

christmas 2016



MEWSletter

Merry
Christmas



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Our main source of funds is YOU...
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In This Issue:

Cats in Alzheimer's Care Facilities
"Old Age" is Not a Disease
The Adventures of Gary

C.R.A. # 899091128RR0001 | Alberta Charitable # 3101541

Save the Date Dinner & Silent Auction on May 6, 2017



Thank you Meadowbrook Animal Clinic for inviting us to your Open House on Oct 15.

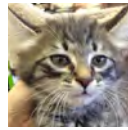


The Hervey Foundation for Cats
Oct 22 @ 5:30pm



Great News...Hansel and Gretel are loving their new Furr-Ever home together!! "They are so lovable and have brought so much joy into my life." Heather

Carter's Corner



The Hervey Foundation for Cats
Oct 16 @ 6:47 pm

Hi Marjorie! In a couple of more weeks it will be 3 years since we adopted Carter, and now he's a proper little adult cat.

A while ago I mentioned how he insists Gene follows the morning ritual of combing him on the bed. He makes little squeals to direct him there, purrs loudly with his eyes closed in ecstasy when the combing starts, and also positions himself for certain areas to be combed. You can see in one of the photos how he rolls his head back, and he's making little noises for Gene to hurry up and get under his chin. Such a lovable little clown!

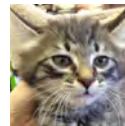
Hope all is well with you at "Marjorie's Menagerie".
Regards, Lydia



Morning routine!



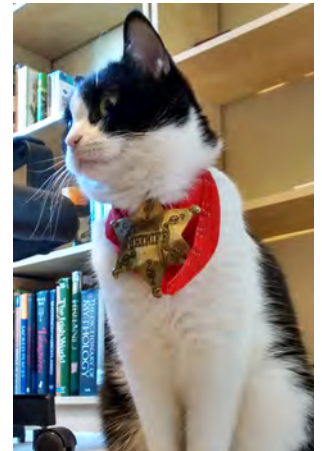
How many days until spring?



The Hervey Foundation for Cats
Sept 25 @ 7:55 pm

Hi Marjorie!

Something very exciting has happened and I wanted to share it with you. A few years ago I adopted Willow from your foundation and she's just made her literary debut! Miss Willow and the Great Fish Mystery is the first children's book of the series I'm writing. I wanted to let you know that as soon as the production costs of the project have been recovered I intend to share a portion of the profits with Hervey Foundation to help support the wonderful place that brought Willow into my life.



You can check out the book here: https://www.amazon.ca/Miss-Willow-Great-Fish-Mystery-ebook/dp/B01LWY33RM/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1474753412&sr=8-1&keywords=erin+kinsella

Thank you for your amazing work with the kitties! Erin

Thank you for my Furr-Ever Home!

Welcome to the Christmas Winter Newsletter!



Dear Supporters,

Grab an eggnog or hot toddy and sit down to enjoy the many different and wonderful articles in this edition.

Well, another year has passed and while we are always busy at the Foundation it still amazes me to see where the time goes. We are always busy with the routine work of caring for the cats, cleaning, taking in our deliveries of food and litter and general maintenance that is ongoing.

We get a lot of phone calls and e-mails from people needing advice on their cat's problem and we are always glad to help in any way we can. Our greatest reward is when our advice results in people being able to keep their cat, as that is what we always hope can happen.

It saddens us to hear of the many cats still ending up in shelters and rescues. Times are difficult for a lot of people which has resulted in many people moving back to their home province and unable to take

their cat with them. Many others just can't afford to keep their cat anymore. WE hope that 2017 brings a better year, not just for the people, but for the cats too.

Winter came early this year and found us scrambling to get the outdoor work done. Like so many others, we were close to being finished but did not quite make it. So we were putting plant pots away in the snow and just trying in general to finishing tidying the yard.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Morinville Vet Clinic for everything they did to help Avery. Avery was a stray that came to us here at the Foundation. He had been hit by a car and needed extensive care. His story is further on in the newsletter. Once again, the vets and staff at the Morinville clinic stepped up to the plate and were able to save Avery. We cannot thank them enough. Over the years, the Morinville clinic has always taken wonderful care of our animals. Whether it was just routine procedures, or serious complicated surgeries such as this was. We are most grateful for the amazing skills and compassion they showed throughout the ordeal and wish everyone at the clinic our very best.

We would like to thank Meadowbrook Animal Clinic for inviting us to their Open House held October 15. Despite the

miserable weather, a number of folks showed up to support us and the clinic. It is always nice to meet new people and get reacquainted with our awesome supporters.

Many thanks again to our volunteers who help clean, pick up and deliver supplies, and help us with events such as the Dinner and Silent Auction. It all adds up to a lot of work and everyone's help is greatly appreciated. To Dan and Della, of Creative Color, for our newsletter, Facebook page, the website, all our printing needs and Dan for helping with so many other problems that arise and always having a solution.

To all our supporters that donate to us through the year, support us at our events, and are just there for us on an ongoing basis we want to tell you once again how much you are appreciated. Together, we are helping so many kitties that have come to us, like Avery. Thank you so much, and we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and look forward with great hope to a much better year in 2017.

Marjorie Hervey



I haven't used my pet health insurance policy in a few years. Do I really need it?

Staying Secure for Life

In our world of cat ownership, many of us wisely choose pet health care plans early in our pet's life. However, as time passes on, sometimes the question arises: "Should we continue with our plan when our pet seems healthy and we haven't had to use our pet insurance in a few years"?



