

# Burlington Reports

Paws and Claws Society, Inc., Thorofare, NJ



Issue 28, Spring/Summer 2021

Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction since 1993



TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

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- Hover over "Furry Angels" to learn about pets currently available for adoption, read about pets who have found their Forever Homes, read or submit to the Funny Pages, read "Letters From The Heart", download forms, and more.
- Read about Paws and Claws Society's programs or see "Gems of Wisdom and Pearls of Knowledge: Humane Messages" at "Compassion Central".
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- Read articles about pet care (and even use the age calculator to find out your pet's age in human years) at Caretakers' Corner".
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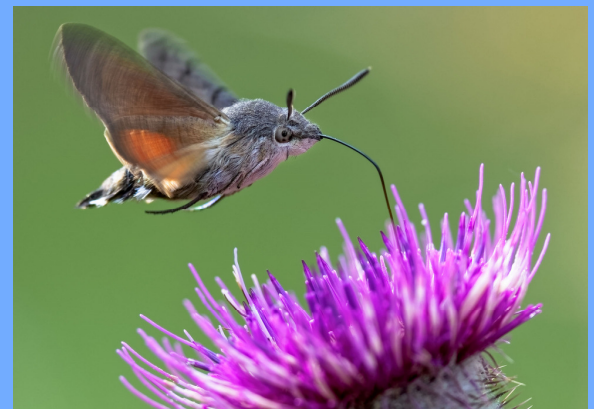
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## What is a Hummingbird Moth?

If you've seen a creature that resembles the tiniest hummingbird you've ever seen, but you aren't really sure if it's even a bird at all, you aren't alone. What you've seen just might be a hummingbird moth, also called a hawk moth, and it's actually an insect!

Yep, it's a fascinating insect, and (believe it or not), some types of hummingbird moths actually begin their lives as those caterpillars that eat tomato plants, causing grief to gardeners!



*The following is from the Farmer's Almanac web site (see link on our web site):*

### 10 Fascinating Facts About The Hummingbird Moth

Hummingbird moth is the common name used for the genus *Hemaris*, which include: Hummingbird Hawk-Moth, Sphinx moth, Common Clearwing Hummingbird moth, Snowberry Clearwing Hummingbird moth, Five-Spotted Hawkmoth, and White-Lined Sphinx.

1. Just like the hummingbird, the hummingbird moth's buzzing and humming sound is created by its rapid wing movement.
2. Loathed by gardeners, the tomato or tobacco hornworm caterpillar that you see munching on your tomato plants will eventually morph into a Hawk moth, or

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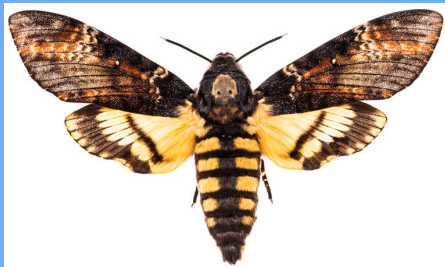
### Hummingbird Moths

(Continued from page 1)

Sphinx moth, each a type of hummingbird moth.



- The moths featured in the 1991 film, *The Silence of the Lambs* were death's head hawk moths, a type of hummingbird moth (of the Sphingidae family of moths, in the genus *Hemaris*). According to IMDb, the moths were treated like celebrities. "They were flown first class... and had special living quarters."



- The fast-moving hummingbird moth has a rapid wingbeat up to 70 beats per second (depending on the species), enabling it to fly up to 12 mph.
- Instead of a beak like a hummingbird, it has a long tongue-like proboscis that rolls out of its coiled tube to reach the nectar deep inside flowers. Its tongue is about double the length of the moth's body.
- It has large, menacing eyes that appear to warn predators to keep their distance. Also protecting it from potential

(Continued on page 3)

### Burlington The Cat on Diabetes in Dogs



Hello, Burlington here.

You may recall when I told you of our neighbor, Mrs. Reed, and her daughter's dog, Moe. Mrs. Reed

gave us a photo of Moe that was taken when he graduated from obedience school. That photo still hangs in our hallway next to several photos of other family friends.

