



TETON VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

SHELTER SCOOP

Volume 6, September 2003, Issue 1

The Teton Valley Humane Society exists to promote humane treatment of all animals, provide shelter for homeless and abused animals, and to ensure our animals are placed in loving, permanent homes.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Pawsitive Cat Intros</i>	2
<i>Hazards to Your Pets</i>	3
<i>Old Bill's Fun Run</i>	4
<i>Fear of Thunder?</i>	5
<i>Dear Tabby</i>	6
<i>Warm Weather Tips</i>	7
<i>Shelter Map</i>	8



Would you like to help come up with a theme for a fundraising idea to raise money for TVHS in 2004?

If so, we would love to hear from you!

Please e-mail midelange@tetonvalleyhumane society.org before November 1st, 2003.

Then...we will choose the best idea and you can help plan and be a part of it!!!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We apologize for our delay in sending out news of how we have been doing over the last year. The shelter has undergone several changes. We have added on over 4000 sq. feet to the shelter and have remodeled the existing building over the last 2 years. We are now able to house over 150 animals at the shelter. We have also added our own vet/surgery room so we can now spay & neuter our animals onsite.

The Teton Valley Humane Society is Idaho's first and largest "no kill" facility. Since our doors opened in January of 1998 the shelter has cared for over 2,715 animals. Of those 1,642 were successful adoptions, 867 were returned to their owners, 116 were animals that died of natural causes or fatal diseases and 90 are still available for adoption.

Today, the Teton Valley Humane Society is working hard to meet the following goals:

- 🐾 *Stop companion animal overpopulation*
- 🐾 *Provide low income spay/neuter clinic*
- 🐾 *Teach the public on pet overpopulation*

In the time it takes you to read this a wonderful cat or dog will be euthanized in a shelter somewhere in the United States. Why? Because there are too many animals and not enough good homes. Please do the right thing and spay and neuter your pets.

The Teton Valley Humane Society, PAWS, and the Jackson Animal Shelter are working hard to control the number of unwanted pets in the valley. With the help of caring and compassionate people of this community, we will soon make this dream and these goals a reality.



Please Adopt Me!



Daisy is a 3-year-old spayed female, long-haired calico cat. She is very soft with the sweetest purr around.

To sponsor a beautiful pet, please call the TVHS at (208) 354-3499.

"Pawsitive" Cat Introductions

By following these steps when adding another feline to the family, pet owners may be able to prevent the infighting and territorial behaviors that often lead to relinquishment:

At first, the cats should only be allowed to smell and hear each other, not see or touch each other.

This can be done by confining the new cat to a small section or one room of the house with all the necessities (litter box, food, water, toys, bed, etc.).

Place towels with the scent of the other cat underneath each cat's food dish and on resting places. Rub the cat toys with the scent of the new cat. The goal is to have this scent be associated with "good things."

After the new addition is comfortable in her room (anywhere from several hours to several days), confine the resident cat in this area and allow the new animal to explore the house, under supervision. This allows each cat to become more familiar with the other's scent.

Feed or offer both cats treats close to the door to this room (one on each side). This helps each to associate "good things" with the other's presence. Use treats such as small pieces of tuna, chicken, or salmon.

Try slipping one end of a toy underneath the door to encourage the cats to paw at it or each other in a playful way.

Repeat these procedures until there are no aggressive or fearful responses and both cats begin to show some curiosity about the cat who is on the other side of the door.

Next, wedge the door open, from both sides, about an inch, with doorstops. This allows the cats to peek at each other, paw if they want to, but not have complete access to each other for things to go wrong. Do not progress past this step until the cats can see each other without fearful or aggressive responses. Continue to use toys, food, and petting as long as the cats aren't threatening. Touching an agitated cat may result in a bite.

Cats require a significant amount of time to learn how to get along with each other; in many cases, more than eight months. Introductions should always be very controlled and only implemented gradually.



Next, wedge the door open a little farther, but not so much that the cats can get to one another. Repeat the previous step.

An ideal next step is to give the cats full view of one another behind a screen or glass door before being allowed together.

When the cats are first together, keep the session brief, and continue to offer enjoyable things—food, toys, petting.

If the cats are threatening or fearful when close to either side of the door to the confinement room, offer the tidbits at a greater distance from the door, where both cats can be calm.

