

# purrfect mews

ISSUE 5

May 2009

## CAT TALES

IN ANCIENT EGYPT, CATS CAPTURED THE GLOW OF THE SETTING SUN IN THEIR EYES AND KEPT IT SAFE UNTIL MORNING, MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR CATS TO BE KILLED. WHEN THE PERSIANS ATTACKED PART OF EGYPT THEY TIED CATS TO THEIR SHIELDS- THE EGYPTIANS DARED NOT PUT UP A FIGHT IN CASE THEY INJURED OR KILLED THE CATS.

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## “Leaving On A Jet Plane”

Only the first leg of Josh's next journey will be completed by jet. After officially becoming a civilian, Josh flew home May 8 to spend time with friends and family. From Mary-



Assembling the mower for the cathouse area

land his unique journey unfolds.

“I have done some research on proactive organizations who are dealing with very real problems in loving, powerful ways. In hopes of learning more and spreading the work of these engaged groups, I will be walking across the country, stopping at each one along the way.”



Good-bye Mr. Heartman

He begins his walk the last week of May unless something unforeseen happens. The updated plan is to walk the first half and bike the second. There are twelve stops involving proactive organizations at which Josh plans to volunteer in order to experience the mission of each group. Follow Josh throughout his journey at

[www.contagiousloveexperiment.wordpress.com/](http://www.contagiousloveexperiment.wordpress.com/)

Josh began volunteering at Purrfect Paws in July, 2008. An avid biker, he often biked in rain, snow or sleet from Ft. Riley or Manhattan to north of St. George to volunteer. Comments from the felines upon his initial volunteering included: “Did you see how tall he is”, “His heart and brain

are both on”, “A quiet soul”, “He’s a keeper”, and “Yeah, finally a guy”.

Josh spent his last volunteer time at Purrfect Paws on May 7. He finished many projects that day including his bid farewell. His presence and assistance will be missed. How fortunate we were to have experienced Josh’s participation.



I'll be back sometime

Upon his departure the felines commented: “We will miss him”, “Must he go”, “We wish him joy”, and “Will we see him again”.

With much fondness and respect we bid Josh Stieber farewell.

Live Well Josh!



Final bike ride to Purrfect Paws

## Aleesha & Moonstar Go “Home”



Aleesha

We have two older sisters to play with. One of them is very playful and gets a little rough

On the day that Moonstar and I choose Michelle as our new mom, we were so fortunate and lucky.

and the other is mellow and an old soul of almost three.

Michelle loves us as if we were human children and she treats us with love and respect. She feeds us Wellness and when she has baked chicken breasts she gives us a few little bites of chicken. We love Michelle and she lets us sleep on the bed with her.

We own the house that we live

in and Michelle just pays the bills. The house is big and she has given us lots of toys to play with. I cuddle with her a lot on the couch and Michelle has special mom and Moonstar time. Our new home is great and we love our new “purrfect” life.



Moonstar

# CATNIP

by Jackson Galaxy



Catnip  
Dreams

**Catnip** has a powerful attraction for many cats. They will pounce on it, roll around in it, chew and eat it. Some cats will sit in a big pile of the dried herb and simply drool, eyes glazed over, while others get completely hyper for a while, running laps throughout the house.

Because this perennial herb, *Nepeta cataria*, is considered harmless even when ingested, it is included in an enormous amount of cat toys these days. Cat towers, scratching posts and other habitats come pre-treated with catnip. And it's definitely "buyer beware" out there; some toys have catnip in them, but

don't say so on the package. To know, you can give the toy a sniff *before* your cats get a sniff!. There is even a concentrated catnip spray you can buy to treat areas like scratching posts, to encourage your cats to play with more actively.

Science hasn't really caught up to the cat yet when it comes to the aphrodisiac effect elicited by exposure to catnip. We know that the active ingredient is nepetalactone, an essential oil, and this ingredient is chemically similar to many hallucinogens. There haven't been enough studies done to conclude whether the response in cats is more sexual or predatory in na-

ture. Studies do indicate that the reaction lasts for 5-15 minutes, and cannot be evoked again for an hour or more after exposure. Not all cats respond to catnip; reactivity to catnip is genetic, and differing studies estimate that between 50-80% of cats respond.

Response also depends on the age of the cat. Reproductive age cats will, most definitely, show a response more so than kittens. In fact, young kittens (under 12 weeks) tend to avoid catnip, and may even seem stressed by it.

