



# CRU MEWS

Cats R Us Volume No. 7 Issue No. 6 Summer, 2011

## Cat Shows

**Saturday and Sunday, September 10-11, 2011:** CHANTILLY, VA: Dulles Expo Center; Sat 9 AM – 5 PM, Sun 9 AM – 4 PM. (CFA) National Capital Cat Show  
<http://www.nationalcapitalcatshow.com/show.shtml>

**[Editor's Note: This is THE BIG ONE!]**

**Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25, 2011:** TIMONIUM, MD: Timonium Fairgrounds 10 AM – 4 PM. (CFA) Freestate Feline Fanciers

## Finding Missing Pets

Please use the following website for assistance whenever a pet is missing:

[www.missingpetpartnership.com](http://www.missingpetpartnership.com)

There is a section that allows you to find a pet detective nationally so this site is helpful for every enquiry.

Additionally, you can view lost pets as well as found pets on the Anne Arundel County Animal Control website. The links are listed in the Quick Links Column. The website is:  
<http://www.aacounty.org/AnimalControl>

*“The cat loves fish, but he’s loath to wet his feet.”*

Proverb



*“There’s no need for a piece of sculpture in a home that has a cat.”*

Wesley Bates

## Breed Facts

There's nothing like an **Abyssinian**. This beautiful creature, though lovely to look at, is not a decorative lap cat. The Aby is much too busy playing fetch...or climbing your drapes. As hyperactive as they are, Abyssinians still require lots of attention from their owners and can become depressed if they're left alone. They thrive in pairs and get along with other cats. Unsurprisingly, Abys also make good hunters, and the females are fiercely territorial.

The **Russian Blue** of today is a combination of British bloodlines that produced a blue coat tipped in silver and Scandinavian bloodlines that resulted in emerald green eyes. A shy, gentle cat, the Russian Blue is sensitive to the moods of the family and will softly pet your cheek to lift your spirits.

Put an elegant ermine coat on a Siamese and you have the magnificent **Balinese**. The combination of regal bearing and clownish personality has earned this intelligent conversationalist great devotion among cat fanciers. And there's a bonus: the flowing Balinese coat never mats!

## TNR License Plates

TNR License Plates are available through Community Cats MD, Inc.; for information visit their website:

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

The additional funds for a "Vanity" plate will benefit Community Cats of MD by raising funds to support their spay/neuter program for feral cats.

## Food Lion Shoppers

Help Cats R Us when you shop at Food Lion. See the email below for details! Thanks to Donna Schneider for setting it up for us. Please spread the word to your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to help Cats R Us when they shop at Food Lion! They get to do a good deed and it's FREE! Everyone likes FREE!

<http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com/>

This link will take you to the rewards page and 252268 is the Cats R Us code.

*"A cat sees no good reason why it should obey another animal, even if it does stand on two legs."*

Sarah Thompson

## Literary Lions

English author and artist Edward Lear was devoted to his tabby Foss (the model for his drawings in "The Owl and the Pussy-Cat"). When he decided to move to Italy, Lear instructed his architect to design a replica of his old home in England so Foss would not be stressed by the change.

## Shelter Challenge

July 4, 2011 – September 18, 2011

Visit the Petfinder website:

[http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/shelterchallenge.faces;jsessionid=F1EE4382694EE92B0196632D8FE8C76B.ctg-b?siteId=3&link=ctg\\_ars\\_shelterchallenge\\_from\\_home\\_sidetabs](http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/shelterchallenge.faces;jsessionid=F1EE4382694EE92B0196632D8FE8C76B.ctg-b?siteId=3&link=ctg_ars_shelterchallenge_from_home_sidetabs)

Your daily votes are needed to win much-needed funds for Cats R Us. Spread the word to everyone you know: voting is free and takes only a few minutes!

**Contest ends 9/18/11!**

## Financial Assistance

From the About Cats website: a link for a listing of groups/organizations that can offer financial assistance for medical/veterinary emergency care:

<http://cats.about.com/od/criseswithcats/tp/financialaidcatemergencies.htm>

## Sweet Tooth

Domestic cats and their wild cousins have a genetic anomaly that prevents them from tasting sweetness. This is probably related to their meat-only habits, even though they've been known to go after all sorts of sweets. Unfortunately, these include chocolate treats, which are very dangerous for cats and must be kept out of their way

*"The cat is nature's Beauty."*

French Proverb

engine, about a penny will go your charity or school.