While we bask in the bliss of having healthy pets, we must remind ourselves to always be prepared for the unexpected. Having a full comprehensive plan (one that includes coverage for accidents and illness) will always leave us with the peace of mind that if they need unexpected veterinary care tomorrow or even three years from now, we will never have to make those difficult financial decisions. Diseases such as hyperthyroid, chronic kidney disease, and allergies (just to name a few) can become lifetime health issues that can develop late in a cat's life, but are treatable to ensure a good quality of life.

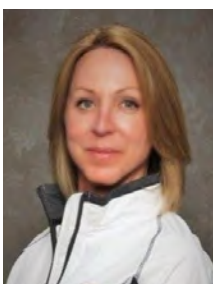
I love sitting on the couch on a lazy Saturday afternoon with my AppleJax curled up on my lap, healthy as can be, purring away. I gaze at him and think, "what would I do without you, my furry friend?" The answers come to me:

- Save time by not having to vacuum cat hair out of all the baseboards, vents, and every inch of my house.
- Get more work done if he wasn't trying to lay on my laptop all the time.
- Save money on a pet health insurance plan.
- Save money on food and litter.

Then I realize the real question is, "what would I be missing without you here?" The answers come very quickly to me:

- Many mornings of laughter watching you run furiously around the house contorting your body in positions even the highest yogi has not yet mastered.
- The wonderful friend who constantly greets me at the door after work.
- The calmness you instill after that stressful day of work.
- The listening skills you have that compare to none (except the shrink I had to pay \$85 an hour for).
- The unconditional love you give me every day – regardless if I haven't changed the litter yet.

AppleJax is healthy, and I'm going to enjoy every day I have with him because he adds to my life in immeasurable ways. He will always have his yearly visits with his veterinarian and I hope he's healthy for a lifetime, but I'm not going to worry about it because we are secure for life with Petsecure.



Chantele Cloutier
Petsecure

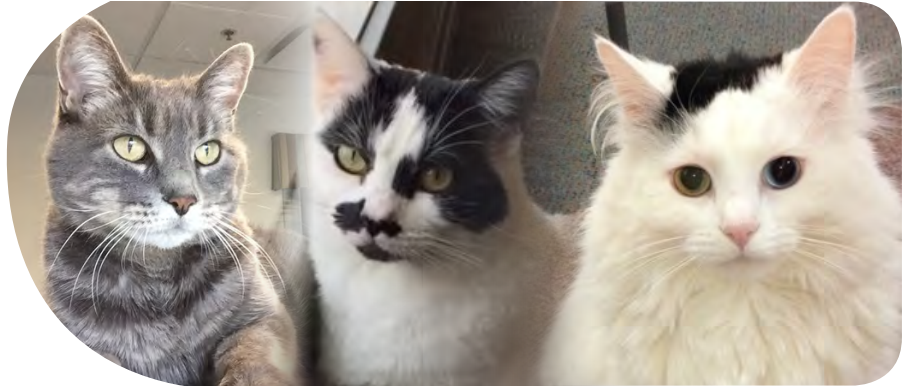
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Healing, loving, purring: cats in alzheimer's care facilities

By Patricia Allyn



Sage

Trixie

Pixie

"A cat purring on your lap is more healing than any drug in the world, as the vibrations you are receiving are of pure love and contentment." - St. Francis of Assisi

Purring, to me, is the most wonderful and comforting sound in the whole world. Enjoying some cuddle time with a purrful companion instantly eases my mind and lifts my spirits. For me, there is no better way to fall asleep than to share my pillow with a cat, lying pushed up against my ear, purring me off to "la-la land" each night!

Everyone knows that cats purr when they're happy. It is a lesser known fact that at times cats also purr to calm themselves when they're afraid or feel threatened, such as with one of mine who purrs during vet visits; and that they can also purr when in pain or to heal themselves, such as when badly injured or in labour. These calming and healing benefits are without a doubt passed on to nearby humans as well, and contribute towards that wonderful tranquil feeling we get when sharing some loving with our favorite felines.

My mom was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease almost eight years ago. When it became apparent that she was no longer able to live on her own, she moved into McConnell Place West, a relatively new and modern home-like facility in Edmonton. McConnell Place is very bright with an open floor plan and lots of

huge windows, has a large yard which is a park-like oasis in the heart of the city's busy west end, and employs a staff that truly cares about their charges and loves their job.

A Pleasant, Furry Surprise!

Shortly after my mom moved into McConnell Place, I was delighted to discover that Sage, a grey tabby girl, also resided there. I started spending time with Sage, bringing treats, a brush, and toys with me, and soon gaining her friendship. We became buddies, and I knew I'd made a true friend the day Sage came running when she heard my voice! In more recent years two kittens have also found a home at McConnell Place. Trixie and Pixie claimed their places in the hearts of residents, staff, and visitors, along with Sage.

The cats of McConnell Place don't just help the residents; they help the families and visitors as well. From my own personal experience, they've been wonderful in helping me to cope, and I've definitely witnessed them helping my mom over the years as well. They offer a bit of a diversion for both of us. It can be emotionally hard visiting a loved one afflicted with Alzheimer's as it is often difficult to have a meaningful conversation. With my own mom, our visits are usually spent with me answering the same series of questions over and over again, usually revolving around who I

...cont'd on pg 6

...cats in alzheimer's care facilities ...cont'd from pg 5

am. I regularly go looking for a cat early on in our visit, either carrying her over to join my mom and I, or finding a spot for us to sit beside where Sage is usually perched atop her cat tree in front of the big picture window by the back door. Having a cat present during our visit distracts us both during these difficult conversations. I get my mom to pet her, brush her, or maybe offer her a treat; the cat lightens the mood, gives us something different to focus on, talk about, and maybe even share a humorous moment over! I always tell my mom that if I lived in McConnell Place, I would have all the cats sleeping in my room with me every night, and we both share a laugh!