Read the entire article at  
[www.littlebigcat.com](http://www.littlebigcat.com)



Hi there! My name is Callee. I arrived at Purrfect Paws convinced no human was worthy. Feral Cat Rehabilitation helped me become loving and responsive to humans. Now I could bask in touch every hour of the day!

## Featured Spirit Essences

Spirit Essences are the first and only line of essence remedies formulated by a veterinarian and an animal behaviorist. Spirit Essences provide a safe, effective, natural way to help your animal companions lead healthier and happier lives!

These formulas are designed to heal the mental and emotional imbalances, which if left untreated, manifest in the

physical body causing specific behaviors/conditions.

This month the featured Spirit Essence is "**Feral Cat Rehabilitation**".

"**Feral Cat Rehabilitation**" is to help feral cats overcome their fears, to facilitate the process of domestication, and to allow them to accept and reciprocate attention and affection from people.

The formulas are easy to use and can be administered topically, orally, placed in the water dish, or used as a spray in the environment.

Check out all the Spirit Essences!  
[www.spiritessence.com](http://www.spiritessence.com)  
[www.littlebigcat.com](http://www.littlebigcat.com)

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by Dr. Jean Hofve & Jackson Galaxy.

## Presenting.....Tigger & Tiger

"I go where he goes," says Tigger about his brother Tiger. As you can see we are both irresistible orange Tabby felines. We born in February, 2003 and have never been separated. Entertaining and cuddly are descriptors for us. We love to curl in your arms and serenade you with our chirping purrs. When we first arrived at Purrfect Paws we were so nervous and my

brother Tiger was so anxious he just hid or paced. Tiger thought he was responsible for everything...even when Bohdee got tapeworms he thought it was his fault! Thanks to the volunteers, pet intuitives, and Reiki Master we now feel confident, curious, and playful.

Playing with Da Bird, toys, and shoestrings are some of our favorite past times. We are

excited to share our lives with the purrfect caretaker/s. We are neutered, up to date on shots, and tested negative for feline leukemia. We are not really interested in being around children nor thrilled to be around dogs. We would like to share our gifts of love with a mature individual or a couple. We will be waiting patiently for your contact.



Tigger



Tiger

# Bow Wow & Meow ...a “purrfect” pair

Although Claire & Harley’s may bark for dogs they certainly meow for cats. The owners, Shelley & Amy, have been ongoing supporters of Purrfect Paws. They participated in the Sampson Fundraiser and have eagerly agreed to the placement of Purrfect Paws material in the store.

Claire & Harley’s is named in loving memory of Amy and Shelley’s pets that now assist them from the other side.

Claire & Harley’s offers a self-service dog wash. If you don’t like scrubbing your pooch you can make an appointment with the groomer.

The store offers many unique items to pamper your pooch. Choose among specialty collars, leads, beds, bowls, treats, toys, colognes and many clothes!!

Claire & Harley’s will make sure your pooch is the envy of the neighborhood!



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## Thursday Morning Reflections by Lee Marshall

I walked into Purrfect Paws leaving behind baskets of trouble that I was not yet ready to face. In fact, after awakening the morning before thinking I needed to get out of myself and volunteer somewhere, the phone call from a friend asking if I wanted to help her out with a project she was working on seemed more than kind to a woman who no longer felt like she fit in to a world she had not tried to fit into until poverty struck slow, small blows over a year. Scrambling to find work was unfamiliar. I had never not been able to find a job yet I had never been over fifty and I had never been through economic times as consciously as I was Thursday morning. I believed that a couple of hours doing work to help four-leggeds would keep my humanity alive one more day. So I left my mobile phone in the car unanswering the creditors who called. I had given them enough bad news so I wanted to give them a break.

After my friend Michelle started showing me the tasks at hand, Jinna walked in and said she had been looking forward to my coming since Michelle had called and told her. I barely recognized the words. Someone looking forward to seeing me had a difficult time getting through my newly acquired lack of confidence.

But Jinna’s smile and genuine love of four-leggeds was convincing and contagious. Always better around animals than people, I relaxed a bit and realized there were no scary things at Purrfect Paws. I was safe.

Working with animals is a gift. There is something about an animal that has been given a home that amplifies the love they so naturally give. Sometimes, from my human perspective, I think they must know what it is like to not be wanted and thrive at the

first acknowledgement that there is a place in this world for them. Purrfect Paws is a place where cats are confirmed and through their confirmation, a beautiful space has been created for both two-leggeds and four-leggeds.

