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Merry Christmas



Carter's Corner

Sent: Nov 03, 2023

From: Lydia Emanuel

Subject: Carter at Halloween

Hi Marjorie. Did you get any Trick -or -Treaters out your way? We had 33. Carter hid when the doorbell-ringing and trick- or -treat shouting began, but he had a good time helping me organize the Hallowe'en treats beforehand. He liked pushing the little chocolate bars around on the table, but didn't like the crinkly noise from the bags of cheezies when he touched them. I made him a little Halloween bowtie but his tidy gentlemanly appearance was short-lived after a few chocolate bar whacks sent it askew.

Hope all is well with you,

Lydia



CAT WISH LIST

We are always in need of:

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- Baby food (chicken-in-broth)
- First Mate canned Turkey
- GoCarnivor
- Temptations treats
- Tidy Cats light-weight litter
- Training pads
- Catit food and treats

CAT ENRICHMENT TOYS

- Kitty toys
- Scratching posts
- Turbo scratchers
- Cat beds
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Welcome to the Christmas Newsletter!

Welcome everyone to our winter/Christmas newsletter!

We hope you will pour yourself a nice cool glass of eggnog and settle in for some fun, interesting, and thought-provoking articles from our in-house author Dan Huen! We greatly appreciate everything he does for us!

As another successful year of helping our feline friends draws to a close, we're starting to prepare ourselves for the victories and challenges that await us in 2024, while looking back at 2023.

2023 will certainly be remembered here at the Hervey Foundation for Cats. This year, we helped cats who had been abandoned or left with us as their owners moved on to retirement facilities or extended care. Tragically, when many folks downsize and move into these facilities, they're unable to bring their best friends with them and we take great pride in the trust their owners instill in us. We do what we do because we love cats, and we promise each individual who entrusts us with their feline that they will live a free, happy life in a home setting – not in a cage.

We also had a number of injured and abused animals come to us. In each case, we provide a custom, love/logic-based approach to their healing journeys. It's important to us these cats not be written off as dangerous or unlovable, as we believe every cat has the right to a happy and healthy life.

Something we also take a lot of pride in for 2023 is the amount of help we've been able to provide to cat owners outside the Foundation. As someone with decades of experience working with and caring for cats from all different backgrounds, I am happy to provide advice and solutions for cat owners around Western Canada. The most rewarding part of this is seeing owners solve problems they once thought would threaten their ability to keep their cats. And if you are reading this and you need help with one of your cats, give us a call and we can try to figure out a positive solution for them.

'Tis the season for giving thanks and feeling thankful for what we have. As a result, we would like to thank our veterinarian, Dr. Kelli Kinsmen, for her wonderful care of our shelter animals. As mentioned earlier, we want to thank our writer, Dan Huen. We also want to thank Heath Howes who designs and lays out our newsletter, and Kierra Dahlin of Choice Marketing, for all the graphics she creates for our website. A major thanks also goes out to Choice Marketing, generally, for taking care of our website.

However, the greatest thanks go out to you - our supporters! You make it possible for us to carry on our mission of helping the cats. It really is all about them. We do not make money, and, with the rising cost of food and other goods, our mission is now more important than ever.

Please know that your donations are greatly appreciated by enabling us to do this much-needed work. We know how hard it is for everyone right now as the economy has proven difficult over the last few years. We feel it too. Despite this, please know we are truly grateful for everything that you do for us. Truly.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, donation certificates are now available from GE Pharmacy – the organization that supplies us with all of our kitty-related needs. Donations can be made there and the certificates make a great gift when given in another person's name.

To make things more convenient, donations can also be made online at Canadahelps.org, by e-transfer (more info on herveycats.com) or by phone, mail, or email using your Visa or Mastercard. We also still accept cheques! No method is too difficult for us!

Finally, I want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas, a happy holidays, and all the best in the coming year! Remember, if you have a cat problem, feel free to call me or e-mail me. I am happy to help!

Marjorie Hervey

The Secrets to Cat Socialization: Unmasking Feline Friendships

By Dan Huen

Cats have mastered many arts: the art of the purr, the stealthy prowl, and the ability to hone in on any document or laptop you might be using to flop their bodies down onto. More seriously, cats have their own ways of communicating and interacting with their worlds. Whether they are dealing with other cats or people, they tend to march to the beat of their own drum.

But what do their social behaviours mean? For a cat who hasn't interacted with people or many other cats, their behaviour might be erratic and unpredictable. For one who isn't feral and has lived a standard life as a house cat, there is some nuance to the way they do things. Let's take a look at some of those specific behaviours!