Mrs. Reed often thanks Mom for suggesting obedience school, and she remarks that it probably saved Moe from getting into dangerous trouble (and that it saved her a lot of worry as well).



One day last summer, I overheard Mrs. Reed and Mom talking over the fence while I was sunning myself on the screened patio, and Mrs. Reed had some news.

"Moe had a check-up visit with his vet, and we learned that he has diabetes. I'd heard of people with diabetes, but I didn't know it could happen to dogs."

"Oh, yes," Mom had replied, "Dogs, cats . . ." She shrugged. "I suppose most mammals could potentially develop diabetes, really. I do remember reading, once, that diabetes in dogs is generally similar to type 1 diabetes in humans, where the body makes little or no insulin. In cats, it's generally similar to type 2 diabetes in humans, where the body doesn't use insulin efficiently and doesn't produce enough insulin."

"The doctor showed Cindy how to give Moe his insulin shots," Mrs. Reed told Mom.

"He's a good sport. He doesn't even seem to



mind the shots. It's as if he knows he needs them."

Everything seemed to be fine until last weekend. The phone rang, and when Mom answered, there was a panic-stricken Mrs. Reed on the line. Because Mom had the phone on speaker, Jersey and I were able to hear their conversation.

"It's Moe!" Mrs. Reed's voice was shaking and she sounded out of breath. "He's lethargic and I can't get him to respond!"

Mom immediately asked, "Have you checked his blood sugar?"

"No, I don't know how to check it, and Cindy's out of town. She just started a new job that requires her to be away, sometimes for as long as a week at a time. But I've been giving Moe his shot every morning, just like she showed me."

Mom's eyebrows went up. "What has he eaten today?"

"Well, he's been on a special food for diabetic dogs, but he hasn't been eating very much. I think it's because he misses Cindy. He's very attached to her, you know. He just adores her so much . . ."

Mom used her stern voice to direct Mrs. Reed's attention to what she was asking. "Mrs. Reed, this is very important. Has Moe eaten anything today?"

Mrs. Reed sounded as if she were barely holding back tears when she answered, "Only a bite or two, a few hours ago."

"How much insulin did you give him

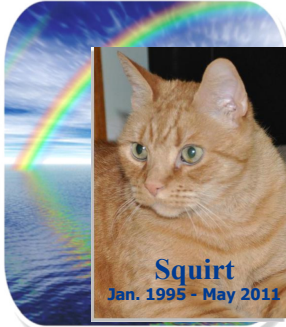


To learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports, see "For Fur-Ther Information" on page one!



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**Squirty's Words From The Rainbow Bridge**



*In memory of Squirty, a longtime friend of Paws and Claws Society who passed away on Mother's Day 2011 at the age of 16½, Burlington Reports added a new section to remember pets who have passed or to learn more about our animal family members. Ask Squirty a question or share your pet memorial story on our web site (hover over "Newsletter" on our menu). Let Squirty answer your questions or meet your pet(s) at the Rainbow Bridge and escort them to Pet Heaven.*

**Question:** Hi Squirty! My family adopted a kitten and a puppy at the same time, so they will grow up together. They are both teething! Can you offer some advice?

**Answer:** Your kitten and puppy must be somewhere between three and eight months old, as that is generally when the teething process occurs. As your kitten and puppy lose their deciduous teeth (or "baby" teeth) and their adult teeth come in, you may notice some of these symptoms:

- Drooling
- Red, swollen, or bleeding gums
- Eating less or more slowly
- Chewing . . . on everything, or each other
- Vocalizing (kittens may mew or meow loudly, puppies may whine)
- Visible lost teeth

It is very important to channel their chewing to safe things and prevent them from chewing on things that can cause them harm or things that belong to you or your family that you don't want them to chew on. Watch out for things like:

- Electrical cords - The outer coating makes cords a tempting chewing item for their sore gums, but cords can be very dangerous! Cover or hide all cords to prevent your kitten and puppy from having access to them.
- Houseplants - You can find lists online that tell you which plants are toxic to cats and/or dogs. (Or check out the Spring/Summer 2016 issue of Burlington Reports for a list of 22 houseplants that are safe for dogs and cats.)
- People food - Check out our October 2011 issue of Burlington Reports for lists of "people foods" that are dangerous for cats and dogs, or search online. A teething puppy or kitten may eat something they wouldn't normally eat, so be sure to keep food items out of their reach unless they're safe for them to eat.\*
- Anything small enough to swallow - Be sure that your kitten and puppy cannot access anything that is small enough for them to swallow, whether it is toys, knickknacks, jewelry, office supplies, coins . . . you get the idea.

Some Tips:

- Try making ice cubes out of low-sodium chicken broth, or, especially for kittens: diluted tuna juice. The ice will soothe irritated gums and will taste great, too!
- Provide teething-appropriate toys. An internet search for "teething cat toys" or "teething dog toys" will return a host of options! If you find your kitten or puppy chewing on something they shouldn't (or on you, or each other), give them a toy or safe chewing item to redirect their focus to the better option.
- Provide safe cat grass for your kitten to snack on.



*Peace, Love, and Head-Butts.*  
*Squirty*

**Hummingbird Moths**

(Continued from page 2)

predators is its close resemblance to a bird, instead of a bug.



7. They range in length from 2—2.5 inches long and are covered in gray hair that resembles feathers, with white, rust or brown markings or variations. Their wingspan ranges from 2 to 6 inches depending on the species. The Snowberry Clearwing moth has clear wings.
8. The hummingbird moth can be found not only in North America, but in Europe, Africa, and Asia.
9. After mating, the female moth lays eggs on plant leaves such as honeysuckle, cherries, hawthorns, and viburnums. The hatched caterpillar feeds on its host bush or vine.
10. These moths actively feed on flower nectar in the daytime, but you may also get a glimpse of one feeding at dusk on night-blooming flowers such as the evening primrose or night blooming jasmine.





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### Word Search Puzzle

Did you know that there are some types of cats that are often thought of as breeds, but are actually color types or color pattern types and not breeds? The 31 popular types of cats listed on page 5 are hidden in the word search puzzle below. Can you find all of them? Extra points if you know which are breeds and which are color or pattern types! (The answers to the second part are on page 6 and 7.) As always, you can solve the puzzle online or view the completed puzzle on our web site at [pacsnj.org](http://pacsnj.org).

# 31 Popular Types of Cats

T	U	X	E	D	O	N	M	A	L	T	E	S	E	B	E	N	G	A	L
U	V	N	F	R	U	S	S	I	A	N	B	L	U	E	F	M	J	Z	R
P	H	R	E	B	H	I	M	A	L	A	Y	A	N	C	A	L	I	C	O
B	D	C	Q	J	A	P	A	N	E	S	E	B	O	B	T	A	I	L	T
R	O	E	O	B	K	M	S	J	W	H	R	A	G	D	O	L	L	Z	B
I	M	O	V	R	P	D	E	L	Q	M	A	I	N	E	C	O	O	N	L
T	E	S	Y	O	N	T	U	R	K	I	S	H	V	A	N	Z	O	N	A
I	S	Q	K	D	N	I	S	J	I	C	S	G	J	L	L	K	C	K	M
S	T	A	B	B	Y	R	S	P	P	C	Q	M	B	U	R	M	E	S	E
H	I	Y	V	V	E	S	E	H	H	T	A	A	B	O	M	B	A	Y	R
S	C	O	C	F	M	D	D	X	R	Y	C	N	W	I	Z	A	Q	E	I
H	S	P	E	R	S	I	A	N	E	E	N	X	B	S	K	J	C	L	C
O	H	A	R	L	E	Q	U	I	N	B	X	X	P	O	L	W	L	T	A
R	O	K	A	B	Y	S	S	I	N	I	A	N	L	T	B	S	K	P	N
T	R	E	N	A	G	X	C	G	W	R	K	Y	R	J	X	T	O	L	C
H	T	O	N	K	I	N	E	S	E	G	R	W	B	I	R	M	A	N	U
A	H	J	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	S	H	O	R	T	H	A	I	R
I	A	T	O	R	T	O	I	S	E	S	H	E	L	L	T	Z	A	S	L
R	I	C	K	B	Z	T	U	R	K	I	S	H	A	N	G	O	R	A	U
B	R	S	I	A	M	E	S	E	G	Y	P	T	I	A	N	M	A	U	B



