

FELINE DEFENDERS

of the
National Cat Protection Society™



SPRING/SUMMER 2011

6904 W. Coast Highway
Newport Beach, CA 92663
(949) 650-1232
newport@natcat.org

9031 Birch Street
Spring Valley, CA 91977
(619) 469-8771
springvalley@natcat.org

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 satisfy natural instincts...

Environmentally Enriching Your Home

Can't figure out why your indoor cat plays rough, destroys objects, or retreats from visitors? She may simply be bored. To stimulate your cat, try satisfying her natural instincts to run, jump, climb, hunt, and play – with these suggestions:

- Use and rotate toys, whether cats play with them alone or with you. “Stimulating play for a cat involves opportunities to ‘hunt’,” explains the ASPCA. “So move toys in such a way that they mimic the movements of a rodent or bird”
- Set up and rotate amusing items, like cardboard boxes, fish tanks, and paper shopping bags
- Set out a cat tree or jungle gym
- Hang bird and squirrel feeders outside
- Play videos of birds, rodents, and other small animals. Wondering where to find one? Try Amazon.com, in “Movies & TV” – searching “cat video”
- Grow and set out cat grass
- Feed throughout the day, rather than in the morning and at night. Can't? Buy an automatic feeder
- Construct an outdoor enclosure or window perch

Bringing an outdoor cat in? Set out a scratching post and litterbox outdoors first, if necessary. “If you're feeding your cat outdoors, begin feeding him indoors,” notes the HSUS. “Then, instead of letting the cat back outside as soon as he is finished eating, keep him inside for gradually longer periods of time.” If your cat tries to escape, consider spraying water, clapping your hands, or throwing food away from the door.

Based on information from:

Enriching Your Cat's Life. (2011). The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

Home, Sweet Home: Bringing an Outside Cat In. (2009). The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).



EVENTS

Keeping you informed of community events...

Newport Beach Events

May 15, 2011, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

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

June 11, 2011, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cat and Dog First Aid
at the American Red Cross, Orange County
600 N. Parkcenter Dr., in the George M. Chitty Building
(714) 481-5355

Spring Valley Events

May 7, 2011, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walk for Animals – Barkin' Beach Bash
(benefiting the San Diego Humane Society)
(619) 299-7012

June 4, 2011, 5:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Spring Fling
(benefiting Helen Woodward Animal Center)
(858) 756-4117

June 5, 2011, 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

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NEWPORT BEACH

VISITING-VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT, CAL STATE'S FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS



California State University, Fullerton's Future Business Leaders of America Club students Jacob Irwin, Jose Mota and his sisters Cecillia and Jesusita, Elizabeth Sandoval, and Clarice Solis visited NATCAT on February 12, 2011, to kindly help us clean! One to three

volunteers partnered with each staff member to learn how to thoroughly clean each section of the shelter. Then, three volunteers washed the food dishes while two washed and sanitized the litterpans.

Our vet tech, Dennis, showed them how to properly clip nails and brush fur. They enjoyed brushing and petting our kitties, and our kitties loved all of the attention! The volunteers were surprised at the amount of work involved in cleaning a shelter – commenting that the staff needs a pat on the back for it! – but they all had a great time while doing it.

FELINE FIELD *(Continued from page 8)*

easily adapts to a new environment, but then prefers this environment doesn't change again. With soft-spoken meows, large eyes, and responsive charm, the Persian beautifully complements any home with children and other pets.

Based on information from:

Popular Cat Breeds. (2009). Discovery Communications.

Persian Cat. (2011). Petfinder.org.

Breed Profile: Persian. (2011). The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA).

NATCAT protects and defends all felines – of all breeds and mixes.

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.

43RD ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE AND FUNDRAISER

Our May 15th event was a great success! After the morning showers ceased, the sky thankfully made way for plenty of sunshine for a warm, enjoyable day.

Attendees bid on silent auction gift baskets and gift certificates, and won raffle prizes and a special prize – a unique Barbie™ doll and accessory kit. The silent auction even featured a few items that created a bidding frenzy, earning bids well above the actual value! Meanwhile, we ate and drank Suzanne's Catering's delicious hamburgers, hot dogs, side dishes, and beverages, on tables dressed up for us – with beautiful centerpieces and black cloths. And like every year, we were entertained by M.C. Trent Slatton's silly cat jokes and prize updates throughout the day.

Thank you, everyone, for making the event really pay off for our many deserving kitties!



401(k) DONATIONS TO NATCAT

Over 70½ years old and required to withdraw funds from your 401(k)? Donate to NATCAT! By directly donating from your 401(k), you avoid paying income tax on the amount while helping our cats and kittens. Both are sure to make your heart feel good! Interested? Contact us or your tax professional for more details.