To me, a house is just not a home without animals, including at least one cat. Sage, Trixie and Pixie are not official therapy cats, and they are free to wander McConnell Place as they please. They are not supervised during the majority of interactions, nor are they restricted in their daily lives in any way. They are, however, very important residents, transforming McConnell Place's already welcoming environment fully into a home. When people want to interact with the cats they are free to do so. If the cats choose to be left alone, they have lots of places they can go to have a break. Not all the residents interact with the cats, but even for the ones that don't, I can imagine it's got to be a comforting feeling merely for the normalcy of having cats in their midst. For the residents that do interact, the cats can make all the difference in the world!

The Four-Legged Stars of McConnell Place West

Sage is a sweet and gentle older lady with a velvety grey tabby coat and such a dainty face; I have a real soft spot for this special little girl. Sage always knows when someone is feeling ill and tries to comfort them by spending time either lying beside them or maybe even on their stomach.

Trixie is a glorious long haired white beauty with a few black patches and one blue and one yellow eye. This little princess has come to bond with and adore one of the residents in particular, and is seldom far from her side, following her around and sleeping with her each night.

Pixie, sister to Trixie, is a cute white girl with adorable black spots which give her a very unique look. Pixie goes from lap to lap during gatherings, such as during exercise class. Although Pixie is much more into eating than exercising, as evidenced by her plump figure, she loves that exercise sessions bring together so many "Pixie admirers". Everyone enjoys taking a break to visit with and talk about Pixie as she makes her rounds!

Love, Comfort, and So Much More

The benefits of living with cats are truly boundless. Do not underestimate the value of having the weight of a furry little body on your lap, feeling the soft warmth of fur against your skin, the joy of running your fingers through a silken coat, or if you're lucky, the occasional raspy kitty kiss. Cats supply companionship, affection and comfort, relieving loneliness in the process. They have a way of brightening up everyone's day by spreading love and enjoyment. Their "joie de vivre" is contagious, as they entertain people with silly antics, and create fun and amusement through play.

Socially, it's been shown that cats have triggered residents to demonstrate more of an interest in life, perhaps the desire to get out of their room and mingle, and an opportunity to socialize with others over a safe and shared experience, while talking with or possibly laughing about the cat.

Nurturing and caring for a dependant, living and loving creature creates the important feeling of being needed.

...cont'd on pg 7

...cats in alzheimer's care facilities ...cont'd from pg 6

Meaningful chores, such as feeding, combing, or supplying clean water, give a greater sense of purpose, self-worth, and possibly even a reason to keep living.

Scientifically Speaking

As cat lovers, we don't need scientists to tell us what we have always instinctually known - that cats are the best medicine for both mental and physical health. However, more and more studies are proving the medical benefits of hanging out with cats to be true. Being with an animal can lower cortisol and increase serotonin, lessening depression. Measurable results show reduced stress, heart rate and blood pressure, resulting in a lesser chance of heart disease and stroke. A purr can induce healing and pain relief, help with infections, swelling, and even the mending of bones, to name but a few benefits. The ability to help with healing has been proven and is based on the cat's purr vibrations, which fall within the range of 20-140 hertz, the range which is known to be curative for many health concerns.

With Alzheimer's patients, cats do all this and more. They have been known to help with reducing agitation and anxiety, and in particular helping to ease "Sundowning" (the period in late afternoon or evening when patients become more agitated or confused). Seniors have been shown to eat more following a feline visit, and have displayed increased interest in themselves, other residents, and their environment. Visiting with kitty not only gives sensory stimulation through petting, but offers mental stimulation, often resulting in reviving forgotten memories and emotions, and eliciting a positive response.

All in A Day's Work

In return for their valuable services, cats require not

much more than a responsible person to ensure for their basic daily needs such as food, water, love and a clean kitty litter, in addition to regular grooming, licensing, and medical care. Cats are relatively easy to care for, and yet offer such high rewards. The cost and work involved are of no importance when measured against the benefits of having cats present.

Over the last several decades cats have made ever increasing strides in gaining importance as loved and valued family members. The number of households in North America with cats is greater than for any other type of pet, a statistic which strongly reflects on their popularity. All these people can't be wrong in their knowledge and feelings about how amazing it is to live with cats. That shouldn't have to stop at a time in a person's life when having pets is certainly of no less importance.

I can't imagine how hard it must be to be diagnosed with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. The thought of losing one's independence and leaving behind all memories, treasures, and loved ones (four-legged included) is unbearable. In an ideal world, Alzheimer's care facilities would not have to exist. But until that great day when a cure for Alzheimer's is discovered, Sage, Trixie and Pixie of McConnell Place West, along with the staff's love and appreciation for cats and all the joys and benefits that come along with having them, it gives me reason to hope that more and more Alzheimer's care facilities will realize the benefits of resident cats and welcome them in!

Recommended reading: "Making Rounds with Oscar" by David Dosa, M.D. This is a true story about a cat named Oscar, who resides at Steere House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Providence, Rhode Island. When a patient is about to pass, Oscar somehow knows this and stays with them, lying close by on their bed, and bringing a sense of peace and comfort to both the patient and their loved ones; he does not leave their side until they have actually passed.