## Word Search Puzzle

### Word List:

- |                       |                        |                    |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. ABYSSINIAN         | 12. DEVON REX          | 23. RUSSIAN BLUE   |
| 2. AMERICAN BOBTAIL   | 13. DOMESTIC SHORTHAIK | 24. SIAMESE        |
| 3. AMERICAN CURL      | 14. EGYPTIAN MAU       | 25. SPHYNX         |
| 4. AMERICAN SHORTHAIK | 15. HARLEQUIN          | 26. TABBY          |
| 5. BENGAL             | 16. HIMALAYAN          | 27. TONKINESE      |
| 6. BIRMAN             | 17. JAPANESE BOBTAIL   | 28. TORTOISESHELL  |
| 7. BOMBAY             | 18. MAINE COON         | 29. TURKISH ANGORA |
| 8. BRITISH SHORTHAIK  | 19. MALTESE            | 30. TURKISH VAN    |
| 9. BURMESE            | 20. MANX               | 31. TUXEDO         |
| 10. CALICO            | 21. PERSIAN            |                    |
| 11. CORNISH REX       | 22. RAGDOLL            |                    |

## Burlington The Cat

*(Continued from page 2)*

today?"

"The same amount that he gets every morning. Does he need another shot?"

"No!" Mom replied quickly, "His blood sugar is probably dangerously low. Do you have some corn syrup?"

"Yes."

We heard a sound that I guessed was a cabinet opening and closing.

"Rub some corn syrup on Moe's gums, and I'll be right over."

Mom quickly handed the phone to Dad.

"Hi, Mrs. Reed," Dad said, "I'll stay with you on the phone until Paige gets there."

Mom ran to the first aid kit that is kept in a closet in the hallway, took something out, and went out the door.

While Mom was on her way next door, we could hear Mrs. Reed over

the phone, talking to Moe and encouraging him to wake up. Just before the sound of her doorbell came over the phone, we heard her say, "That's it, Moe, good boy!"

We heard a door opening and then Mom's voice.



"This is a blood glucose monitor," she told Mrs. Reed, "It's an extra one that we bought as a spare when my mother stayed with us for a while."

"He looks like he's starting to wake up a little," Mrs. Reed said.

We heard Mom speaking softly to Moe as she checked his blood sugar, showing Mrs. Reed how to work the monitor as she did, and the result was what Mom had expected.

Moe must have become a bit more alert, as we heard Mom ask him, "Do you think you can eat a treat, Buddy?"

A few seconds later, she praised him

and the tags on his collar rattled. She must have been scratching behind his ears. Mrs. Reed often mentions that he likes that.

Mom told Mrs. Reed that she should call her vet and take Moe in for an examination.

"Make sure you tell them he was hypoglycemic. They will probably want to see him right away."

Mrs. Reed repeated the word slowly. "Hypoglycemic."

"Did the vet explain what insulin does?" Mom asked.

"I don't think so. I can't think of anyone in my family who was diabetic, so I've never known much about it."