Cat Behaviours Worth Looking At

The Blinks

Cats say hello differently from people. In fact, many do it with slow blinks. Imagine what our society might look like if we replaced all hellos and handshakes with slow blinking. It might make for a much slower world! Think about what it might be like with everyone getting on a bus stopping to slowly blink at the driver then taking their seat. Next time you are looking at your cat, shoot them some slow blinks and see if they blink back!

Hot and Cold

Cats can be finicky. When they aren't slowly blinking hello at you, they're deciding what they like and dislike – seemingly at random. On one hand, they may adore chin scratches, but then absolutely despise belly rubs. They'll purr with delight one moment and give you the stink-eye the next. The trick is to figure out their preferences for interaction and respect their boundaries. It's like deciphering a complex code, but one that becomes easier with time.

Around Other Kitties

While they may be finicky with people, you can usually predict how a cat will interact with other cats – especially those they don't already know. If you've ever thought about

arranging a feline playdate, maybe think again. Cats are notorious for their territorial nature, and introducing two adult cats can quickly devolve into both of them screaming and making threats to each other. Cats are not like dogs. They do not like playdates, and they will let you know.

The Tail Broadcast

One way to get a sense of how your cat is doing in a social situation is to check their tail. These things are like naval flags in that they can broadcast a number of different things – from annoyance to happiness. For example: a quivering tail can mean they're excited while a puffed-up tail is usually the product of being scared or threatened. Learn to read the tail signs of your cat and you'll be ahead of the game in your household!

A Good Resting Spot Makes a More Sociable Cat

If you're hosting a gathering and want your cat to shine as the life of the party, provide them with a cozy hideaway. Cats are social creatures, but they also appreciate a quiet retreat where they can regroup and recharge. Some absolutely love being around people, but like people, they often need a break after rubbing shoulders for longer stretches.

Nap Mapping/Networking

Cats have a reputation for sleeping a lot, but did you know they do some of their best work while asleep? While snoozing, cats soak up the scents of their surroundings, forming a mental map of their territory. Additionally, if other cats are present, it affords them the chance to familiarize themselves with their scents in a calm and relaxed manner. It's like networking in the cat world!

The Language of Play

Play is the universal language of cats. A feather wand, a laser pointer, or a crumpled ball of paper can bridge the gap between human and feline, and even feline and feline. While we cannot speak to a cat directly, we can play with them and show them we are trying to understand them. It can mean a lot for a creature the size of a human to play with a smaller animal and show gentle, kind, loving responses. These are what build trust.

Final Thoughts

Cats have their own unique way of socializing with people and each other and it's up to us to try our best to understand them. We cannot send cats off to a finishing school to learn English or how to eat a meal politely, but we can do our best to meet them at their level, engage with them, and try our best to show them we care. These are some of the fundamentals of pet ownership and cats will appreciate you showing them love by giving giving it back in droves.

Dan Huen is a writer, comedian, and online personality located in Winnipeg, MB. When he is not crafting tails about cats, he is spending time restoring old computers or hanging out with his girlfriend Kristyn, and his cat, June "Little Tuna" Huen. June is a rescue who got left behind when a family sold their house to a friend of Dan's. You can see Dan noodle with his collection of old computers on his YouTube channel: Canadian Computer Collector.



The Adventures of Gary



Greetings everybody! Gary here!

Well, here we are again at the end of another year and the weather hasn't been much to write home about. Wildfires, rains, droughts, and flash flooding were all some of the wonderful elements we faced in 2023. As a cat, I can tell you I would much prefer things to be milder in 2024. Sleeping is my favourite sport and trust me when I say it is hard to rest during flash flooding.

The weather sent some new friends our way whose families had to seek refuge from the negative conditions – especially the wildfires. We also saw lots of wild animals migrate past our property to get away from the danger.

Despite the weather, lots of great things happened this year! As CEO of rodent control, my Prevention is Power campaign paid off by reducing the overall number of rodents on the property. As a result, my contract was renewed for another.

I did a lot of community outreach going to different rodent neighbourhoods to ask them to steer clear of our building. Education is key. I just want everyone to be happy!

Lots of my woodland friends have now gone into hibernation. We had a great goodbye get-together down by the river near the property (which you can read about on herveycats.com). We still

usually see deer and moose through the winter months, but I'm happy to stay inside where it's warm and the food is plentiful!