CAT CLUE

The Persian cat's eyes easily tear due to their large size. To properly care for this ongoing condition, wash your Persian's face daily. *For more on the Persian cat, check out our Breed-born Traits and Behaviors series on page 8.*



FEATURED FRIEND, MOON

Moon is an adult black and white domestic shorthair male. After rescuing and neutering him, a caring woman brought him to NATCAT. Moon is a big boy with a softer side – he may be shy, but likes to be rubbed on the belly and talked to. He also loves his toys! On the other hand, he doesn't like mops, brooms, or raised hands.

Moon doesn't mind other cats – so if you're a patient person with perhaps one other kitty, he may perfectly fit your friendly family.

CAT CABLE *(Continued from page 10)*

adjust him to it

*According to the International Journal of Applied Research in Veterinary Medicine, older cats given these antioxidants indicated reduced disease incidence and improved intestinal health.

Based on information from:

Feeding Older Cats. (2011). The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

The Special Needs of the Senior Cat. (2006). American Association of Feline Practitioners. Cupp, Carolyn J., DVM, MS; Jean-Philippe, Clementine, DVM, PhD; Kerr, Wendell W., MS; Patil, Avinash R., BVSc, PhD; Perez-Camargo, Gerardo, PhD, MRCVS. (2007).

Effect of Nutritional Interventions on Longevity of Senior Cats. The International Journal of Applied Research in Veterinary Medicine, 5 (3).

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 e-mail newport@natcat.org.

NATCAT FEEDBACK

We hope you enjoy purr-using Feline Defenders every quarter. Let us know what you think or would like to see in future issues at newport@natcat.org!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT, MEG STERLING

Long-time volunteer Meg Sterling first discovered NATCAT back in 1988 while looking in the local phonebook for a shelter where she could bring in a feline fellow. Then six years later, she realized she could also bring in her professional skills as a massage therapist to our retirement cats! In October 1994, Meg started volunteering with us, focusing on our kitties with kidney issues. This focus is so unique that we feel extremely fortunate she continually helps us out, especially with her experience helping older people and cats alike – even the terminally ill.



Throughout the years, Meg has always appreciated that we don't overpopulate the shelter with kitties. "I like that the cats enjoy plenty of space and attention," she said. "That way, we can all care for every cat fairly." How does she care for the cats, specifically? Beyond handling general volunteering tasks, she complements everyday services with special massage and energy healing therapies. "I respectfully only treat the kitties that approach me," she clarified.

Outside of NATCAT, Meg runs a professional massage therapy practice connected to her home, where she also provides cat therapy. Her therapy cat, George, is a big, healthy 18 year old despite his FIV. He gladly lies on people and purrs, making anyone feel good. He also actually walks Meg's clients from her space to their car and comes right back! She has one other cat – a 14-year-old tuxedo, Little John. Sadly, her 17-year-old Manx, Ginger, recently passed away but fortunately, lived a long, fulfilling life. Predictably, all of her cats came from NATCAT.

Between adopting and volunteering with our shelter cats, and gently and lovingly caring for all cats, thank you from all of us for all you do, Meg!

CAT TIP

Older cats commonly experience dehydration, which can weaken blood circulation and immunity. To prevent dehydration, make sure to keep plenty of fresh water out at all times. *For more on nourishing senior cats, check out page 10.*

CAT CABLE



Supplying the latest information in cat care...

Feeding Your Senior Cat

Your cat has officially become a senior at about seven years old. At this time, expect to start seeing physical changes – in immunity, metabolism, and physique. While you can't prevent certain changes, you can prevent others through the right diet.

Draw on these tips based on your veterinarian's advice to slow signs of aging:

- Feed your cat a lower caloric–density food with normal protein content, to maintain weight and muscle. Choose the proper food for your cat's stage of life and if any, medical condition. For “complete and balanced” cat foods that meet the Association of American Feed Control Officials' (AAFCO) standards, visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) website at <http://www.fda.gov/animalveterinary/resourcesforyou/ucm047120.htm>
- Give your cat antioxidants such as vitamin E and beta-carotene*, to fight free radicals that damage body tissue, and infection, illness, and disease
- Give your cat vitamin E, to also boost antibodies that fight infection, illness, and disease

Beyond diet, use these tips to keep your cat feeling young:

- Maintain his daily routine, regular vet visits, and weekly mini exams of his ears, teeth and gums, and fur to detect any disease. Ask your vet details on how to perform mini exams
- Minimize his stress. If you can't avoid a stressful situation, gradually

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Where There's a Will, There's a Way

Protect the Ones You Love

Give the gift of quality life after you're gone by including the National Cat Protection Society™ in your will.

Our humane education programs teach animal population control and responsible cat care to children and adults. These programs aim to reduce the number of unwanted cats and enhance animal welfare for years to come.

Your bequeathed donation can support these efforts by helping us promote the humane treatment of all animals and adoption of the homeless cats continually entering our shelters.

**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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