"After we eat, the carbohydrates in our food break down into glucose, a sugar that is the body's primary source of energy. Glucose then enters the bloodstream. In a person or animal without diabetes, the pancreas

*(Continued on page 7)*



Paws and Claws  
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### Pet Quotes

#### Have you ever heard any of these witty (and observant) quotes about cats and dogs?

"Cats can work out mathematically the exact place to sit that will cause most inconvenience." - Pam Brown

"Who knew that dog saliva can mend a broken heart." - Jennifer Neal



"In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this." - Terry Pratchett

"Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful." - Ann Landers

"Cats do care. For example they know instinctively what time we have to be at work in the morning and they wake us up twenty minutes before the alarm goes off."  
- Michael Nelson



"If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you. This is the principal difference between a dog and a man." - Mark Twain

"An ordinary kitten will ask more questions than any five year old." - Carl Van Vechten

"If there are no dogs in heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." - Will Rogers

"A cat can purr its way out of anything." - Donna McCrohan

"Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car, he sticks his head out the window." - Steve Bluestone



"It is impossible to keep a straight face in the presence of one or more kittens." - Cynthia E. Varnado

"Ever consider what our dogs must think of us? I mean, here we come back from a grocery store with the most amazing haul, chicken, pork, half a cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth!" - Anne Tyler

"Cats are rather delicate creatures and they are subject to a good many different ailments, but I have never heard of one who suffered from insomnia." - Joseph Wood Krutch



"What do dogs do on their day off? Can't lie around - that's their job!" - George Carlin

### Word Search Bonus Answers

How did you do? Did you know which of the types of cats in the Word Search puzzle on pages 4 and 5 are breeds and which are color/pattern types? Here are the answers:

1. ABYSSINIAN is a breed.
2. AMERICAN BOBTAIL is a breed.
3. AMERICAN CURL is a breed.
4. AMERICAN SHORTHAIR is a breed.
5. BENGAL is a breed.
6. BIRMAN is a breed.
7. BOMBAY is a breed.
8. BRITISH SHORTHAIR is a breed.
9. BURMESE is a breed.
10. CALICO is not a breed. A calico cat can be any breed of domestic cat, and a tri-color coat is what makes her a calico. Most commonly, a calico cat is 25% to 75% white with either large orange and black patches or large cream and grey patches. Calico cats are almost always female.
11. CORNISH REX is a breed.
12. DEVON REX is a breed.
13. DOMESTIC SHORTHAIR is not a breed, which can be confusing since American Shorthair and British Shorthair *are* breeds. A domestic shorthair is a short-haired cat that does not belong to any recognized cat breed. (In British English, they are sometimes referred to as "moggies".)
14. EGYPTIAN MAU is a breed.
15. HARLEQUIN is a coat pattern which can be found in several different breeds. A harlequin cat has a bi-colored coat pattern which is predominantly white with random solid-colored markings on 1/4 to 1/3 of the cat's body (including its tail).
16. HIMALAYAN is a breed.
17. JAPANESE BOBTAIL is a breed.
18. MAINE COON is a breed.
19. MALTESE refers to any cat whose breed cannot be determined and whose fur is completely or primarily gray or blue.
20. MANX is a breed.
21. PERSIAN is a breed.



To learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports, see "For Fur-Ther Information" on page one!

(Continued on page 7)

## Word Search Bonus Answers

(Continued from page 6)

22. RAGDOLL is a breed.
23. RUSSIAN BLUE is a breed.
24. SIAMESE is a breed.
25. SPHYNX is a breed.
26. TABBY is a domestic cat coat pattern identified by a distinctive 'M' shaped marking on the forehead, along with stripes by the eyes and across the cheeks, along the back, and around the legs and tail, and may include characteristic striped, dotted, lined, flecked, banded or swirled patterns on the body—neck, shoulders, sides, flanks, chest and abdomen.
27. TONKINESE is a breed.
28. TORTOISESHELL is a cat coat coloring that gets its name from its similarity to tortoiseshell material. Tortoiseshell cats (often called “torties” for short), like calicos, are almost exclusively female. Torties combine two colors other than white, either closely mixed or in larger patches. The colors are often described as “red” (which can include orange, yellow, or cream) and black (which can include chocolate, gray, tabby, or blue). Tortoiseshell cats with the tabby pattern as one of their colors are sometimes referred to as a “torbie”.
29. TURKISH ANGORA is a breed.
30. TURKISH VAN is a breed.
31. TUXEDO is a coat pattern for a bicolor (or piebald) cat where there is low-to-medium grade white spotting limited to the face, paws, throat and chest of an otherwise black cat, making the cat appear to be dressed up in a tuxedo!