We have a special new feline friend at the Foundation. I've been showing him around and teaching him the ropes. He was hit by a car and had to have his hind leg amputated but he is recovering and doing well! I can't wait for him to see how fun Christmas is with us!

We love this time of year at the Foundation. Mommy always puts the tree up early for us as she knows we love to take long naps under it, dreaming about what Santa might bring us this year.

I peeked in the closet when Mommy recently had it open and I saw some pretty cool stuff in there! I hope that doesn't put me on the naughty list!

I just can't wait for Christmas morning. It's going to be a blast. We usually get lots of catnip toys, temptations and other treats, and a sea of boxes and wrapping paper to play in!

Well, I have to go before Mommy catches me using her computer. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season. We will talk again in 2024.

Gary

Did you know you can now go online to our modernized website, scroll down to the bottom of any page and sign up for our digital newsletter at www.herveycats.com!



We gratefully send our sincere thanks to the Cunningham Animal Care Fund at the Edmonton

Community Foundation for their ongoing support to the Hervey Foundation for Cats.

If you cannot promise forever, I am not your cat!

I am a **FOREVER CAT**

I am NOT an until you...

- ... "get bored" cat
- ... "find a boy/girlfriend" cat
- ... "think I'm too old" cat
- ... "have to move" cat
- ... "have a baby" cat
- ... "get a new kitten" cat

Top 10 Ways to Make the Most of the Winter Holidays – As Told by a Cat

By Dan Huen

Meow, dear readers! It's the most magical time of the year again – the winter holidays! While my human may be busy decking the halls and sipping on eggnog, I thought it was high time to share my own point of view on how to make the most of this festive season. So, gather 'round, fellow furballs, as I present to you the following suggestions:

1. Nap by the Fireplace

Ah, the warm glow of the fireplace! There's no cozier spot in the house. Correction: there is no warmer spot in the house. Curl up on a comfy rug, soak in the heat, and let those snores be the biggest problem in your home.

2. Sniff the Cool, Crisp Air

The winter holidays bring with them a certain brand of cool, crisp air, and sitting by a window that's open a crack, on a warm blanket, in a warm house, with that cool air blowing past, is a moment so perfect I dream about in the summer months.

3. Unwrap Some Presents

Let's face it, the best part of the holidays is the wrapping paper, and who knew peeling it off the present was so much fun? This year, if you can get away with it, dive into a pile of presents before they're opened and see if you can unwrap one! It's not as easy as it looks

4. Play Hide-and-Seek

Those twinkling lights and shiny ornaments on the Christmas tree make for excellent hiding spots. Playing hide-and-seek with other feline friends makes for a fun afternoon, but if you want a real thrill, stick your head into the Christmas tree and see how long it takes for your humans to find you amongst the holiday foliage. Bonus points if you can jump out and give them a surprise!

5. Giftbag Sleigh Ride

Gift bags are one of the greatest inventions, I think we can all agree. Did you know they also make great cat transportation? Do yourself a favour. Jump in a gift bag and meow until your humans see what you are doing and figure out what you want. Eventually, they will get it and take you for a little gift bag 'sleigh' ride!

6. Help with the Tree Decorating

Humans seem to make an evening of decorating their Christmas tree which makes for a great opportunity to get involved. Don't let the humans have all the fun. Show off



your climbing skills and bolt up the tree trunk, grabbing branches as you go. Once in the tree, you can knock the ornaments around like toys!

7. Help Wrap Presents

Humans love to wrap presents. I don't get why they can't just use gift bags all the time. Regardless, when the humans pull out their wrapping paper, you can help by laying down on top of it before they have the chance to measure or cut it!

8. Steal a Candy Cane

These peppermint-scented magical mystery sticks technically aren't good for animals, but their minty smell is unbearably intoxicating. Get me in front of mint and you will see the true look of unbridled enthusiasm. Swipe one when the humans aren't looking for a fun afternoon of sniffing the peppermint, but don't actually chew it!

9. Practice Your Caroling

Some of the biggest parts of the holidays are the songs. Humans love their music and this whole idea of Christmas carols. You can get in on the action too if you practice enough. While the lyrics can be difficult to replicate, practice at night when your family is asleep. Better to meow into the darkness while the humans are trying to go to bed than to practice in front of them and ruin the surprise!

10. Cuddle Up

Love and togetherness are big parts of the holidays. Nothing better than to snuggle up with your human by the fire, purr your heart out, and remind them that you're the best gift they ever received.

