

Traditional And Classic Cat International™

Helping To Promote And Protect Traditional Cats Everywhere©

Volume 23. October 2006

The Cat Box

Hello Everyone!

In the next couple of weeks we will be moving the tcclist over to Yahoo! groups. You'll all need to subscribe to the new list.

I will be sending an "invitation" to everyone who is currently subscribed to the list - all you need to do is go to the click on the link that's in the email. That will take you to a page that asks for your Yahoo! id, but you don't need one to subscribe to the list if you click on the "join the mailing list instead" link at the bottom of the page.

Or you can subscribe by sending an email message to:

tcclist-subscribe@yahogroups.com

You don't need to have a Yahoo! id to subscribe, but if you want access to the group via the web interface, then you will need a Yahoo! id (but it's free).

To make a post to the list, send it to:
tcclist@yahogroups.com

Laura

Fall is here, and it's time to start thinking about renewing your membership. We have a lot of things we want to do in the next year, and it all takes money. So, renew your own memberships and buy gift memberships. This help the organization grow and prosper.



BOO



and a Happy New Year

Site of the Month

www.siamesephotos.com

Photos, exceptional screen savers, links, e-cards, cat news and tips— all Meezer-flavored, all the time.

Indulge.



Baking Cookies With Your Cat

1. Look in cookbook for cookie recipe.
2. Get cup of coffee.
3. Get cat off of cookbook.
4. Find that special recipe.
5. Get cat's nose out of coffee mug.
6. Go to fridge and get eggs.
7. Get dry ingredients from cupboard.
8. Break eggs in small bowl.
9. Sift dry ingredients in large bowl.
10. Answer the phone.
11. Cat ate eggs; get more from fridge.
12. Get cat out of flour bowl and dust cat off.
13. Get Band-Aids for scratches on hands.
14. Throw flour out and get more.
15. Preheat oven for cookies.
16. Looking at cat & wanting to bake cat now. Cat runs for cover into bathroom.
17. Flour the counter to roll out cookie dough.
18. Big crash in bathroom; run to see what happened.
19. Cat has toilet paper all over floor; stuff spilled and knocked over on top of bathroom counter.
20. Yell at cat. Cat falls in toilet bowl.
21. You can sense cat is angry.
22. Take cat out of toilet to dry cat off.
23. Get bandages for more scratches on arms and legs.
24. Cleanup bathroom.
25. Hear a thump in kitchen ... Oh Gosh ... now what?
26. Get cat off floured counter in kitchen.
27. Try to pick out cat hairs from flour.
28. Step on cat's tail and get bitten.
29. Get coat, car keys, and go to store to buy cookies.
30. And catnip.



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Cat Litter Box Location Strategies

Just like in real estate where location is crucial, so it is for your cat's litter boxes.

Here are some ideas and tips on how to effectively locate them for good cat litter box habits.

When you think about cat litter box placement, imagine if it's a place where you'd like to do your business. We humans generally cherish a quiet and private location. Your cat isn't much different. She'd like her cat litter boxes placed where she can feel safe while voiding. When animals eliminate, this is a vulnerable time for them, and if your cat doesn't feel safe and comfortable, she'll find her own location to fulfill this need.

Depending upon the cat's age and mobility, an ideal litter box location is someplace where humans don't tread constantly. Take a look around your house and think about this as you ponder locations. Some ideal places are your basement, rarely-used bathrooms, and larger closets.

If you have a room that doesn't get much traffic and won't let the odors waft all through the house, then set up a litter box in that location.

If a family member's bedroom will work (assuming that person won't be jarred awake at 3 AM when kitty is busy digging a hole to China to bury her output!), use that as well.

Many cats prefer to have a cat litter box near their favorite "hang outs." This way, they don't have to go far when nature calls.

The most desirable location will be quiet, somewhat secluded, and afford kitty the luxury of time and the feeling of safety to properly eliminate in her cat litter box.

Sometimes your cat will decide a location for you. In my home, my kitty Scout prefers the cat litter box in the exercise room in lieu of the one in the basement (which would be my first choice) and another in a nook off the kitchen.

But she doesn't like those locations as well, so it's critical that I keep that cat litter box up to her standards - clean, no deposits left over from her brother JJ, and leaving the door open - even when I'm using the exercise bike or the cross trainer! If I forget any of these things, she lets me in the most direct way possible - by not using a litter box when she needs to eliminate.

If there was ever a case where cats have staffers and hired help, I'm living proof! So take a hint from your cat...try to accommodate her preferred location for successful, consistent cat litter box usage.

Nancy E. Wigal

That Poopy Cat

My older cat died unexpectedly. There was a void in my life and I was all set to fill it with a new kitten. I had a male kitten named Holly at home and he needed a buddy. That was a good excuse. I wanted another Siamese so I called Carole. She was the breeder who sold me Holly. I adored him. He was beautiful, affectionate and the light of my life. Carole told me that she had a little lynx point female. Perfect. I wanted a female.

I was smitten when I saw her. She was just what I was hoping for, an adorable little fur ball with brown stripes and blue eyes. All she had to do was love me and I would be her slave for life. Unfortunately, there was a little problem. She thought I was going to eat her. Humans were ogres, not potential adoring fans. When Carole tried to pick her up so I could hold her, she ran under the bed. Carole pulled her out but she wasn't happy. She wanted all of the nasty two footed beasts that were disturbing her to go away. Instead, I took her home with me. On the way, she looked so frightened I took her out of the carrier and put her on my lap. I was rewarded for my efforts. She peed on me.

