surface. Almond-shaped gold or green eyes and large, pointy, and wide-set ears also strikingly classify the breed.

Behaviorally, the Abyssinian is extremely energetic, incredibly intelligent, and although it doesn’t particularly like to be held, very loyal. “There is probably no breed anywhere more loyal than the Aby,” explains the Abyssinian Breeders International “Kitten Buyer’s Guide,” according to The Cat Fanciers’ Association.

The Abyssinian is easy to groom and generally healthy. Just be wary that the breed is prone to a kneecap dislocation condition called patellar luxation as well as gingivitis. With a significant lifespan of 12 to 15 years, you’re sure to enjoy many memorable moments as you grow older together.

Based on information from:
Popular Cat Breeds. (2009). Discovery Communications.
Miller, Joan. *Breed Profile: Abyssinian*. (2009). The Cat Fanciers’ Association.

Knowing increasingly more about felines can help you understand your own cat’s behavior and desires. Visit Feline Field in Feline Defenders every issue to obtain such knowledge, which can only nurture a happier and healthier relationship with your faithful friend.



Interested in adopting an Abyssinian cat? Become a Fan of National Cat Protection Society – Spring Valley and National Cat Protection Society – Newport Beach to see some of our adoptable cats and kittens!



NATCAT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Each year, NATCAT finds loving, responsible homes for hundreds of unwanted cats and kittens. Donations and memberships help us provide them with food, shelter, and medical care while awaiting adoption. Please help us continue to provide this vital service.

Join NATCAT by becoming a member!

- \$10 YEARLY
- \$250 SUPPORTING MEMBER
- \$1000 LIFE MEMBER
- \$_____ OTHER DONATION

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CAT CABLE



Supplying the latest information in cat care...

Rough Play

Playing helps cats naturally nurture physical coordination, cognition, and social skills with other cats. However, some cats play a little too rough, which will likely worsen over time. So how can you tell your cat is on the path to destruction? You don't need to worry if her mouth is slightly open and she jumps sideways. On the other hand, growling, hissing, and spitting are signs that you need to start curbing the roughhousing.

Here's how to discourage your cat from rough play:

- Regularly toss or dangle toys in front of her such as small balls, mice, or flexible sticks with feathers
- Set out paper bags or cardboard boxes for her to explore
- Play with her for at least 10 minutes twice daily, when she has the most energy
- Consider adopting another cat around the same age
- Spray a little water, blow a bit of air, or loudly clap your hands. "Small wads of paper kept in your pocket or in likely ambush places around the house often work well as substitute toys," suggests the ASPCA, if you don't have a toy on hand to distract her

Definitely DON'T:

- Yell at your cat. You might scare her
- Ever hit your cat

Continued on page 7



Where There's A Will, There's A Way

Protect the Ones You Love

**You can give the gift of life after you're gone by including
The National Cat Protection Society in your will.**

Our humane education programs strive to teach population control and the responsible care of cats to school children so that there will be fewer unwanted cats in years to come.

Your bequeathed donation can help make our dreams a reality by promoting humane cat care and adoption of the homeless cats in our shelter.

**Please write today for our free brochure:
"Planning for Your Charitable Donations"**
c/o National Cat Protection Society
6904 W. Coast Hwy, Newport Beach, CA 92663

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