Christmas Morning with Your Cat!



By Dan Huen

'Tis the season to be furry! For cat owners, Christmas morning isn't just a fun time to unwrap gifts and spend time with family, it's the one time a year your cat gets access to an unfettered jungle of ribbons and wrapping paper. By this point, they've been walking around the tree and presents for days or weeks, so the anticipation of it all is huge for them as well.

The pile of wrapping paper, though, doesn't have to be the only positive for your kitty on Christmas morning. There are lots of ways to include them in the celebrations that will surprise and make them feel seen and loved.

A Stocking Stuffed with Surprises – Why should Santa get all the fun? Hang a festive stocking for your cat and fill it with small, cat-friendly treats and toys. Think catnip mice, feathered toys, or even a special holiday-themed treat. Just be prepared for the grand unveiling, as your cat excitedly paws at their stocking, spreading holiday cheer all over the floor!

A Catnip Wonderland – Catnip is the gift that keeps on giving. Sprinkle a bit of catnip on your cat's favourite toys or scratching post, creating a catnip wonderland that will have them rolling and frolicking in delight. Think of it like a mini holiday carnival for your kitty.

The Gift of Playtime – Set aside some quality playtime with your cat on Christmas morning. Engage in a game of chase with a feather wand or laser pointer. Get them riled up, then when they tire out, give them some love and attention. Show them you can be the entertainment, but you are also a source of emotional encouragement. Playtime will help them burn off some of that holiday energy and it's a wonderful bonding experience.

Kitty-Catered Christmas Meal – Treat your cat to a special Christmas breakfast. Whip up a delicious meal using some of their favourite cat-friendly ingredients. Whether it's a bit of turkey, some of their favourite wet foods, or a gourmet treat, they'll appreciate the festive feast.

Gift-Wrapped Surprises – Cats love to unwrap presents as

much as we do! Wrap a few small gifts for your cat in a cat-friendly paper and let them go to town on the unwrapping process. It's an entertaining spectacle that adds an extra layer of joy to your Christmas morning. Cats love a puzzle as well so it's a win-win.

A Cozy Catnap Corner – After the excitement of gift-giving and playtime, create a cozy corner for your cat to curl up in. Place a soft, festive blanket or bed near the tree, complete with a warm spot (sunlit if possible, or a cat-safe heat pad under a towel). Cats adore basking in the glow of twinkling lights, so make them a relaxation spot that's extra special.

Holiday Tunes and Cuddles – Soft holiday music and cuddles are the icing on the Christmas cake. Spend some time snuggling with your cat and serenade them with your favourite carols. Your soothing presence and dulcet tones will make the day even more magical for your furry friend. Don't get this confused with leaving music on for them. Human music is not exactly their taste, but they genuinely do love hearing their human's voice!

Capture the Moments – Don't forget to capture the adorable moments on camera. Whether it's your cat playfully pawing at gift wrap or snuggled up in their holiday corner, these memories will bring a smile to your face for years to come.

Share the Love – Remember that the holidays are about sharing love and joy. Making Christmas morning special for your cat doesn't just benefit them, but also it benefits you as well. Knowing you've made life more interesting and exciting for a creature that cannot speak and relies on you to keep them safe and sound is a reward in itself.

Final Thoughts

Christmas time is fun and memorable for people all over the world, but why not cats too? Cats get their entertainment from us, and instead of them being passive participants in our lives, why not make them active ones? Do special things for them on the holidays to show them you care, and you will be rewarded many times over with the love and devotion you receive from your cat. With a little extra effort and a lot of love, you can create a holiday experience that's truly the cat's pyjamas!

Gary and Morris and the Twelve Days of Christmas



By Dan Huen

A blanket of white snow gently covered the property at the Hervey Foundation for Cats. It was two weeks until Christmas and you could feel it. The air was crisp, the neighbourhood quiet, and the sky was as bright a blue as you could possibly imagine. As smoke gently wove itself out and around the chimneys of the houses along the road, two cats sat inside The Foundation with their wet little noses pressed against a cold window. The two cats, Gary and Morris, were pondering over the idea of going outside.

"Looks cold," said Gary.

"But it's so beautiful – it's almost... serene!" said Morris.

"Looks cold," said Gary.

"We could go make a fort or set up some nests inside the shed!" said Morris.

"Looks cold," said Gary.

They weren't getting anywhere.

Just then, Marjorie, their human, and the director of The Foundation, was walking up to the building after a trip to the grocery store. Morris saw an opportunity and took it upon himself to go see just how cold it really was.

