

ladew



mews

NEWSLETTER OF THE LADEW CAT SANCTUARY

VOLUME 2 NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2012

Getting It All Together

Organizing our resources
to better serve our kitties



The Utility Room - Before



The Utility Room - After

We have a new
shelter phone number.
(516) 922-CATS!
Our fax # is (516) 922-5203.

Visit us at
theladewcatsanctuary.org

Extend

Your

Planned



Love!



Giving:

If something happens to you, who will take care of your cats?
We often get phone calls from relatives who are left with someone's beloved cats after they have passed or become disabled in some way.

Have you planned for the future of your cats or will they be brought to a city shelter to wait with hundreds of other homeless pets in hopes of another home?

With the Sanctuary's Planned Giving/Surviving Pet Care Program, you can rest assured that your cats will be taken care of in a home-like environment, enriched with entertainment, medical care and love.

If you've been thinking about the future of your felines when you're no longer here to care for them, why not consider enrolling in our Surviving Pet Care program and allowing us the privilege of caring for them in your absence.

In order to be eligible for this program, you must first become a Ladew Cat Sanctuary member. Then, depending upon the number of cats you have, an additional fee(s) will be imposed, which will allow us to care for your cats for your lifetime. These fees can be left in accordance with planned giving as outlined on our website (<http://theladewcatsanctuary.org/index.php?p=giving>), or donated during your lifetime. If Surviving Pet Care is on your mind, becoming a Ladew Cat Sanctuary member is the first step towards peace of mind. For further information, please contact Dr. Susan Whittred @ 516-922-CATS(2287) or email us at info@theladewcatsanctuary.org.



ladew mews

© FEBRUARY, 2012

The Patricia H. Ladew Foundation, Inc.

Executive Editor - Susan V. Whittred, DVM

Creative Editor - Elise Klingensmith

Board of Directors:

Elliot L. Hoffman, Esq.

Bruce E. Trauner, Esq.

Peter S. Matorin, Esq.

Director of Veterinary Medicine

Susan V. Whittred, DVM

Licensed Veterinary Technician

Andrea Castro

Manager — Lynn Manno

Caretaker — JoAnn Studley

Volunteers:

Tatum Christiansen (and Insuperity)

Steve Christiansen

Janet Bruce

Beata Boruta

Call us at (516) 922-CATS!

Our fax # is (516) 922-5203.

Visit us at:

theladewcatsanctuary.org

Send us your mews!

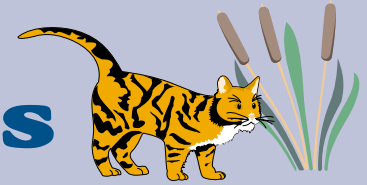
The Ladew Cat Sanctuary family is always on the alert for updates and happy, interesting, or just plain amusing cat tales about our former residents.

Please email to:

Dr. Susan Whittred, DVM

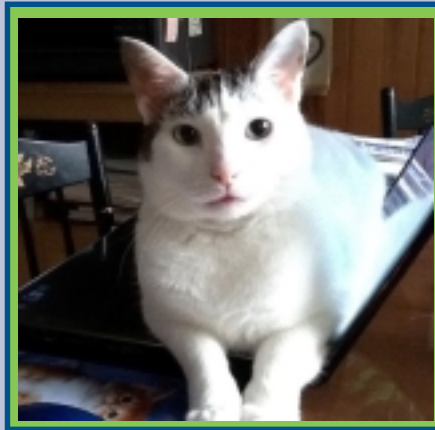
@theladewcatsanctuary.org

Happy Cat Tales



Two introverts become extroverts when the right owners come along.

There is no question in my mind that cats adopt owners and not the other way around. We'll let the new kitty parents tell the rest...



Meet Checkers...



"How is it that when you meet the right cat you just know that's the one you want to take home. That's how I felt when I met Checkers 4 years ago. I saw his picture on the petfinder.com site. He was at the Ladew Foundation (what a wonderful place for cats and kittens to be while they are waiting to be adopted). To me he was the most adorable kitten I have ever seen. I called the foundation to inquire about Checkers and see if he was still available for adoption. The answer I received was, 'Yes, but he is very, very shy.' I felt that was ok and took a ride to Oyster Bay to meet him. I am so happy that I did. He was very shy, but that didn't last long at all.