## Burlington The Cat

(Continued from page 5)

responds by producing insulin, which allows glucose to enter the body's cells to provide energy. When insulin levels are high, after eating, excess glucose is stored in the liver in the form of glycogen. When insulin levels are low, between meals, the liver releases glycogen into the bloodstream in the form of glucose. This keeps blood sugar levels within a narrow range.”

“That makes sense.”

Mom continued. “If the person or animal has diabetes, the glucose levels continue to rise after eating because there's not enough insulin to move the glucose into the body's cells. Injecting insulin into the body causes that process of moving the glucose into the cells to happen. In a nutshell, giving insulin reduces blood sugar. If the person or animal hasn't eaten, insulin will reduce blood sugar too much, causing hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar, which can be deadly.”

“Oh my!” Mrs. Reed sounded as if she were on the verge of tears again. “And I was about to give him another shot.” She gasped and whispered, “I would have killed the poor dear!”

“I think some vets don't realize that many people don't know a lot about diabetes and when they make the diagnosis, they miss the opportunity to educate them on it.”

Moe chose that moment to respond with a happy-sounding “Yip!”, which made Mom and Mrs. Reed laugh.

Dad smiled as well.

“Well, you seem to have this under control,” he said into the phone, “So I'll hang up now and let you focus on Moe.”



After Mrs. Reed's daughter returned home, the two spent some time researching diabetes in dogs, learning about its different types and treatments and how to

properly monitor and regulate Moe's blood sugar.

Mrs. Reed told us, “I think Moe is as proud of us for learning this as we were of him when he passed obedience school with flying colors!”



Burlington is a fictional gray tabby cat belonging to a family in the Northeast United States. “Mom” is Paige Turner, owner of a small book store. “Dad’s” real name has not been mentioned to date. Their two (now adult) children are Mallory and Matthew. The family also adopted a Chihuahua and named her Jersey. See our web site, [pacsnj.org](http://pacsnj.org), for other issues of Burlington Reports and to read the ongoing adventures and learning experiences of Burlington and his family!



## Paws and Claws Society, Inc.

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Burlington Reports Issue 28, Spring/Summer 2021

## African Grey Parrots Will Share Their Wealth



A recent experiment conducted by Désirée Brucks, an animal behaviorist at ETH Zürich in Switzerland, and Auguste von Bayern, an animal behaviorist at the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology in Germany, provides some interesting insight into the reasoning ability of African grey parrots.

Walnuts, a favorite treat for parrots, are not part of their day-to-day diet and made for a great reward during this research.

Prior to beginning the experiment, the researchers trained eight African grey parrots and six blue-headed macaws to "purchase" walnuts using metal rings (which appear to be household plumbing washers) as currency.

Learning the concept of currency by trading an object for a treat is impressive on its own, but would

they be able to take this understanding to another level and give their "broke" partners the currency to buy treats?

For the experiment, the birds were paired with same-species partners and placed into clear plexiglass boxes. Each parrot had its own chamber. A round hole allowed the transfer of rings from one chamber to the other. Similar holes in the front of each chamber allowed access for the researcher to accept the "payment" from the bird and to give the bird the walnut in exchange.

One bird of each pair (called the donor) was given all of the rings, but the transfer opening on the donor's chamber was covered so that bird could not use the rings to buy walnuts.

The researcher would hold up a hand for the recipient (the bird with no currency) to pay for a walnut, to

find out whether the donor bird would pass a ring through the hole between the chambers, for the recipient to purchase and enjoy a walnut.

Seven of the eight African grey parrots did just that, sharing some of their rings even without the promise of any reward for themselves. Many times, the transfer was made beak-to-beak. The stronger the social bond between the two birds, the more rings they shared with one another.

The blue-headed macaws, however, kept almost 90% of their rings, and when a transfer was made, the ring was often dropped into the other bird's chamber rather than being passed beak-to-beak.