The door swung open and Marjorie, with bags in both her arms, entered the building with a big, "Hello!"

Morris wanted to bolt outside but his paws couldn't get enough grip on the linoleum floor. Like a Flintstones character, he was

stuck running in the same place for about two or three seconds until his little bean-shaped toes connected and he was gone out the front door.

Marjorie looked down, then outside, only to find a very freaked-out Morris standing paw-deep in the snow. His face looked like he was overcome with shock.

"Morris you silly boy! Come back inside before you freeze," she said.

Morris made a sound similar to a frightened eagle then ran back inside as quickly as possible.

Gary, still sitting at the windowsill, had seen it all go down and was laughing quite hard.

"I told you it looked cold," he said.

"You might just keep it to yourself!" said Morris, who was trying to lick all the snow off his fur.

"I have some good news for you boys," said Marjorie. "We are going to be doing something very special this year to celebrate Christmas."

Gary's ears perked up and Morris stopped licking his back long enough to listen to what she was going to say.

"I know you two would likely rather play outside, but it is too cold for right now. That's why we have decided to bring all Christmas fun inside this year! We are doing our very own 12 days of Christmas right here at The Foundation!"

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The cats looked at each other and while somewhat excited, they weren't totally sure what the 12 days of Christmas were. To them, it sounded like 12 days of what the humans do on Christmas morning.

"As you may know," said Marjorie. "The 12 days of Christmas are a fun way to ring in the holidays while really feeling the festive spirit. Since we love you boys and all the other cats here so very much, we are going to have our very own feline-themed 12 days!"

Gary and Morris were now very excited. 12 days of cat-inspired fun? That's right up their alley, after all, they are cats.

"That sounds exciting," said Morris. "As a cat who has had his fair share of the limelight, I love attention. 12 days of celebrating me sounds great!"

"They aren't celebrating you, ya weirdo," said Gary. "It's for Christmas, for all the cats here. I think. So, it's for the cats, and Santa Claus is part of it too. You know, the guy we met last year with Terrance?"

"Right," said Morris.

"Yeah. Santa is a big part of it as well," said Gary.

The two cats then saw a piece of ribbon flash a reflection onto the wall and completely forgot about what they had just discussed. After chasing the reflection for a minute or two, they decided to grab lunch.

The next morning, Gary and Morris awoke next to their favourite window with Christmas music playing throughout the shelter – specifically the Carol of the Bells.

"What is with the music?" said Morris.

"Looks like this could be the first day of Christmas," said Gary.

"And it's snowing outside!" said Morris.

"Looks cold," said Gary.

The cats got up and followed the music into the main area of The Foundation where they saw something amazing! It was a massive, Christmas-themed cat tree! The thing must have been 15 feet high with sloped sides, plenty of landings and places for cats to jump in and through, and it was all carpeted too!

"A local carpenter dropped this off as a gift for all you wonderful cats!" said Marjorie as she addressed all the kitties in the room. "This is our new Christmas cat tree!"

Marjorie and a few volunteers had just finished setting it up and some of the cats were now climbing on it. Gary and Morris looked at each other and then flew over to the tree. It had numerous layers, some inside, and some out. A cat could walk up the sides and squeeze in at the top of each slope. They

could enter the trunk from the bottom or drop down it from the top. Under the sloped sides, attached to the trunk, were a series of platforms where each cat could sit and relax. It was perfect.

"This tree is so much fun!" said Gary.

"I haven't laughed and had fun like this since I was a kitten and my owners made us a cat house out of old boxes!" Morris replied.

"What an awesome gift!" said Gary.

The cats barely had time to talk before they ran off again. They chased after the other cats, climbing the many platforms and racing up and down the carpeted sides as if they were flat.

Marjorie and the staff kept the holiday music going and started to set up decorations around The Foundation. The rest of the day went by in a blur as everyone was enjoying themselves and feeling the holiday spirit. Time flies when you're having fun!

The next morning Gary and Morris awoke to the sound of jingling bells. Tons of them. They couldn't figure out what was making the sound, but they sure wanted to find out. As quickly as they could, the two cats ran downstairs to see what all the commotion was.

"Oh, my goodness," said Gary. "Everyone has bells on."

"What on earth?" said Morris.

Just then a shelter volunteer walked over to the cats with two bells in each hand.

"Hey boys!" they said. "Marjorie came up with the idea of two little bells for the second day of Christmas! Here you go!"