Petsecure™
CANADA'S PET INSURANCE**Presents:**

CAT CHAT

with Petsecure's Chantele & Dr. Berney Pukay

Fat Cats

Editor's Note: Reprinted due to printing error Fall 2016 Newsletter

Chantele:

Today we are discussing felines that are overweight and how to best address the challenge of healthy weight loss when recommended by your veterinarian. Overweight felines tend to be more susceptible but not limited to:

- osteoarthritis
- diabetes mellitus
- liver disease
- skin problems (from the inability to groom properly)
- a higher risk associated with surgery and anesthesia.



Today's question:

"Our cat is overweight and our veterinarian has been recommending that she lose weight for years. We have tried to get her to lose weight but it has proven to be very difficult (if not impossible). Regardless of which weight control diet we put her on, we cannot seem to get the weight off. I suspect part of the problem is that she is an indoor cat and doesn't get a lot of exercise. Should we be strict and simply reduce her food intake? What can we do short of starving her?"

Dr. Pukay:

Weight loss for cats is definitely more challenging than it is for dogs. As you have discovered, part of the reason is that dogs can easily be made to exercise by simply taking them on more walks or runs, or by increasing their play time. Indoor cats do not have that range of options and also tend to sleep for most of the day. Getting them to exercise becomes a real challenge.

It is not a good idea to simply reduce their food intake or "starve them" because cats are prone to a condition called "hepatic lipidosis" or "fatty liver", a disease that can occur when a cat (usually overweight) is starved or fails to eat for a few days. As fat is converted into energy, the liver can become damaged and this condition can be fatal if left untreated. For this reason, a weight reduction programme must be approached with caution in cats.

The aim of any weight reduction programme, whether for a dog, cat or human, is to decrease the number of calories that are consumed (i.e. less food) while at the same time increasing energy expenditure (i.e. more exercise).

The first step, which you have already taken, is to have your pet examined by a veterinarian. This is to make sure that there is no underlying medical reason for the obesity and that your pet can be safely put on a diet. If all is well, your cat should be weighted and a goal set for weight reduction (i.e. how much weight is to be lost?) and in what period of time.

It is also important to enlist your veterinarian to help you with the weight reduction programme. In fact, many veterinary hospitals have weight reduction programmes in place and offer regular ongoing advice from staff members during the programme.

...continued on page 10

Is your Cat a Senior?

“Old age” is not a disease.

by Dr. Gayle McDonald, Housecalls for Housecats



With age, the risk of some diseases does increase. We can often help cats live a little longer and live a more comfortable life if we don't ignore medical problems. Just because a cat is old does not mean they should suffer.

Arthritis

Cats are “seniors” after 7 years of age. Cats are “geriatric” (really senior seniors) after 12 years of age. Most cats over the age of 10 have some arthritis. Many cats do not limp. The signs of arthritis pain are not being able to jump like they used to, being stiff after laying down, and grooming less (often resulting in mats). Diagnosis is usually based on the cat's age and changes in activity or mobility. Radiographs do not always show the arthritis that cats have.

We cannot cure joint disease but we can treat the pain and keep the cat comfortable. Glucosamine helps slow the progression of joint disease. It is not much of a pain reliever for cats.

Metacam is an nsaid (non steroidal anti-inflammatory drug). If used at the proper low dose it is safe for long term use in most cats. Blood and urine tests should be done before starting this medication to screen for kidney disease. If a cat has significant kidney disease metacam might make it worse.

Buprenorphine is an opioid (distantly related to morphine) that works really well in cats.

Chronic Renal Disease

Chronic renal disease (crd) is common in geriatric cats. When the kidneys are no longer working at 100%, the cat's urine becomes dilute and the blood has higher levels of some products that the kidney normally excretes from the body (urea, phosphorous and creatinine).

What causes crd? Many things including poison or toxins (antifreeze, lilies, etc), chronic kidney infections, and genetic defect (some cats are born with polycystic kidneys). If a cat lives long enough, the kidneys will eventually have problems.

Symptoms of crd include drinking more, urinating more, weight loss, vomiting more than usual, high blood pressure, and blood in the urine. Diagnosis requires blood and urine tests.

We cannot cure crd (unless you go down to california for a feline kidney transplant). We can do a lot to help cats feel better and live longer. Crd is not always an instantly or quickly fatal disease. Diet is an important part of treatment. The normal senior cat does not need a lower protein diet. The cat with elevated kidney enzymes does. If a cat does not want to eat the renal / kidney diets, a phosphate binder can be used to make a regular food more kidney friendly. Fluids (subcutaneous or iv) can help cats who are vomiting a lot or are not eating. Potassium levels are often low in crd cats. This can be supplanted with oral medication. Antacids may be needed for some cats. Mirtazapine (an appetite stimulant) can help sick cats start eating again.

Hyperthyroid Cats

Hyperthyroid cats will lose weight in spite of eating more than usual. Diagnosis requires some blood tests. Treatment can be twice daily medication (for life), radiation, or special prescription diet.

Cats of any age can get cancer. It is seen more with senior cats than young cats. Cancer can affect every organ and tissue in the body so symptoms vary (vomit, diarrhea, cough, lumps, etc). The one common sign is weight loss.

If you have any concerns about your cat ask your vet!