When I got her home, she hissed at Holly. She wasn't impressed with her new four-footed housemate but they worked it out and became friends for life. I wasn't so lucky. It took weeks before she would let me touch her. I almost gave up and took her back but I didn't do it. This cat was destined to teach me a few things. The first lesson was about patience. Little by little, I came closer. If I filled up the food bowl and she was hungry, I could pet her while she was eating. After several months, I had graduated to the place where I could pick her up. She wasn't always thrilled about the idea but I could pick her up. I called her Shadow because she loved Holly and followed him around. She was his shadow.

I had succeeded making friends but something was happening that didn't please me. I had no explanation for it. Intermittently, one of the cats was pooping outside of the kitty pan. Holly got the blame. He was a male. He must be staking out his territory. Sometimes that happens when there is more than one cat. Then one of the cats started peeing outside the pan. Throw rugs were the target. Shadow got caught in the act and Holly was off the hook.

A round of visits to veterinarians began that lasted over two years. The usual treatment for a urinary tract infection is antibiotics. We tried that but the infection always came back. So we went to a high priced cat clinic in the big city. Shadow complained loudly during the one-hour trip. She was prodded, poked and pummeled. When it was all over, I was told she should have an ultrasound. We drove another hour and went to a second clinic. Shadow complained loudly. When we left the second clinic we were given the latest high-test antimicrobial drug and a supplement to strengthen her bladder. When we got home, I gave her the drug and the supplement. Shadow complained loudly but it worked. No more infection.

I was told to change her diet. Diet can cause urinary tract infections. Shadow loved the new food. She was always hungry. She pigged out and gained weight. I had a small classic Siamese that weighed close to thirteen pounds. She needed to loose weight. Now I had a new problem but the old problem persisted. I still had a cat that was pooping outside the litter box and Shadow was the culprit. One cold day in January I awakened to discover poop had hit the fan. Well, almost. Shadow relieved herself on my chair and finished it off by peeing on the sofa! Shadow was constipated. It hurt to use the pan so she looked for other places to go. My chair and the sofa were the targets. After I freaked out, I called the carpet cleaners.

A good professional cleaning helped. Then I scheduled another visit to the veterinarian. This time it was a two hour drive. We visited the Michigan State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Shadow protested loudly! So did my checking account. We tried motility drugs. They gave her cramps. We tried adding pumpkin to her diet. It didn't work. When constipation turned to diarrhea, she was given worm medicine. That made it worse. Shadow had become the laundry room cat. She only got out when I could watch her. We were both miserable. She was a prisoner and I cleaned up mountains of poop!

I spent hours on the Internet looking for answers but Michigan State finally scored the touchdown. Food allergies can cause elimination problems. I changed her diet again. I tried several prescription foods but the diarrhea persisted. Then I tried venison and green peas. No cat in their right mind would eat that stuff but it worked. The common denominator in all of the other foods that she had been given was chicken. Shadow is allergic to chicken. Weight peeled off of her. Within a few weeks, she looked like a classic Siamese again and not Garfield's sister. Shadow's misery was over and so was mine. She had free run of the house again but something had changed. We had become best friends and I had experienced a powerful lesson. Love isn't the fairy tale that we hope for as children and it isn't taking the easiest path. Sometimes love is hanging in there when it looks like there is no hope at all and it would be easier to bail out. More than once, I was ready to quit but I didn't. I kept cleaning up the messes. I have been given a gift. Shadow loves me and that has made it worth all of the trouble.

TCCI 2007 Calendars

TCCI has 2007 calendars on sale now. They are full color on glossy paper, featuring pictures from the 2006 TCCI Photo Show. This is the first calendar we have had for years, and we think it was worth waiting for. These will be great gifts for Christmas or any other reason. The cost will be \$10.00, with \$3.00 going for expenses for paper, printer cartridges, mailing and binding. The remaining \$7.00 will go to support TCCI. Please help us support this association and get a wonderful calendar while doing so!

I would like to purchase _____ 2007 TCCI calendars for \$10.00/ea.

Send check or money order to:
TCCI Calendar
7615 Clyde Way
Smartsville, CA. 95977

You can also use PayPal to order and pay for your calendars. Just put how many TCCI calendars you are ordering, and your **name** and **address** in the

New Web Site Under Development For TCCI

TCCI is working on a new and updated web site! It will be more user-friendly and easier to navigate. The fun part is that we are using photos from the photo show throughout the site. Each year after the show, we will change out the previous year's pictures with new ones. Our goal is to use at least one picture from each and every person who enters. Even if you don't win, we will try to use at least one picture you sent in. Of course, if you want to know who won, you will still be able to go to the show winner's pages and browse through the winner's pictures.

We are really excited about this. We hope to roll out the new site in November. So stay tuned things are on the horizon for TCCI.

PayPal is a secure way to send payments online. Log in to your PayPal account (www.paypal.com) and click the **Send Money** tab.
Recipient's Email = tccat@tccat.org. **Category of Purchase** = *Quasi-Cash*. **Note** = name of member renewing or gift member.

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