They bent down and attached two little bells on a small collar to Gary and Morris.

"We sound like Santa's reindeer!" said Morris. "Remember when we met them last year?"

"I do! And we do sound like them! Let's go join that big game of tag going on in the living room and join in the chorus of jingly bells!"

The cats bolted into the main space and played tag with the other cats for a while. The sound of bells filled the house with Christmas cheer as they darted around the furniture and the massive new Christmas cat tree from the day before.

After a couple of hours, the jingling bells became a bit much and the volunteers went around removing the bell collars from the kitties.

As the sun began to set, the house grew quiet. Most of the cats had fallen asleep already, including Gary and Morris, and Marjorie was just about to go to bed. She shut the lights off

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around The Foundation quietly reciting the words, "On the second day of Christmas, Mar-jorie gave to me: Two little bells, and one giant Christmas cat tree..."

The next morning Gary and Morris awoke once more to Christmas music. This time it was Paul McCartney singing something about having a wonderful Christmas time. They got up, stretched, then headed down to grab some breakfast.

"How'd you sleep?" said Gary.

"Not bad," said Morris, who accidentally pushed his face too far into the water dish and was now soaking wet.

"Nice," said Gary. "I wonder what's in store for today."

"This way, guys! Come check this out!" said Bill, one of the older cats at The Foundation.

"What's going on, Bill?" said Morris.

"New heated beds!" he replied.

"Oh wow!" said both Gary and Morris at the same time.

They followed Bill down the hall to one of the bedrooms where they found a whole bunch of brand-new heated beds!

Marjorie was still setting some of them up with the help of another volunteer.

"Looks like there are 20 in total!" said the volunteer.

"Not bad!" said Marjorie. "What a fabulous donation to make!"

Bill looked at Gary and Morris and explained that it sounded like the beds had been donated.

"Yes," said Gary. "We all just heard her say that! It's great news!"

Bill then reminded Gary and Morris there were new heated beds and said they should follow him. They thanked him for his help then made their way over to the new beds.

"It's like a sauna on here," said Gary, who was sharing a heated bed with two other cats named Stephen and Blossom.

"Good company too!" said Blossom, whose stomach was gently pressing against the side of Gary's head.

"Yes. Morris. How is yours?" asked Gary.

Morris was already asleep.

"I'd say that's a good sign," said Stephen.

Gary gently tried to move Blossom's stomach away from his face.

After that, the cats spent a few more hours on the new beds then followed Marjorie around for the rest of the day. They loved their human and since it was so cold outside, she was the most interesting thing going on until bedtime!

The next morning the cats woke up to Frank Sinatra's Winter Wonderland alongside the smell of bacon and eggs cooking. After some long stretches, a bit of chatter, and a yawn or two that lasted much longer than anyone expected, Gary and Morris headed over to the kitchen to investigate.

Once there, they saw Marjorie and volunteers cooking and eating breakfast while taking turns singing lines from the song, doing their best Frank Sinatra impressions.

"...walking in a winter wonderland..." crooned one of the volunteers. The rest of the group applauded and laughed.

"Very nice," said Marjorie. "Who wants more eggs?"

Gary and Morris looked around to see if there was another Christmas-themed day ahead of them. So far there weren't any signs. Just humans eating and singing.

Marjorie noticed the cats from the corner of her eye and turned around to face them.

"Good morning Gary and Morris! How was your sleep?"

The cats walked over and snaked through her shins.

"Today is the fourth day of Christmas, and I wanted you two to know that we have some very special new soft cat perches. They are all around the house! Go have a look!"

The cats got excited and ran into the living room. There they were! Each window had a new soft cat perch. They were carpeted and each one had a very soft, velvety blanket on it.

"There are more! All over!" shouted Bill, from the perch one window over.

"Let's go see!" said Morris.

"How many more could there be?"

The cats ran room from room around the house looking to see if each window had a new soft cat perch, and lo and behold, they did!

After getting to the last room on their checklist, Gary and Morris both grabbed a seat on one of the perches near the back of the house, looking out into the wilds behind the property.

"I hope our woodland buddies are okay in the cold!" said Morris.

"Their species have survived winters for thousands of years," said Gary. "They are fine!"

Just then, Stephen and Blossom both squeezed onto the perch beside Gary and Morris.

"New perches hey guys?" said Stephen.

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Blossom's gut just happened to be pressing against Gary's head.

"Do they just appear wherever you go or what is going on here?" asked Gary.

