

Burlington Reports

Paws and Claws Society, Inc., Thorofare, NJ



Issue 10, October 2012

Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

For Fur-ther Information . . .

You can find more information on our web site at pacsnj.org!

- Find out "What's New" by following links on our home page or clicking on "News"
- Read other issues of our newsletter by clicking on "Burlington Reports", or join our email list to be notified when new issues are ready for viewing
- Click the link for any issue of the newsletter to comment on that issue's content. Start or join a discussion!
- Hover over "Burlington Reports" on our navigation menu to find "Links for Further Reading" for more information on topics mentioned in *Burlington Reports*, or click on "Share with Squirt" to share a question or story in our Squirty's Words column
- Click on "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, or download forms
- Read about Paws and Claws Society's programs or see "Gems of Wisdom and Pearls of Knowledge: Humane Messages" at Compassion Central
- Find statistics and No Kill information on Tips From The Trenches
- Read articles about pet care (and even use the age calculator to find out your pet's age in human years) at Caretakers' Corner
- Look for "Share this page" on any page in our web site to share the content via Facebook, twitter, email, or one of several other services



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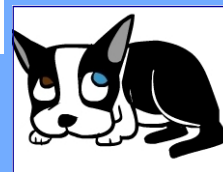
Did You Know?

Fascinating bits of dog and cat facts and trivia found around the Internet

Can you read your pet's body language? Here's a little quiz to test your knowledge. (Answers are on page 7.)

Dogs:

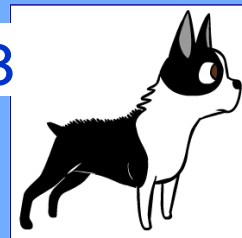
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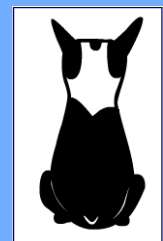
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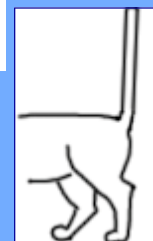
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Cats:

Cats speak volumes with their tails alone. Do you know how this cat is feeling?

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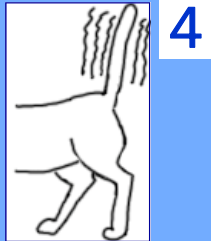
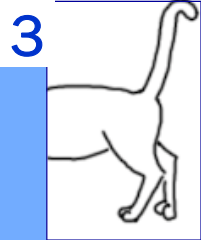


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Did You Know?

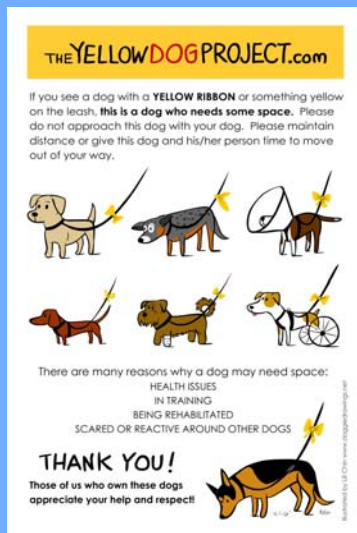
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Speaking of non-verbal communication, have you ever seen a dog with a yellow ribbon tied to his or her leash? This is a sign that means "This dog needs space". This may be due to health issues, fear, training, rehabilitation, or temperament around other dogs.

If you see a dog with this yellow ribbon, please don't approach the dog with your dog, and be sure to maintain some distance between you and the dog.

Remember, a yellow ribbon means D.I.N.O.S. (Dogs in Need of Space). See the full poster and find a link to The YellowDogProject.com web site on our web site!



Burlington Gets A Sister



Hello. Burlington here.

"And Jersey."

I know, Jersey. I'll tell them about you.

I apologize, readers, for that interruption.

Have you been enjoying the drop in temperatures that tells us that Fall is here? My family has been opening windows to let the fresh air into the house, and I've been enjoying all the different scents and . . .

"Are you going to tell them now?"

I'm sorry, readers, that Jersey keeps interrupting. Jersey, relax. I'll tell them about you. I promise.