Do not move the introduction along too quickly. The cats should be tolerating each other well at each step before progressing to the next. One bout of fighting may set the introduction back for months.

During initial time together, if any hissing or conflicts occur, try to distract the cats into another activity—dangle a toy, get the resident cat into the kitchen with the sound of food preparations, etc. If these reactions continue, back up a few steps in the introduction process.

Avoid having the cats together in a small space, such as a car, until they have become comfortable with each other.

Supervise interactions at home, and do not allow the cats to be alone together until they are consistently demonstrating friendly behaviors with each other for at least a week.

Punishment is rarely helpful with cat introductions as it is counterproductive in creating the association of "good things" with each other's presence.

If a fight does occur, try a loud noise, such as an airhorn or ultrasonic device, or a water gun to break it up before either cat is injured. This should be used to interrupt the current interaction, not as a repeated procedure.

Don't try to pull the cats apart or use interactive punishment. If interactions consistently result in fearful, threatening, or aggressive behavior, either the introduction was too abrupt, or this is not a problem prevention situation but instead requires problem resolution.

Keep the resident cat(s)' routine as much the same as possible by keeping feeding, play, and sleeping times and locations the same as before the new cat arrived.

** These steps are excerpted from Pet Behavior Protocols: What To Say, What To Do, When to Refer by S. Hetts, AAHA Press, Lakewood, CO, 1999.*

Toxic Hazards to Your Pets

Toxic to Cats & Dogs

rhododendron
foxglove
azalea
oleander
lily-of-the-valley
sago palm
yew plant
mountain laurel
mushrooms
rhubarb leaves
Easter lily
day lily
tiger lily
other lily species
castor beans



OLEANDER

Horse Hazards

❗ wilted red maple leaves
❗ black walnut (for example, shavings in bedding)
❗ oak (especially new-growth leaves in the springtime)
❗ taxus species (yew, Japanese yew, American yew, English yew, western yew) oleander and rose laurel
❗ rhododendron and azalea
❗ white snakeroot, richweed, white sanicle, jimmy weed, rayless goldenrod, burrow weed
❗ yellow star thistle, St. Barnaby's thistle, Russian napweed
❗ blister beetles (which can sometimes be found in alfalfa hay, especially in the Midwest and Southwest)
❗ Photosensitization, also known as photodermatitis, which occurs when phototoxic or photoactive substances accumulate in the skin and interact with sunlight to produce a sometimes severe crusting, itching or painful dermatitis in unpigmented or white-haired areas of the skin. Plants such as alfalfa are known to have photosensitizing potential.



YELLOW STAR THISTLE

Animal Poison Control Center

If the worst does happen and your pet ingests something that may be toxic, consult your vet immediately, or contact the APCC at (888) 426-4435 or www.apcc.aspc.org.

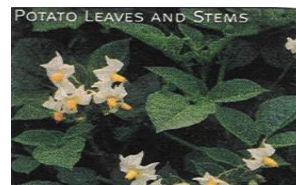
Miscellaneous Do's and Don'ts

- ❗ Keep prescription and over-the-counter medications out of your pets' reach. Painkillers, cold medicines, antidepressants, vitamins and diet pills can be lethal, even in small doses.
- ❗ Use flea insecticides carefully at all times, and never use them on very young, pregnant or elderly animals. In these cases, comb the fleas off the animal with a flea comb and submerge the fleas in a container of soapy water.
- ❗ Read label information before using a product on your pet or in your home. If it's meant for use on dogs, it should never be used on cats, and vice versa.
- ❗ Make sure your pets do not go on lawns treated with fertilizers, herbicides or insecticides until they have dried completely.
- ❗ Mothballs, potpourri oils, coffee grounds, homemade craft "dough," fabric softener sheets, dishwashing detergent, batteries, cigarettes, alcoholic drinks, pennies and hand- and foot-warmers can be dangerous.
- ❗ When using rat, mouse, snail or slug baits, or ant or roach traps, place the products in areas that are inaccessible to your pet. Some bait contains sweet-smelling inert ingredients such as jelly, peanut butter or sugar, which can attract your pets.