...continued from page 8

Once a weight loss “target weight” has been set, you need to choose an appropriate reducing diet. Reducing diets are balanced rations that have all the necessary nutrients your pet needs but less calories than full rations.

Commercially available “Lite” or calorie-reduced diets are good for maintaining weight loss or preventing obesity, but they are not very effective for achieving weight loss.

Pets should be fed multiple small feedings throughout the day since this results in more energy expenditure than one or two large feedings.

Chantele:

Cats being fed multiple small feedings throughout the day is very interesting. My own cat AppleJax had issues with overeating or gorging or bothering me very early in the mornings or later in the evening after I went to bed. I have had him on a 5 tray turning Auto feeder since Christmas and it has been very successful for me. It allows me to put small amounts of dry food in the trays and they automatically turn at specific times during the day and evening.

He is a much happier cat and he is definitely accustomed to his feeder. He knows exactly when that is going to go off and sits in front of it patiently around the designated time. It's amazing! And he doesn't get me up at 5:00 in the morning anymore either, which makes me a lot happier. His weight is consistent, and he is healthier for it. I wouldn't live without my auto pet feeder.

What about cats that are recommended this type of a programme? Are treats still recommended?

Dr. Pukay:

It goes without saying snacks and treats are forbidden. You will also have to actively engage your cat in exercise by having play sessions (e.g. chasing after a ball or projecting a laser pointer on the wall).

Having regularly scheduled visits (e.g. every 3 months) to the veterinarian to monitor your pet's health and weight and to fine-tune the diet is crucial to effective weight loss in pets that seem resistant to losing weight. In the majority of cases, a programme will lead to success.

Chantele:

Thank you Dr. Pukay for answering those questions!

Cat Owners - Did You Know?

Petsecure offers a variety of pet health care plans to suit any budget and can help cover the costs of veterinary care when it comes to unexpected illnesses* such as :

- diabetes
- osteoarthritis
- liver disease
- skin problems
- foreign body ingestions

Petsecure can also help cover the costs of unexpected accidents, dental cleanings and extractions, and alternative therapy, behavioural therapy, and medical devices , with veterinary exam fees and taxes included! Our Secure 4 plan includes unlimited coverage, along with preventive coverage such as yearly blood work, urinalysis, fecal testing, and vaccines.* Talk to a Petsecure representative today for a free quote and to hear about the many more benefits we offer to ensure a “peace of mind” cattitude!

Dr. Berney Pukay is the chair of Petsecure's Veterinary Advisory Board and a well-known and highly-respected Canadian veterinarian.

*Some conditions, limitations and exclusions may apply.

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The Adventure's of Gary

"Everyone can see your story further on in the Mewsletter so I'd like to tell you about the Sanctuary and show you around.", said Gary.

"Okay!"


"The sanctuary is a place of protection and refuge for cats in dire need. The cats that stay here are usually here for their lifetime due to whatever experiences they have gone through. The adoptables are kept elsewhere, so we never get to meet them.

You will notice many of the cats here have had injuries similar to yours. Some of the cats only have three legs, or one eye, and many have suffered serious abuse often at the hands of strangers, sometimes by their owners. You may not see anything wrong with them but some have had broken ribs and broken legs that had to be set. Some cats here have invisible injuries from the abuse that they have sustained and those injuries are psychological. They end up enjoying life here after we rehabilitate them, but would not do well in another home. They trust Mommy, but that trust does not usually go any further because of the pain they have sustained. There are cats here that know the pain of hunger and starvation. There are some that know what it is like to not be able to feel their ears and tail and paws anymore due to frostbite. Often when these cats come in they have to have all or part of their tails amputated. For some, their ears fall off and paws have to be treated. Mommy promises that none of us will ever have to feel hunger or cold as long as we are here.

Some of the cats that come to us are old cats. Because of an aging human population, a lot of older people are having to go into special homes and aren't allowed to take their cats with them.

Some of the things that have happened to us cats are so horribly sad it makes Mommy angry that some humans could be so cruel. Mommy knows there are so many more out there that need help. She often has to send people to other groups that might be able to help. Here at the sanctuary we get to stay for our lifetime and for us that means lots of food, good vet care, and outdoor runs to go out and play in safely. Most important is the love we all get! Mommy created this place just for us and she works tirelessly everyday to care for us. The volunteers love us too! But, Avery, the most important thing is that we must always be grateful and appreciative of the supporters of the Foundation. They are the ones that help Mommy to care for us and the ones down the road that will need to come to us. So, I hope you understand a bit more about the sanctuary and where you are going to live. The vet that helped save your life will be here to make sure you and the rest of us are okay, always."

"I am so glad to be here!", exclaimed Avery

Gary said, "On behalf of all the cats at the sanctuary we would like to thank everyone that supports the Foundation. YOU are the reason we can finish our lives out in safety and love. We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year. Purr!!!"


Purrrrr

Its beginning to look a lot like Christmas, everywhere I go...

Many of you may not know how crazy Mommy is about Christmas. She loves everything about Christmas. There's all the baking, doing things for other people, Christmas cards, and of course...DECORATING! Here at the Sanctuary, starting the beginning of November, it becomes transformed into a cozy, warm Christmas palace. The wreaths come out, and they even have cats on them. The garland starts going up, snow globes appear and then the Christmas tree gets put up. That is the best time of all! Would it surprise you to know that the tree is entirely decorated with Christmas Cat ornaments that Mommy, along with family and friends, has spent years collecting. The tree is just beautiful!