In my house, the onset of Fall stirs a sort of excitement, anticipation of upcoming holidays and cold-weather activities like hay rides and bonfires and hot chocolate . . .

"Hot chocolate is a beverage, not an activity."

Ok, Jersey. You win. I'll tell them about you now, if you will let me finish my story after.

"Deal."

Well, readers, I am sure that you noticed that there is someone else with me in my byline image at the top of this column. Meet Jersey, my family's newest pet.

"I'm your sister. Mallory said so."

Who is telling this story?

"You are. Sorry."

It seems that Matthew had been asking for a dog for several months, now. Mallory sees me as *her* cat, even though the whole family refers to me as their pet, and Matthew wanted a pet to call his own as well.

Mom and Dad decided that Matthew is old enough to accept the responsibility of caring for a dog, and after much family discussion, they adopted Jersey, a shelter Chihuahua.

I'll be honest. When they brought her home, I



See "For Fur-ther Information" on page one to learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports!



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Burlington the Cat

(Continued from page 2)

wasn't happy. Not happy at all. I mean, for as long as I've lived here, I've had my family's undivided attention. I've had peace and quiet for my naps in the square of sunlight that travels along the floor in front of the big window, and I haven't had to share my food or water with anyone. I didn't have to compete with the high-pitched yipping sounds that this dog insists on emitting, in order to be heard.

"You liked Honey, my cousin's dog," Mallory reminded me, "and Binkie, the dog you met at the bookstore."

That's different. I didn't have to live with them, or contemplate sharing my humans with them. Surely, Mallory could understand that.

"I'm sure this is more difficult for Burlington to adjust to," Mom explained, "He can tell that Jersey is our dog now. That means he has to share us."

I could have kissed her. In fact, I did. We were sitting on the floor of Mallory's bedroom with the door closed, and I rubbed my cheek against Mom's knee and kissed her hand.

Mom stroked the top of my head and gave me a scratch behind the ear. She told Mallory, "That's why it's so important for us to let him know that he isn't being replaced, and that we still love him as much as we always have."

I purred.

"How long will it take until they're used to each other?" Mallory asked.



"Every cat and dog are different," Mom said, "So we'll let them adjust at their own pace. We'll let your room be Burlington's safe zone, and Matthew's room will be Jersey's. When Burlington is in the rest of the house, Jersey will be in Matthew's room, and when Jersey is out in the house, we'll bring Burlington in here."

"And we'll let them spend a little bit of time together every day?" Mallory asked.

"As much as they seem comfortable with, and that will increase as time goes on."

I have always been grateful that Mom understands me so well. It makes me feel very safe and loved to know that I can go to Mallory's room any time and find peace and quiet there, when Jersey's over-the-top level of nervous energy is more than my cat senses can tolerate. And it has helped. I think she and I are actually beginning to form a bond of sorts, already.

(Continued on page 4)

2012 No Kill Conference

Did you follow the pictures of Pawl and Clawdia at this year's No Kill Conference in Washington, DC? You can see their photos on our Facebook page and our Twitter feed.



The conference was the biggest one yet! As reported on the No Kill Advocacy Center's web site, this year's conference was again sold out and drew "nearly 900 people from over 44 states and 10 nations".

See the No Kill Advocacy Center's web site (look for the link on our site) to download material from the workshops, view photos of the conference, read the director's keynote address, listen to the live broadcast by Animal Wise Radio, or purchase No Kill Conference gear.



Debi Day, Joan Schaffner, & Nathan Winograd with Pawl and Clawdia at the 2012 No Kill Conference



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Humor

This issue's Pet Humor comes to us from pawsperouspets.com.