## The Fluid Feline

Cats are the envy of yoga students because of the flexibility of their spines. Between each of the 30 vertebrae—5 more than in a human—are thick disks of fibrocartilage that are as pliable as they are resilient. In addition, the cat's shoulder blades are held to the sides of the body by muscle only, permitting movement in almost every direction.

## Good Search

When searching the Internet use GoodSearch for CRU. It costs you nothing but it generates funds for CRU. Rachel Moriarty has set up CRU on GoodSearch and has listed the instructions for making it your home page. You can also simply look it up every once in awhile and use it in the name of CRU to earn us some cash. Use the GOOD SHOP option and raise WAY more!

Just download the GoodSearch – Cats R Us Feral Cat Rescue toolbar at

<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/cats-r-us-feral-cat-rescue>

Each time you search the web with GoodSearch's Yahoo-powered search

## Important Reminder

Whenever any volunteer wishes to foster a cat or kitten currently at the Arnold or Riva shelters – for health reasons or because it is the only kitten or a mother cat with kittens – please make the arrangements with Ray or Dick, respectively, before removing the cat or kitten. Ray or Dick will then be sure to notify the entire group of shelter volunteers. Because CRU is constantly asked if help or space might be available for cats or kittens in need it is imperative that both Ray and Dick know absolutely how many cats are in residence and if space will be available. Ray and Dick, as the primary shelter caretakers, coordinate closely with Barb Zucco, the kitten foster coordinator as well as CRU and other rescuers. At times, a very complicated shifting of cats and kittens between multiple fosters and shelters allows CRU to help cats and people in crisis. It is also important to keep the volunteers informed on the number of cats in residence since some of the new arrivals try very hard to get out.

## Kitten Fosters Needed

Kitten season has begun so if you are willing to foster kittens, especially if you are willing to take the tiniest bottle babies, even for a limited time, please contact Barb Zucco immediately ([barzuc@hotmail.com](mailto:barzuc@hotmail.com)). She will be more than delighted to place kittens with you! Barb is also always looking for fosters for older “kittens” and cats who sometimes need to find a temporary home quickly when shelters have no room. Again, if you can help in any way, please contact her directly.

## Volunteers Needed

Both the Riva and Arnold shelters are in need of volunteers to help feed and clean at least one shift per week. If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer please give them either Ray's or Dick's phone number. Fosters for both kittens and cats are always needed, especially during "kitten season". If you or anyone you know may be interested in being a foster please contact Barb Zucco for information. Volunteers are also needed to help out at the spay/neuter clinics. If you are able to help out please contact Ray Wills.

*"I believe cats to be spirits come to earth. A cat, I am sure, could walk on a cloud without coming through."*

Jules Verne

## By a Whisker

Nerve receptors and tiny blood sacs lie at the base of each cat whisker. When a cat's heart beats faster, the sacs fill with more blood, forcing his whiskers closer to the receptors. This may also control his whiskers' forward-pointing movement when he's presented with something that needs investigating, such as a new toy or an unfamiliar smell.

*"Ardent lovers and austere scholars all love cats."*

Charles Baudelaire



**Kittens begin to cut teeth and crawl at about two weeks. By four weeks they can walk around by themselves, feed from a bowl and begin grooming. They weigh about 1 pound.**

## How Old Am I Really?

Is ten the new five? It's one thing to know how old your cat is in human years, but at [www.catage.com](http://www.catage.com) you can find out your cat's age in biological years, based on her overall health, weight, lifestyle and behavior. The website also offers tips on how to improve your cat's numbers.