Mommy even latch-hooked a wool Christmas tree skirt to go around the bottom of the tree. The best part of all is that we get to sleep on it under the tree for weeks leading up to the big day. On those cold, snowy days it is just so warm and cozy. Then, Christmas morning, Mommy gets up and gives us all these presents. We get new toys, and beds, and treats! Mommy told us this is thanks to all the incredible supporters who care about us all year and donate all kinds of things to us for Christmas. After this, Mommy finally gets to open her presents. Then we get to run through the paper, hide in the boxes and jump out at each other. We just have so much fun. It is our very best time of year. Oh, oh, have to go and welcome a new arrival to our wonderful home.

"Hello there. Mommy told us you were coming and I would like to welcome you to your new home. My name is Gary and I am the CEO of rodent control and the official greeter for the Foundation. Your name is Avery isn't it?"

Avery said "Yes. Hi. I am so glad to be here!"

"Mommy told us about your terrible ordeal, but you look great!" said Gary.

Avery replied, "I feel good now. It was terrible being hit by a car and having to undergo to major surgeries but the Morinville Clinic took wonderful care of me and look at me now. I feel great and I'm all better now."

A good laugh!



Wrapping Presents With a Cat!



1. Clear large space on table for wrapping present.
2. Go to closet and collect bag in which present is contained, and shut door.
3. Open door and remove cat from closet.
4. Go to cupboard and retrieve rolls of wrapping paper.
5. Go back and remove cat from cupboard.
6. Go to drawer, and collect transparent sticky tape, ribbons, scissors, labels, etc.
7. Lay out presents and wrapping materials on table, form wrapping strategy.
8. Go back to drawer to get string, remove cat that has been in the drawer since last visit and collect string.
9. Remove present from bag.
10. Remove cat from bag.
11. Open box to check present, remove cat from box, replace present.
12. Lay out paper to enable cutting to size.
13. Try and smooth out paper, realize cat is underneath and remove cat.
14. Cut the paper to size, keeping the cutting line straight.
15. Throw away first sheet as cat chased the scissors, and tore the paper.
16. Cut second sheet of paper to size - by putting cat in the bag the present came in.
17. Place present on paper.
18. Lift up edges of paper to seal in present. Wonder why edges don't reach. Realize cat is between present and paper. Remove cat.
19. Place object on paper, to hold in place while tearing transparent sticky tape.
20. Spend 20 minutes carefully trying to remove transparent sticky tape from cat with pair of nail scissors.
21. Seal paper with sticky tape, making corners as neat as possible.
22. Look for roll of ribbon. Chase cat down hall in order to retrieve ribbon.
23. Try to wrap present with ribbon in a two-directional turn.
24. Re-roll ribbon and remove paper, now torn due to cat's enthusiastic ribbon chase.
25. Repeat steps 13-20 until you reach last sheet of paper.
26. Decide to skip steps 13-17 in order to save time and reduce risk of losing last sheet of paper. Retrieve old cardboard box that is the right size for sheet of paper.
27. Put present in box, and tie down with string.
28. Remove string, open box and remove cat.
29. Put all packing materials in bag with present and head for locked room.
30. Once inside lockable room, lock door and start to relay out paper and materials.
31. Remove cat from box, unlock door, put cat outside door, close and relock.
32. Repeat previous step as often as is necessary (until you can hear cat from outside door)
33. Lay out last sheet of paper. (Difficult in the small area of the toilet, but do your best)
34. Discover cat has already torn paper. Unlock door go out and hunt through various cupboards, looking for sheet of last year's paper. Remember that you haven't got any left because cat helped with this last year as well.
35. Return to lockable room, lock door, and sit on toilet and try to make torn sheet of paper look presentable.
36. Seal box, wrap with paper and repair by very carefully sealing with sticky tape. Tie up with ribbon and decorate with bows to hide worst areas.
37. Label. Sit back and admire your handiwork, congratulate yourself on completing a difficult job.
38. Unlock door, and go to kitchen to make drink and feed cat.
39. Spend 15 minutes looking for cat until coming to obvious conclusion.
40. Unwrap present, untie box and remove cat.
41. Go to store and buy a gift bag

Marjorie Hervey of the Hervey Foundation can relate to this very well, as this is what she experiences every holiday season!



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The Hervey Foundation for Cats is a place of refuge for cats that would otherwise perish: the abandoned, the abused, the sick, the old, & the suffering. We are a no-kill, non-profit and tax-exempt private Charitable Foundation.

Be sure to invite all your cat caring friends to come with you to this special evening. Tickets are on sale now. It is a great way to meet up with lots of like-minded acquaintances while sharing a good time and meal together. If you know of great Silent Auction item donations we could pursue or want to reserve your tickets early, call Marjorie at 780-963-4933. By helping to make this event a success you are directly helping all the cats and kitties in our care. Thanks for joining us!

Marjorie

Avery's Story:

The Hervey Foundation for Cats

Sept 14

Avery was surrendered to the Hervey Foundation for Cats in dire need of medical care. Avery was suffering from major trauma that resulted in multiple hind leg fractures and damage to his diaphragm. He was presented to the Morinville Veterinary Clinic where he underwent two major surgeries.



There were fractures to his femur, tibia and fibula. A leg amputation was performed. In addition to his leg injuries, Avery had a diaphragmatic hernia. A diaphragmatic hernia is when the diaphragm is torn open. This type of injury resulted in the displacement of some of Avery's organs, pushing into his chest cavity and lungs. This was a painful injury that was causing respiratory distress. The surgery required to repair the hernia involved opening his abdomen to repair and relocate his organs into their proper spots. This surgery was performed by Dr. Kinsman and Dr. Matenchuk along with a team of support staff. This was a learning experience for some of the team members who had not performed this type of surgery before.