Morris shrugged.

Over the next few days, the cats learned that every morning brought a new and wonderful Christmas surprise.

On the fifth day, a new sponsor signed on with The Foundation. This one was offering as many cat toys as they wanted, and on that day, each cat received what can only be described as five goofy things.

Some had feathers, others had googly eyes. Some had springs, and others made lots of noise. It was a blast and each cat felt spoiled beyond their wildest dreams.

On the sixth day of Christmas, Marjorie invited every volunteer who had worked with the cats over the years to come over for a day of food, fun, and play! They spent the entire day with all the cats, making each one feel as loved and cared for as the next.

On the seventh day, the shelter had a catnip party! Marjorie put lots of catnip and catnip toys out for the cats and it went from a quiet, peaceful morning (with classic Byng Crosby Christmas music) to one filled with a bunch of crazy cats catnipping. It was a memorable day to say the least. Gary climbed onto a light shade and meowed until Marjorie got him down, while Morris rolled around on a couch cushion until he fell off and into one of the heated beds. He was then joined by Stephen and Blossom, where, of course, Blossom's gut ended up pressing against his head.

The eighth day brought each cat eight gourmet milk treats. Being the funny creatures they are, adult cats cannot process milk properly, but they still love its taste and crave it. Knowing this, Marjorie and the volunteers whipped up eight cat-safe gourmet milk treats for each feline in The Foundation and passed them out throughout the day.

The ninth day of Christmas was highlighted by a visit from some local children who love cats and wanted to learn more about them. They dressed up like cats and after an afternoon filled with play, they presented a special Christmas song to the kitties of the shelter. Gary and Morris referred to them as 'Felines Humans Singing'.

The tenth day brought litter that's self-cleaning! Another amazing donor provided the shelter with some very modern self-cleaning litter boxes, giving Marjorie and her volunteers more time to spend with the cats, and a very swank, special new place for the cats to do their business!

The eleventh day was a special one. It was filled with delicious wet food feasts. Each cat had their choice of wet food options and was encouraged to have as much as they wanted as often as they wanted. While not a healthy option all year long, it

was Christmas Eve after all, and this feast was well deserved. Exclusive wet food dining.

The twelfth day had finally arrived, and Gary and Morris once more awoke to the sounds of Christmas music – Barbara Streisand singing Jingle Bells. This time, they could smell bacon and eggs cooking once again, wet cat food, and a bunch of other wonderful Christmas treats. They could also hear bells jingle, cat feet on the giant cat tree, and the snores of snoozing kitties.

"It's Christmas!" said Gary and Morris in unison.

The two cats ran downstairs to find Marjorie with her close friends and members of her family downstairs. They were hugging each other, cooking food, talking loudly, and having a great time. Most of all, almost every one of them was holding a cat and giving them lots of pets.

Once they saw Gary and Morris, they called them over and gave them both big hugs. Everyone wanted a turn to pet them.

"This is great!" said Gary. "What a Christmas!"

All the cats of the shelter took turns sitting in the laps of Marjorie's friends and loved ones throughout the day. When gifts were opened, they ran through the paper and rolled around in the ribbons. Everyone at The Foundation felt especially loved and cared for that day – human and cat.

Even Blossom and Stephen managed to squish in on either side of the head of one of Marjorie's friends. Blossom's gut pressed against it.

"I think they like me!" said the friend.

Just then, Marjorie stood up and said a few words. She thanked everyone for coming and for bringing with them good gifts, great food, and even better company. She also filled them in on her 12 days of Christmas plan at the shelter and let them know that they were all collectively the twelfth day for all of the cats at The Foundation. She told them how much it meant to the cats to have that time with them, and how happy it made her to see them so content.

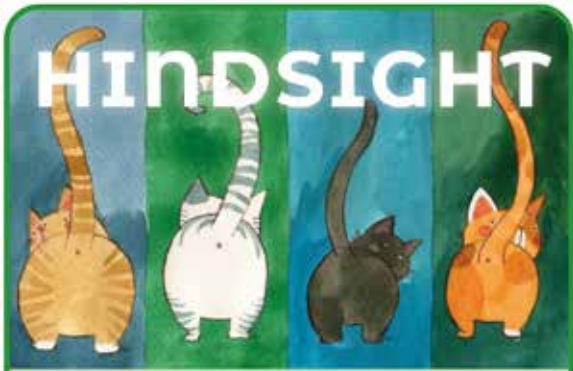
Marjorie then surprised everyone with a little poem. The 12 days of Christmas, as witnessed at the Hervey Foundation for Cats. She got through 1-11, then finished it off with the following...