**A cat's air of mystery and aloof attitude has made it a popular subject in children's literature for centuries. The cat's appearance in adult literature coincided with its increase in popularity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.**



## Feral Cat Corner

Baltimore Feral Cat Colonies Map:  
<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=111574597000854083018.00046242414d38ff81559&t=h&ll=39.319425,-76.728516&spn=0.487643,0.884399&z=10>

Although the care and feeding of feral cat colonies is not officially a part of Cats R Us, there are so many of our volunteers who are involved in one way or another with feral colonies that the Feral Cat Corner column was added to the Mewsletter as a way to share information and allow those who are unfamiliar with all that is involved in feral cat care to learn more about it. Caring for feral cat colonies and Trap Neuter Return (TNR) work are not “required” for Cats R Us members. Likewise, participation at the low-cost spay/neuter clinics does not require membership in Cats R Us. We welcome everyone who cares about cats and wishes to volunteer with Cats R Us in any capacity they can. Ray and all the other feral colony caretakers also welcome anyone wanting to help or become additional feeders/caretakers. If you are interested in managing feral cat colonies please contact Ray Wills.

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National Feral Cat Day is October 16, 2011. Visit the Alley Cat Allies site for information on the 2011 event challenge and other useful information:

[www.alleycat.org/NFCD](http://www.alleycat.org/NFCD)

*“You own a dog, but you feed a cat.”*

Jenny Devries

## Gentle Giant

Measuring 48.5 inches from nose to tail, Stewie—a 6-year-old Maine Coon from Reno, Nev.—was named by Guinness as the world’s largest domestic cat. (The average cat length is 18 inches from tip of the nose to tip of the tailbone.)

[Editor’s Note: To see Stewie stretched out in his owner’s arms visit:

[http://articles.nydailynews.com/2010-10-21/news/27078822\\_1\\_stewie-cat-animal-welfare](http://articles.nydailynews.com/2010-10-21/news/27078822_1_stewie-cat-animal-welfare)]



**Top Cat:** An excellent way to identify the leader in a group of cats is to check out who always licks the others but never takes a licking.

*“The cat was created when the lion sneezed.”*

Arabian Proverb



## Brush Tales

There are so many sweet moments with the cats at Arnold that would take years to write about them all but I will mention a few of my favorites. Such as Whiskey peeking through the towels when I move them looking for him. Years ago when I first started at Arnold there were 5 black cats in the Big Shed, two of whom were extremely shy with people and would run and hide so to be sure I had not let a cat out I would count them all. There were no photo charts back then to help figure out the cats' names and genders or even as a reminder for how many cats were supposed to be there. I still count cats 7 years later. It makes me look for everyone to be sure that a cat is not missing or behaving lethargically. So the cats and I play "Hide'n'Seek" because I swear that they enjoy listening to me call their names and look under, above, behind and inside things. Reality TV for cats, I guess. Which brings me back to Whiskey. He is still very shy and one of his favorite places to nap is behind the stack of clean towels on top of the cages in the small shed. That's above my head so I am usually moving piles of towels to peek through trying to spot a cat ear or foot. Sometimes I move the right stack of towels and find Whiskey peeking through at me with that Do-you-mind-I'm-sleeping-here look. He has such a pretty face, ok, handsome, since he's a big ol' tom, but his face is so expressive, you can actually see his thoughts! What I haven't

figured out yet is how Whiskey in the Small Shed is able to tell Sassy in the Big Shed how much fun it is to hide above my head. But I've spent 20 minutes or more searching, with an increasingly more worried frame of mind, for Sassy who has found that smashing herself into a 2-inch spot between the top of the single wire cages and the ceiling of the shed, at the very back wall is just beyond what I can see even when I'm standing on my tiptoes on the top step of a two-step stepladder. Once I finally find her, or to be accurate, after finding the top of a cat ear that I assume to be her since I found all the other cats and I tell her she had me worried I swear I can almost hear those other cats paying off the winner of the how-long-will-it-take-her-to-find-us-all cat pool. Legalize gambling? The Arnold cats have had a betting parlor for some time now.

Tricia

*"I have studied many philosophers and many cats. The wisdom of cats is infinitely superior."*

Hippolyte Taine

## Molly Brown

In April, a calico cat turned up on Governors Island in New York Harbor with salt and pieces of seaweed stuck to her fur. No one knows how she got there (the island was then closed to the public.) New Yorkers christened her Molly Brown (as in the unsinkable.)