Avery's recovery was amazing, hours after his major procedure he was bright and alert hungry and affectionate. Our RVT Gail Cooper described his behaviour as remarkable.

Avery is now living a normal kitty life at the Hervey Foundation Sanctuary. He will be an advocate for rescued felines for the rest of his life. The Hervey Foundation for Cat's relies on donations in order to save cats like Avery. If you were touched by his story, please consider donating.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Morinville Vet Clinic for everything they did to help Avery.

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CAT CHAT

with Petsecure's Chantele & Dr. Berney Pukay

ITCHY – SCRATCHY FELINES

Today our discussion with Dr. Berney Pukay revolves around feline skin issues and how to best resolve these under veterinarian guidance. Feline skin conditions can involve (but aren't limited to):

- Environmental allergies
- Fleas or skin mites
- Food allergies



Today's question:

"Our 12 yr old neutered male cat started getting scabs on his body, especially around his head and ears and down his back. Twice the veterinarian has injected him with some kind of steroid along with antibiotics. This cleared the scabs up the first time, but after a month the problem, returned. After the second treatment, the scabs came back again about 2-3 months later. The veterinarian we go to suggested expensive blood work to determine the cause but he was not very optimistic about finding out the cause. Our question is are his symptoms most likely caused by system failure? What can we expect if these symptoms are not treated?"

Dr. Pukay:

Skin diseases in cats are difficult to diagnose and challenging to treat because cat skin only responds to disease in a limited number of ways. As a result, the same symptoms can mimic more than one medical problem. A diagnosis often requires that skin biopsies be taken so that the tissue can be examined under a microscope.

Scabs that involve the body and in particular the head and ears can often be due to allergies. Food allergies are surprisingly common in cats and this may be the case with your cat.

Frequently, the allergy is to one particular ingredient in the cat's diet usually a protein such as chicken or cereal. Cats with food allergies are very itchy and the self-trauma due to licking, biting and scratching causes scabs to form on the skin, a condition called "military dermatitis"

Environmental allergies can also cause generalized scabbing and itching. An allergy test is necessary to diagnose this problem and involves sending a blood sample to a laboratory or testing the skin with intradermal injections. Patients with environmental allergies respond well to steroid treatment.

Fleas and skin mites can also cause this condition. Specifically, a mite called *Noteodres cati*, can lead to self-excoriation that focuses primarily on the ears and head but can spread to the rest of the body. Treatment is simple and effective, using a topical drug called selamectin (Revolution) that is simply applied to the skin between the shoulder blades.

Your concern about a “system failure” is understandable since there are certain systemic illnesses such as auto-immune diseases, metabolic disorders and skin cancers that can manifest themselves with symptoms that include skin lesions. A blood and urine test can be an effective way to rule out systemic problems and confirm that your cat is healthy.

If your cat’s symptoms are left untreated, your cat’s skin condition will only get worse and may progress to the point where your cat will traumatize the skin so severely that he will stop eating, become listless, lose weight and suffer with pain.

Talk to your veterinarian about doing some lab work and, if the tests are normal, doing a skin biopsy to get a definitive diagnosis.

Cat Owners - *Did You Know?*

A comprehensive Petsecure plan for your feline can help cover the costs of diagnosing and treating skin allergies. Contact Petsecure today to speak with a licensed representative and discuss the many benefits of providing your cat with the best in veterinary care, without the burden of veterinary costs.

Dr. Berney Pukay is the chair of Petsecure’s Veterinary Advisory Board and a well-known and highly-respected Canadian veterinarian.

*Some conditions, limitations and exclusions may apply.



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Please open your heart and your home to one of our amazing cats and give them a second chance at a good life!



Want to adopt?

Please contact Marjorie at 780 963 4933

Your new cat requires food, care and attention throughout its life. The estimated annual costs of your new cat are:

- Food (Dry, Canned & Treats).. \$400
- Litter \$200
- Vet Checkups/Vaccines \$200
- Total annual costs..... \$800

You will also need:

- Water/Food Dishes \$150
- Scratching Post..... \$150
- Litter Pan & Scoop..... \$ 50
- Brush & Comb \$ 45
- Interactive Toys & Other Toys..\$150

Total initial cost \$545

Total first year cost: \$1520

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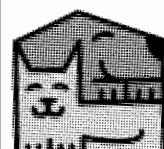


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WHO WE ARE



MEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT/FOUNDER

MARJORIE HERVEY

info@herveycats.com

DESIGN | info@creativecolor.ca

PRINTER | dan@creativecolor.ca

I am an Animal Rescuer

A RESCUER'S CREED

I shall be a believer of all that is good in man and of all that is deserving in animals.

I shall plead for their lives, campaign for their safety and uphold their right to a natural death.

I shall seek out the injured and the maimed, the unloved, and the abandoned and tend to them in their last days. I shall not forget their place in the hierarchy of life, nor that we walk in each other's paths.

I shall bear witness to the wonder they bring to our lives and to the beauty they bestow upon our souls. I shall renew their spirits when they are waning, bind their wounds when they bleed, cradle them when they whimper, and comfort them when they mourn.

I shall be near them in their hour of greatest need a companion and friend when the time has come. I shall watch over them and console them and ask that the angels gather them in their arms.