"On the Twelfth day of Christmas, Mar-jorie gave to me..."

- Loving friends and family (12)
- Exclusive wet food dining (11)
- Litter that's self-cleaning (10)
- Feline humans singing (9)
- Eight gourmet milk treats (8)
- Crazy cats catnipping (7)
- Volunteers a-playing (6)
- Five goofy things (5)
- Special new cat perches (4)
- New heated beds (3)
- Two little bells (2)
- and one giant Christmas cat tree! (1)



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Want to adopt?

Please contact Marjorie at 780 963 4933

Your new cat requires food, care and attention throughout it's 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**

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WHO WE ARE



Our Mission.

The Hervey Foundation for Cats is a place of refuge for cats. We specialize in cat adoption and rescue for those who otherwise would perish: the abandoned, the abused, the sick, the old, the suffering. This foundation is a place of last resort for cats who would otherwise be euthanized. Our foundation is a no-kill, non-profit, and tax-exempt, private Charitable Foundation.



With food, litter, medicine, and operational costs in excess of \$10,000/month, The Hervey Foundation for Cats needs your support to care for cats from all walks of life - many of which have nowhere else to turn.

Our Story.

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 numerous cats and kittens have come into our care and most have found good, loving homes. The balance stay at The Foundation home, living out their remaining days being loved and cared for.

Marjorie has been referred to as the "Mother Theresa" of cats. She's the person who provides the inspiration and drive behind everything.

There is no doubt that the sick, the homeless, and the neglected felines she willingly, and without reservation, devotes herself to, have never felt the warmth, love and compassion that she gives to every one of them.

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

In line with this philosophy is the concept of **homing**. We provide homes for these animals - either a new loving, caring home, or a permanent home at our sanctuary - Where the cat will live out its remaining days happily, in a home, where they are loved and their needs are taken care of.

A point of pride at The Foundation is that the cats are rarely isolated. They live in a warm familial environment (after being acclimatized to live in harmony with other cats).

Many cats come to us due to illness or a desperate situation, but many also come to us when individuals move out of their homes and into permanent care facilities. We provide the same level of love and care for these cats as we do for all our cats.

The Hervey Foundation for Cats also promotes public education. Owning a cat, or any pet, is not a novelty. When a person adopts a pet, they are taking responsibility for another life.

As a long-term sanctuary for cats, we are at the frontline in the battle against overpopulation, and we feel the best tool is education. We regularly promote spaying and neutering of pets as a means to reduce population, as well keeping cats indoors, not giving them as gifts, and more.

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.

Contact.

Hervey Foundation for Cats

Box 2565 Station Main
Stony Plain, AB
T7Z 1X9

Phone

(780) 963-4933

Email

info@herveycats.com

President/Founder

Marjorie Hervey
info@herveycats.com

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

The Foundation is a registered non-profit Charitable Organization in Canada and Alberta:
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RR0001

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YOU CAN HELP CATS IN NEED!

Your donations are the lifeline for our cats.

With your help, we can provide food, litter and life-saving medicine to those who need it the most. We take care of cats in dire need, the aged, the abandoned and more; providing a comfortable and loving home for the rest of their lives. We're proud of our work, but it comes with a cost, and your donations make this all possible.

Our foundation is powered by volunteers – there are no paid employees, nor do the owners/directors receive remuneration – all funds are used for the care of the animals and operation of the sanctuary.

OUR MISSION IS THREE-FOLD

Our first mission is rescue.

We give each cat immediate medical care. Each is spayed or neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped, 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 second mission is adoption.

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 third mission is education.

Educate people to have compassion and respect for all animals. We promote that an animal is a lifetime commitment – we advocate early spaying and neutering as a solution to the overpopulation of animals. In addition, we recommend micro-chipping of all animals as a means of identification should they stray.



YES! I would like to support the Hervey Foundation for Cats by either a single donation, or joining the **monthly donor program**. Through this donation, I can help care for the cats at their no-kill sanctuary, providing a homelike living experience, medical care, and more!

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Thank You

Thank you to all our generous supporters for your ongoing support, your financial contributions, volunteering to help, letters of support and the many families who have given our kitties the 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. Remember you are our lifeline to help us carry out our mission.

Thanks from us all here at the Foundation , including all the cats and kitties!



Hervey Foundation for Cats