I had been to Purrfect Paws one other time when Michelle had adopted two cats. I was amazed but nothing prepared me for the experience the first time I arrived to volunteer. It was as if the babies knew I came to be part of their lives and as if they knew I was hurting. They were gentle in their greeting. Slowly they came up to me and first looked in my eyes and then came closer to rub on my leg and let me know I was welcome. I was transfixed by the music and the depth of quietness in the energy. A belief is something that is based on experience. And I believed animals to be incredible healers. But my first day as a volunteer transformed my belief into

a conviction. The last bit of separation between animals and me was gone. The aloneness I had been feeling began to lift. My lack of purpose wasn’t on my mind. I was given the opportunity to release the self-centered fear I had been stuck in and transmute the pain into compassion.

So I arrived at Purrfect Paws thinking as always, I was going to do something that was good for others. What happened was exactly what the newsletter said. I had a “life altering” experience. I walked away after a couple of hours with a feeling of usefulness. And I drove home grateful to have been given a place in this world for awhile... for me.

*Lee’s communication is captivating, intuitive, powerful, and profound. It is a gift that even in silence one can hear if one listens.*

# PETCO Foundation and Cats ...a “purrfect” pair

PETCO Foundation has always done everything possible to support animal welfare causes through hands-on community outreach programs and charitable endeavors.

The PETCO Foundation was established in 1999 to promote a wide variety of educational

and charitable activities nationwide by partnering with approximately 5,700 local animal welfare organizations at the grassroots level. Since then, the PETCO Foundation has raised more than \$49 million through a combination of fundraisers including Tree of Hope, Spring A Pet, Round Up and KIND News. In addition,

the PETCO Foundation is always prepared to launch immediate fundraising efforts in the case of natural disasters and emergencies.

This year PETCO Foundation recognized Purrfect Paws, Inc. with a donation of five hundred dollars to support the “Paws for

Health” program.

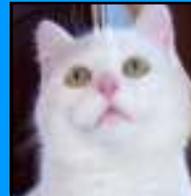
For information regarding the Paws for Health program go to [www.purrfectpawskansas.org](http://www.purrfectpawskansas.org) and click on the “services” link.



*In the February newsletter some of you received the story “Bow Wow & Meow...a purrfect pair” and some of you received “PETCO Foundation and Cats...a purrfect pair” A creative error on our part! Both articles are repeated on this page giving sponsors full recognition with much gratitude!*

# Instill the Joy of Loving

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*Enrich your life  
Improve your health  
Reduce stress and anxiety  
Love a feline*

[www.purrfectpawskansas.org](http://www.purrfectpawskansas.org) P.O. Box 126 Manhattan, KS 66505 785-494-8480

## The Animal Rescue Site \$100,000 Shelter+ Challenge

-together with  

Help us win prizes to help our animals!

Vote for us at [www.TheAnimalRescueSite.com](http://www.TheAnimalRescueSite.com)

Just follow the directions and type in

**purrfect paws,  
inc.**

and vote for us.

**Thank you for your help.  
Don't forget to vote every day!**

Voting is from April 13 – July 26, 2009.

Purrfect Paws, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization with the goal of feline placement with appropriate committed caretakers. The holistic sanctuary provided by Purrfect Paws for unwanted, abandoned, and abused felines is a cage free environment and has been approved by the State of Kansas as an official animal shelter. Felines are assessed prior to and upon entry for emotional, physical, and nutritional needs. They are examined by a veterinarian, tested for Feli/FIV, vaccinated, and, at the appropriate time, spayed/neutered. Nutritional needs are met through all natural and organic food products. Purrfect Paws draws from a wide variety of Holistic services to meet specific needs resulting from transitions, emotional, sexual, and physical abuse as well as individual physical conditions. Holistic services that have been effectively used in enhancing the positive traits of each feline include: Homeopathy, Spirit Essence Therapy, Reiki Energy Therapy, Massage, Jin Shin Jyutsu, Pet Intuitive Readings, Emotional Freedom Technique, and Tellington Touch. Perhaps the most important ingredient in the rehabilitation of each feline is the loving home environment and the 24 hour daily attention provided.

[www.purrfectpawskansas.org](http://www.purrfectpawskansas.org)

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