From the creatures of the earth I shall learn the fruits of compassion & undying love, and I shall be called the beloved of God. In their company I shall indeed be blessed.

Susan M. Pearson

The Foundation operates a no-kill facility - euthanasia as an option only when the animal cannot enjoy a reasonable quality of life.



— Our Mission —

To care for cats in dire need and give our less fortunate feline friends a warm, loving and caring environment that allows them to live out their lives. To attempt to find loving homes for cats and kittens that come into our care. To promote responsible pet ownership through public education, early spaying and neutering programs and promoting other care programs.



It takes 450^{lbs} of dry cat food, 75 cases of canned food and 800^{lbs} of litter EVERY MONTH to take care of the hundreds of stray, abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens that The Hervey Foundation for Cats takes in at their facility each year. Many of these animals find new homes – but many fall into permanent care at our facility.

With costs in excess of \$5000 every month the Foundation needs the continued support of the caring public to carry out our mission.

The Foundation is a registered non-profit Charitable Organization in Canada and Alberta:
C.R.A. # 899091128 RR0001 Alberta Charitable Organization License # 310154.

ALL DONATIONS MADE TO THE FOUNDATION ARE TAX-DEDUCTABLE!
Financial donations may be made by mail, phone, E-Transfer, Visa, Mastercard, ATB Cares.com, paypal, or Canadahelps.org!

ALL DONATIONS WELCOME
CALL MARJORIE 780.963.4933

The Foundation was founded by Marjorie Hervey in 1998 to provide care and loving homes for the unwanted, un-cared for and abandoned cats that fall into our society. She used her family inheritance and more to start and establish The Foundation. Since that time over 3,000 cats and kittens have come into our care and most have found good, loving homes. The balance stay with us to live a quality life.

The Foundation's prime objective is to offer either a temporary or long-term place of protection for injured, unwanted, homeless and abused cats.

In line with this philosophy is the concept of HOMING - this means that we provide homes for these animals - either a new loving, caring home or permanent home at our facility for the cat to live a Quality Life for the remainder of it's life.

We provide a means of finding suitable loving and caring homes for these cats. In addition, we promote and educate the public on the proper treatment of cats.

Our primary concern is the cats under our care. Great precautions are taken to avoid introducing illness. For example, in the situation involving a typical member of the family our procedures would be as follows: Cats that come into our care are taken to an Accredited Veterinary Clinic where, at the cost of The Foundation, the animal would be examined and Feluk tested, spayed or neutered, micro-chipped, dewormed, vaccinated with the 4 way combination vaccine and Feline Leukemia and Rabies (if old enough). Its ears would be checked for ear mites and treated. The cat is then transported to our facility. It is placed in isolation for observation for 4 to 5 days. If any symptoms develop that needs attention, then the cat is treated. Assuming all is well, the cat is placed up for adoption to find it a good home. The cats in our care are not caged but are free to enjoy an home atmosphere. If it clear that a new acquisition could not be adopted for some reason or another, it is made to feel at home, is given a name, and it becomes assimilated into our family.

The Foundation is unique throughout all of Western Canada. The reason is quite simple. No person has the patience and the devotion that Marjorie has for the cats.

We are grateful for anything you can give! Every dollar helps!

The Foundation is powered by volunteers - there are no paid employees of the Foundation, nor do the owners/directors receive any remuneration - all funds are used for the care of the animals and operation of the Sanctuary.

your donations make a difference!

Our main source of funds is YOU... your support helps us continue to care for cats!



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Our Mission is three-fold

Our 1st Mission is **RESCUE**

We give each cat immediate medical care. Each is spayed or neutered, fully vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped, tested for Feline Leukemia & FIV, and rehabilitated physically and psychologically. We find loving homes for those who can be adopted. The rest live out their lives in peace and dignity in our family.

Our 2nd Mission is **REHOMING**

finding good, loving and caring homes for those cats that are adoptable. Being a private Foundation our screening procedures are strict to ensure that our cats will receive the best care possible.

Our 3rd Mission is **EDUCATION**

We educate people to have compassion and respect for all animals We promote that an animal is a lifetime commitment - we advocate early spaying & neutering as a solution to the overpopulation of animals and recommend Micro-chipping of all animals for identification should they stray.



YES! I would like to join the **"SHARE THE CARE"** monthly donor program. Through this program you can help to feed, care and house these cats, that for health or other issues are un-adoptable. **These animals live in a home like environment at our facility.**

Would you like to receive email updates/and or newsletters?

email updates newsletters



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*By signing this form, I authorize the Hervey Foundation for Cats to withdraw my specified donation on the 15th or the 30th day of each month from my credit card as indicated above. I realize that I can change or cancel my authorization at any time by contacting the Hervey Foundation for Cats.

Thank You

Thank you to all our generous supporters for your ongoing support. Particularly, during these tougher and uncertain economic and political times. Your financial contributions, volunteering to help, letters of support, and the many families who gave our kitties their Furr-Ever Homes is what makes all we try to do here possible. This is a perfect example of a community working together to share the care for so many stranded and abused creatures that have so much love to give back if only given a chance. Without everyone's assistance the Foundation could not exist and our passion to serve and care for these wonderful, innocent beings would not be possible. Thanks from all of us here at the Foundation, including all the cats and kitties!



"Without my cat, my house would probably be cleaner and I would probably have more money, but my heart ... **my heart would be empty!**" - Author unknown



With costs in excess of \$5000 every month the Foundation needs the continued support of the caring public to carry out our mission.
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