[Editor's Note: To read more about Molly Brown and to see her photo visit: <http://www.dnainfo.com/20110513/downto-wn/governors-island-cat-named-after-unsinkable-molly-brown>

Some cat owners name their pets for people they admire, no matter how ungainly the people's names might be. President William McKinley, for example, honored the Spanish ambassador of his day by saddling his Angora with the name Enrique de Lome.

## Sponsor a CRU Cat

If you can't adopt one of CRU's cats or kittens but would like to help out, consider adopting – or sponsoring – them. You can sponsor a cat for any length of time you choose. If you can “sponsor” a cat then please send in the name and location of the cat with your donation. Sponsors will be listed in each issue of the Mewsletter. Inge began with a sponsorship of Todd at Arnold and is now sponsoring Peaches. Todd was adopted so Inge wants to work some adoption magic for another special cat, Peaches! **There just might be something to this: Peaches has been adopted! Get in on the action and work some magic for a deserving cat at Riva or Arnold!**

A cat's sense of taste is unique, to say the least. It lacks the ability to detect sweetness, but it can differentiate the slightest variations in the taste of water!

## The Spiritual Cat

The cultural center for cat worship in ancient Egypt was the city of Bubastis, where Osorkon II built a magnificent hall surrounded by canals leading from the Nile. Pilgrims traveled there by boat from the 20 major cities along the river to attend a yearly festival in honor of the cat god Bast. It's estimated that more than 700,000 people made the trip each spring when the worship of the cat reached its height in the first century B.C.



## The Good Life

The English are so dotty about animals that their cats often inherit a bundle. The actress Beryl Reid left her million-dollar cottage to her five cats, and a church organist in Cambridgeshire left her entire estate to a local animal shelter with the proviso that they care for Fluffy, her ginger tom. But the biggest winner to date is Blackie, to whom an English recluse named Ben Rhea bequeathed an estate worth \$15 million.

In his epic *Metamorphoses*, the Roman poet Ovid contends that the goddess Diana hid from Typhus in Egypt by disguising herself as a cat. This was not the first or last time in literature that a woman would adopt the shape of a cat.



Whether or not, as some animal behaviorists claim, the cat is actually copying the protective devices of the snake, there is no doubt that hissing and spitting are snakelike gestures used to intimidate a foe. For sure, the results are the same, giving both creatures the opportunity to avoid a scrape.

## Sad News

We were recently notified that Bingo has died after almost one year at Best Little Cat House in PA. Bingo's story originally appeared in the August 2010 issue and is reprinted here:

### Bingo's Story

Ray and I had been feeding twice a week at a disused Bank building on Ordnance Road for some time, occasionally glimpsing sight of one or two cats at two feeding sites on the bank property. We stepped up the feeding efforts when we saw this gray and white cat, looking very emaciated and ill, responding to our calls. I went up on a Saturday evening to feed, called for the cat and by the time I had gotten the trap out of the car the cat appeared at the feeding station. I barely had time to set the trap with food, place it in position before he walked right into the trap. Bingo!! Ergo the name. Bingo went to the clinic the following Monday and sadly tested positive for FIV and FEL. The vet was ready to euthanize him there and then but Ray placed a call to Vencka who was able to find him a place at BLCH that following Sunday. I delivered him to that wonderful establishment on the Sunday and despite being super busy, as Sunday is a major cleaning day, Lynn was gracious enough to give me a tour of the place. Bingo was released almost immediately from his travelling crate and climbed onto the windowsill. Lynn reported that he spent the first night out on the numerous walkouts and has integrated with the other cats nicely. Such a lovely place for him to spend his remaining days, with a sense of freedom and dignity.

I saw Evander (formerly of the porch at Arnold) while I was there, happily sleeping on the rafters, seemingly very content with life.

Debbie G

## Where to Find CRU

**Cats R Us  
P.O. Box 160  
Gambrills, MD 21054**

<http://www.catsrusrescue.com/>

<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/catsrus.html>

**Cat Line Phone No: 410-263-1719**

**Email address:** [cats.r.us.2000@hotmail.com](mailto:cats.r.us.2000@hotmail.com)

**Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/catsrusrescue>



**This issue is dedicated to Bingo (Arnold Shelter rescue transferred to Best Little Cat House in PA). Rest in Peace.**