Checkers is 4 years old now. He is without a doubt the most social and confident cat I have ever known. He doesn't have a shy bone in his body. He has a great personality that keeps my husband and me laughing all the time. He is quite the character, and I believe that he thinks he is human. He is very vocal and lets us know exactly what he wants. He loves to play. His favorite things to do are: run through a tunnel, chase little soccer balls and retrieve them and hide in a laundry basket, but most of all he loves hanging out with us. All I can say is that he is awesome, and it was fate the day I saw his picture.

P.S.: As you can see (by the picture) another thing he loves to do is hang out on our computer while we are trying to do work."

— Ronnie and Glenn

Meet Charlie...



Charlie (formerly known as Waldo) was as shy as could be until Yelena and her mom came along.

"My mother and I originally came to the sanctuary looking for an orange kitten named Alvin.

We were scrambling to catch Alvin until a little gray and white baby, our Charlie, caught my eye.

As soon as we held Charlie, we melted. When we brought him home, he was so scared he didn't eat or use his litter box for days.

One day, he decided we weren't too bad and came out of hiding. These days, Charlie can be seen carrying toys twice his size and weight around the house. He likes to sleep under the bedspread and go into the medicine cabinet to find hair ties to chew on and knock around.

To know him is to love him! Thanks guys!"

— Yelena



Ask Dr. Susan...

"What can I do to stop my cat from inappropriately urinating and/or defecating?"



INAPPROPRIATE URINATION/DEFECATION

One of the most common reasons for relinquishment of cats to shelters is inappropriate urination/defecation. Many people incorrectly believe that cats are being spiteful for some reason i.e., upset that you went on vacation, or mad that you changed the food. Unfortunately, or rather, fortunately, cats do not understand nor do they act out of spite like we humans do. Cats use litterboxes because they prefer a place to bury their excrement, not because they think that's what we want. We're just lucky that it works out that we both prefer that they use the litter box. When a cat stops using the litterbox, there is a reason that makes sense TO THE CAT. So, let's stop projecting human beliefs onto our cats and try to think of it from the cat's point of view, instead of ours.

MEDICAL REASONS

For inappropriate urination – Your cat may have a urinary tract infection which makes he/she feel like they have to urinate all the time, even when there is no urine or little urine in the bladder. Often times, they feel like they can't even make it into the litterbox and you may see very small spots or drops of urine (sometimes with blood) in inappropriate places. Reasons for this could be bladder stones, bacterial tract infection or sterile cystitis (among others) Male cats might also be trying to tell you that something is occluding their urinary tract and making it difficult or (and this is an emergency!) impossible to urinate.

For inappropriate defecation – Reasons such as diarrhea or even constipation can cause them to defecate inappropriately. There are many medical reasons that could cause both diarrhea (parasites, hyperthyroidism, inflammatory bowel disease, to name a few) or constipation (renal disease, dehydration) and either of these resulting symptoms can cause a cat to defecate in inappropriate places.

The bottom line is: if your cat is inappropriately urinating or defecating, it is important to take your cat to the vet and make sure there isn't a medical reason for the new behavior.

(continued on page 4)

Ask Dr. Susan (continued from page 3)

BEHAVIORAL

Once the medical reasons have been ruled out, then you can start looking at possible reasons and see what can be rectified.

Number of litter boxes Animal behaviorists recommend that you have one litterbox for each cat you have, plus one. So, if you have 3 cats you should have 4 litterboxes. If you don't have enough boxes and are having a problem with one of your cats, we recommend adding another litter box in a different location from the one that you have.

Cleanliness Many cats will not use a dirty box. It is very important that you scoop at least once a day, more if you have multiple cats. If you're not using litter liners, you will have to completely change the litter and scrub the entire box more often. If you are using litter liners, the odors won't penetrate the box, thereby keeping the box clean longer. When you get down to the last liner, you start all over with fresh litter without having to scrape excrement off the side of the box. If you're not keeping the box clean, it could be that kitty found a new clean place to go to the bathroom.

Are your boxes open or closed? While many cats will use a closed box, most prefer an "open" litter box (without the hood). If you have all closed boxes, try taking the tops off, especially if you are experiencing problems. Some cats feel too "closed-in" with the hooded boxes.

Type of litter Most cats like the sand-like feel of clumping litter, which is also easy to scoop out for cleanliness, but be mindful that some cats may prefer litters that are unscented. Cats are extremely sensitive to any change – perhaps you just changed your litter to a different brand? Even if you still use clay litter, remember that any change can change a cat's mind when it comes to using the bathroom!

Location of boxes – If all of your boxes are in one area, try moving them to different areas, particularly areas that are quiet. Something may have happened near the location or in the location where the boxes are that has caused the cat to stop going to that location. Maybe your litterbox is next to a boiler that turned on and scared the cat when he/she was in the box. Perhaps one of your cats is intimidating the other one when they're in the litter box or pouncing on them when they come out so they don't want to go in there anymore.