Excerpted from **Basic Rules For Cats Who Have The Run Of The House: Hampering**

If one of your humans is engaged in some close activity and the other is idle, stay with the busy one. This is called "helping" otherwise known as "hampering." Some rules:

- When supervising cooking, sit just behind the left heel of the cook. You cannot be seen and thereby stand a better chance of being stepped on and then picked up and comforted.
- For book readers, get in close under the chin, between eyes and book, unless you can lie across the book itself.
- For knitting projects or paperwork, lie on the work in the most appropriate manner to obscure the maximum amount. Pretend to doze but every so often reach out and slap the pencil or knitting needles. Sit on the paperwork they are working on. Roll around on the papers, scattering them to the best of your ability. After being removed for the second time, push pens, pencils, and erasers off the table, one at a time. Embroidery and needlepoint make great hammocks.
- When a human is holding the newspaper in front of him/her be sure to jump at the back of the paper. They love surprises.
- Dart out quickly and as close as possible in front of the human, especially: on stairs; when they have something in their arms; in the dark; and when they first get up in the morning. This will help their coordination skills.
- When a human is attempting to "make the bed," hop on it and curl up in the middle,



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(Continued from page 3)

"You mean you love me, big guy?"

Let's not get ahead of ourselves.

To get back to the story I was planning to tell, it was actually this Fall-inspired anticipation that was responsible for our first real conversation.

"What is everyone so excited about?" Jersey had asked me when I wandered into the kitchen for some kibble during one of our "together in the house" experiments, a few days after she came to live with us.

I looked up and saw her there, lying on the couch in the family room, which opened into the kitchen. She was looking at me. Her tail thumped on the cushion when she saw that I was acknowledging her presence with my glance.

"Halloween is coming, and then Thanksgiving. This family loves to celebrate the Fall holidays," I answered.

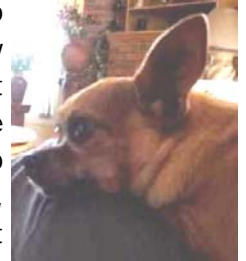
Jersey nodded. "I don't like Thanksgiving."

"Why not?" I asked, before realizing that I was now engaging in conversation with the very creature I had earlier vowed never to speak to.

"I lost my person last year on Thanksgiving."

Burlington the Cat

I ventured into the family room and sat down on the floor next to Dad's recliner, several feet away from the couch.



"What happened?"

"She had a heart attack. We were together for my whole life and I loved her so much."

A tear formed in the corner of her eye.

"Did you go to live with relatives?"

"For a little while. But they had a cat that hated me, and they gave me away."

For a brief moment, I wondered if she was, as the kids say, "playing me". I watched her as she leaned down, resting her chin on her front paws, a faraway look in her eyes.

"The people didn't introduce you slowly, the way my family is doing?"

I quickly corrected myself: "Our family?"

She shook her head. "I don't think they understood how to do that."

"How did you wind up at the

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Burlington the Cat

(Continued from page 4)

shelter?"

"The next family gave me away because I barked too much, and the family after that gave me away because I didn't play with them enough."

"You play a lot," I observed, "They didn't think it was enough?"

"I didn't play very much then. I was too sad, and after being shuttled from family to family, I was lonely and afraid, too."

"And then you went to the shelter?"

"Yes. It was hard, living there with so many other animals, but the shelter staff understood what I was feeling, and they were very patient with me."

"Does my mom . . . I mean Mom . . . Know what happened to you?" I asked.

"Yes. I heard the shelter director tell her."

I nodded.

"Good. She'll make sure the kids understand, too. She's a great human to have in your corner."

Jersey lifted her head and looked at me, her little brown eyes watery. Somehow I knew the question they were asking.

"This family won't give up on you," I said, "They won't give you away again. You're here to stay."

In the days since we had that discussion, Jersey has settled in and found her place in our family. She has, in fact, perfected her "annoying little sister" role to the point that I almost wish I could take my words back.

Almost. But not completely. I can't help it. She grows on you.



Fun Optical Illusions



Humor (Continued)

(Continued from page 4)

or pounce on the sheet the human is trying to rearrange. If the human tries to ignore you by covering you with the sheets, move around and try to mess things up. Protest loudly when you're evicted.