If you have multiple cats and suspect that there might be an inter-kitty war brewing, Feliway brand diffusers (similar to glade plug-ins) might help. They emit an odor of feline pheromones similar to those that cats naturally emit when they are happy (like when they rub against your leg when you're getting dinner ready!). They are undetectable to humans but are pleasant for cats. Recently collars have entered the marketplace (Nurture Calm) which may be more cost effective if you know which cat is under stress.

If all the above fails, you can talk to your veterinarian about behavioral medications, which, along with some modifications in your household, can be very beneficial to you and your kitty. 🐾



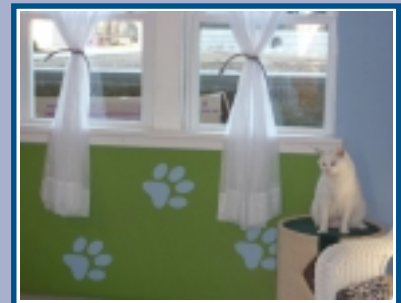
Renovation Update

Walk this way

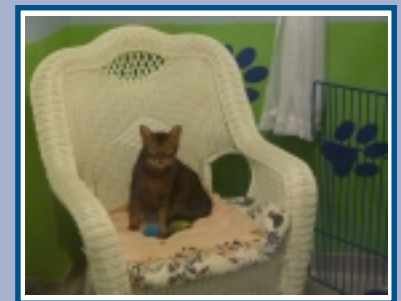


Pawprints brighten up the entire shelter!

While we await more permits for our spay/neuter clinic, we continue to make the environment for the cats we care for bright and cheery.



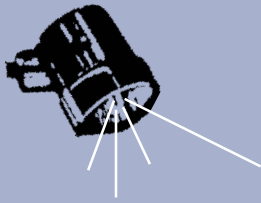
Bianca (above), who was adopted by **ladew mews** Creative Editor Elise Klingensmith shortly after this photo was taken, shows off some of the pawprints in one of our newly renovated Adoption rooms.



Mr. Big (above) lounging in another one of our adoption rooms. If you'd like to come and visit us, please call 516-922-CATS and set up an appointment to visit us!

Hope to see you soon!

SPOTLIGHT ON



SPONSORSHIP



Eenie

Click here to sponsor Eenie.



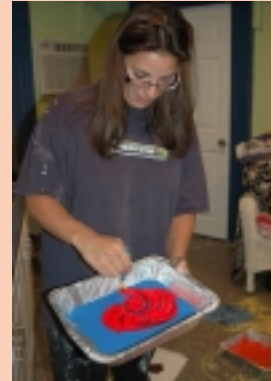
Eenie, who came to us with her kids, Meenie, Miney & Mo, is still here with Miney. Meenie & Mo were adopted.

Eenie (not so Eenie anymore!), who suffers from chronic stomatitis, is a really sweet kitty, but just loves her baby Miney so we'd hate to split them up. Until we find someone to adopt them both, you can help us feed Eenie and pay for her monthly injections (and it isn't cheap!) by sponsoring her for \$25.00.

ADOPT A CAT IN FEBRUARY

♥ SHARE THE LOVE ♥

Adopt a cat in February and receive a framed Paw Print painting (frames and paintings vary), painted by our own Ladew kitties, under the supervision of our Arts & Crafts Director, Lynn Manno (photo below), and the help of her assistant, Tatum Christiansen(photo right).

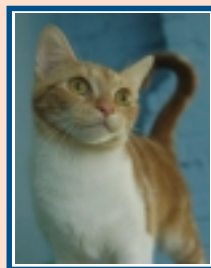


The cats have been in the Paw Prints drawing room trying to think up ways to get new homes for themselves. They finally came up with parting with some of their limited edition paintings to see if they could entice

people to open up their homes to a new kitty.

The cats have been working hard on their Paw Prints originals, and we would hate to disappoint them. Please call us @ 516-922-CATS (2287) to take home an original Paw Prints artwork and, better yet, your own forever Paw Prints artist.

Adopt Sweet Pea



Sweet Pea was taken from a hoarding situation. She was thin and sickly when she first arrived, but

now is thriving and loves to play!

We estimate Sweet Pea to be less than a year old. She is spayed, tested negative for FELV/FIV, dewormed, microchipped, is up-to-date on her vaccines and is an accomplished laser light player.



Click here to adopt Sweet Pea.