- Laundry presents many opportunities to hamper. Laundry fresh from the dryer is a perfect bed, since it is warm and soft. As soon as it is put down for sorting, arrange yourself for a nap. If the human removes you, keep returning until the laundry isn't warm anymore. Now it's playtime. Pounce on anything the human tries to move around for folding, especially socks and nylons. For added fun, grab a sock and hide under the bed with it.



* * *

And for our canine friends. . .

Mind Games Dogs Play with Their People

- After your humans give you a bath, don't let them towel-dry you! Instead, run to their bed, jump up and dry yourself off on the sheets. This is especially good if it's right before your humans bedtime.
- Act like a convicted criminal. When the humans come home, put your ears back, tail between your legs, chin down and act as if you have done something really bad. Then, watch as the humans frantically search the house for the damage they think you have caused (Note: This only works when you have done absolutely nothing wrong).



See "For Fur-ther Information" on page one to learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports!

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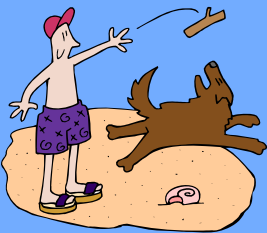


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Humor (Continued)

(Continued from page 5)

- Let the humans teach you a brand new trick. Learn it perfectly. Then the humans try to demonstrate it to someone else, stare blankly back at the humans. Pretend you have no idea what they're talking about.
- Make your humans be patient. When you go outside to go pee, sniff around the entire yard as your humans wait. Act as if the spot you choose to go pee will ultimately decide the fate of the earth.
- Draw attention to the human. When out for a walk always pick the busiest, most visible spot to go poop. Take your time and make sure everyone watches. This works particularly well if your humans have forgotten to bring a plastic bag.
- When out for a walk, alternate between choking and coughing every time a strange human walks by.
- Make your own rules. Don't always bring back the stick when playing fetch with the humans. Make them go and chase it once in a while.



- Hide from your humans. When your humans come home, don't greet them at the door. Instead, hide from them, and make them think something terrible has happened to you (don't reappear until one of your humans is panic-stricken and close to tears).
- When your human calls you to come back in, always take your time. Walk as slowly as possible back to the door.
- Wake up twenty minutes before the alarm clock is set to go off and make the humans take you out for your morning pee. As soon as you get back inside, fall asleep (humans can rarely fall back asleep after going outside, this will drive them nuts!).



Have you ever wanted to give your cat or dog a little extra pampering by baking homemade goodies for them? It's a fun way to provide some tasty nutrition, and the ingredients are simple, easy to find, and best of all, easy to pronounce!

We found several recipes online, including these for Peanut Butter Doggie Biscuits and Cat Chow Cookies:

Peanut Butter Doggie Biscuits (Found at scamperingpaws.com)

Ingredients:

- 3 tbsp. peanut butter
- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup rolled oats
- 1/2 cup fine cornmeal

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.

Beat together peanut butter and eggs. Gradually beat in oil and water until well-mixed.

In a separate bowl, thoroughly combine flour, oats, and cornmeal.

Add the flour mixture to the peanut butter mixture and blend well to form a dough.

Roll out the dough to approx. 1/4" thickness and cut into shapes, or just slice them into squares if you don't have cookie cutters. You can also shape them



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into long fingers, and lightly score them at 1" intervals - this

Baking Pet Treats at Home

will make it easy to break the biscuits into pieces.

Place on lightly greased cookie sheet, leaving about 1/2 inch between biscuits. Bake for 20 minutes until browned. Turn off oven, but leave the biscuits inside to "crisp". Once the biscuits have hardened, remove them and treat your dogs! Store the remaining biscuits in an airtight container.

Cat Chow Cookies (Found at thatsmyhome.com)

Ingredients:

- 1 C. whole-wheat flour
- 1/4 C. soy flour
- 1/4 C. milk
- 1/3 C. powdered milk
- 1 egg
- 2 T. wheat germ
- 2 T. molasses
- 2 T. margarine
- 1 t. organic catnip

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In a large mixing bowl, stir together the flours, liquid and dry milk, egg, wheat germ, molasses, margarine and catnip.

Lightly flour a rolling pin. Roll out the batter on a greased cookie sheet. Cut into 1/2-inch pieces. Bake 20 to 22 minutes.

Allow to cool before serving. Store the leftovers in an airtight container in a cool place.

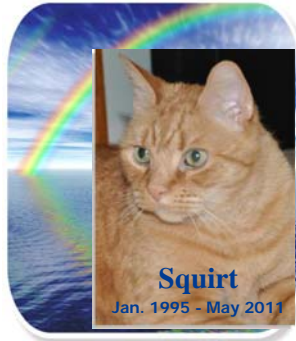
From "Real Food for Cats: 50 Vet-Approved Recipes to Please the Feline Gastro-nome" by Patti Delmonte





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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. Ask Squirty a question, or share your pet memorial story on our web site (click on Burlington Reports). Let Squirty meet your pet(s) at the Rainbow Bridge and escort them to Pet Heaven.

Question: Squirty, How come cats can sleep in all those weird positions and they don't seem to be uncomfortable?

Answer: That is a question that has baffled humans for a long time. Cats have thirteen thoracic vertebrae (vs twelve for humans) and seven lumbar vertebrae (compared to five in humans). The additional thoracic and lumbar vertebrae are a big part of the reason we are so flexible that we can be comfortable in positions that would be painful or even impossible for people. (This flexibility is also a part of the reason we can so often land on our feet if we fall from a height. Contrary to common belief, however, we *aren't* always able to land on our feet, so please be sure to keep your cats' environment free of any falling risks!)



Be sure to see the Paws and Claws web site for links to some very cute pictures of funny cat sleeping positions!

Question: Why does my dog eat poop?

Answer: For reasons that the rest of us don't completely understand, dogs seem to think that feces is a delicacy. There are several theories as to why they do it, but the fact is it isn't unusual for dogs to eat feces, a condition known as coprophagia. Some of the common theories for this behavior include:



- Heritage - Dogs are carnivores, and so were their ancestors. Since carnivores often eat the internal organs of the animals they kill, which can include feces, this may be an innate behavior that modern-day domesticated dogs have inherited from their ancestors.
- Nutritional Imbalance - Feces contains certain enzymes and nutrients that, if lacking from your dog's diet, may cause him to instinctively want to eat it.
- Stress, Loneliness, Boredom, Neglect, Health Problems - All of these things can cause coprophagia in some dogs.
- Attention / Learned Behavior - Sometimes your reaction to a dog's behavior is his reason for repeating it. Dogs sometimes learn this behavior from other dogs, also.

If you have spoken with your vet and ruled out health issues, nutrition imbalances, stress, etc., it may simply be that your dog is like many other dogs and enjoys the taste (as disgusting as that thought may be to us non-dogs). The best way to prevent the behavior, then, is to keep your dog away from feces. Remove any feces from your yard often, keep dogs away from cats' litter boxes, and distract your dog when he or she is around other animals and may come across any feces.

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

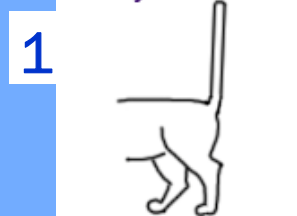
Answers - Pets' Body Language

These are the answers to the dog and cat body/tail language quiz on pages 1 and 2. See our web site for links to the full posters.

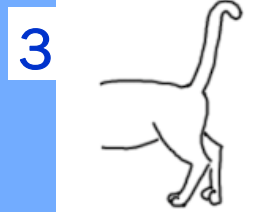


The poster with these drawings was created by Lili Chin of Doggie Drawings by Lili Chin, who also created the poster for the Yellow Dog Project..

friendly and content



friendly, but unsure



very happy to see you



The artist who created the poster that includes these drawings is unknown. The web URL at the bottom of the poster is for a domain that appears to be for sale.



Paws and Claws Society, Inc.

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Visit us online at www.pacsnj.org

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October is National Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month

There are so many loving and amazing dogs in shelters, who are just waiting for someone to adopt them and take them home!

If you have been considering adopting a dog, now is the perfect time. October is National Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month!