Bad for Birds

- ❗ azalea
- ❗ oleander
- ❗ yew
- ❗ rhododendron
- ❗ household cleaners
- ❗ pesticides
- ❗ prescription and over-the-counter medicines



POTATO LEAVES AND STEMS

- ❗ food and beverages including onions, onion powder, chocolate, yeast dough, coffee, salt, tomato leaves and stems, potato leaves and stems, rhubarb leaves, and avocados
- ❗ tobacco products
- ❗ aerosol fumes found in hair-sprays and perfumes, any source of smoke, fumes from overheated Teflon - or Silverstone -coated pans, glues and paints



TUCKER



BJORN



ARIEL



SCUFFY



SNAZ



TANGO

Old Bill's



Fun Run 7
for Charities

Run

for the

Teton Valley Humane Society
Dogs & Cats!

- What:** A challenge grant opportunity for eligible local non-profit organizations. Competitive and Recreational Runs of 5K and 10K. Fun Walk of 2K and Costume Competition.
- When:** Saturday, September 13, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.
- Place:** Rendezvous Campus, Jackson, WY
- Event:** Run goes to National Elk Refuge and back.

Please help our shelter animals by participating in this fun and well-known event. And, the best part is, every dollar donated to the TVHS will go directly to our dogs and cats. If you would like to help our shelter by donating through Old Bill's Fun Run, please call us at (208) 354-3499 or you can go to any Bank in Teton Valley or Jackson for a donor form or just send a check postmarked by September 19, 2003.

Mission Statement: To promote humane treatment of all animals, provide shelter for homeless and abused animals, and to ensure our animals are placed in loving, permanent homes.

Use of Funds: Spay/neuter funds, humane education program, emergency veterinary assistance and feral cat program. Second chance for love.



Over the last six years, Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities has raised \$22 million for non-profits in Teton County, Wyoming and Teton County, Idaho.



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 13

Old Bill's Fun Run
Jackson, Wyoming

September 20

Adoption Day
Albertson's
Jackson, Wyoming

October 25

Adoption Day
Albertson's
Jackson, Wyoming

December 6

Adoption Day
Snow King
Jackson, Wyoming

December 13

Home for the Holidays
Jackson Fair Grounds
Jackson, Wyoming

Meow-Meow Tip

In a study of neutered, indoor-only cats, there were no differences in antagonistic or friendly behaviors between cats based on gender pair combinations. This negates the belief that any particular gender pair (male/female, for example) is more likely to get along better than any other.

Woof-Woof Tip

A mixed-breed female dog that is not protected during her fertile period can be bred by several male dogs, producing a litter with two or more fathers. If the male dogs are also mixed-breeds, the offspring (puppies) can be made up of many different breeds.



MILLIE



MIA



SKOR



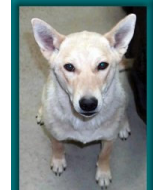
NINA



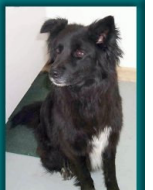
WHITEPAWS



BALTO



TRIXIE



SPUD



SEVEN



SERENA



SUMARA



VENUS



ERNIE



SIMON



TVHS Volunteers & Donors!

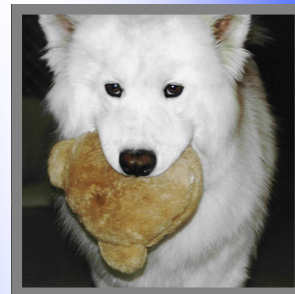
We would like to extend our thanks to all the TVHS volunteers and donors that support and share in our mission of helping dogs and cats.

To the volunteers—*Rebecca Tinnes, Sarah Thiel, Krystel Bryson, Jennifer Price, Nikki Torsak, Linda Osborne, Kristen Omlor, Emily Town, Eloise Olsen, Jennifer Matthewson, Amanda Bixby*—your unwavering dedication, compassion and love for our shelter animals are true gifts and appreciated by each and every animal.

And, to the many generous donors—you have made our progress possible by providing numerous items from our Wish List and even a brand new Spay/Neuter Surgery Center which is now open!

With your combined efforts, we are able to provide a wonderful shelter for the homeless dogs and cats.

The Friendship Wall



To honor a special pet, friend or family member, consider placing a Lucite plaque on the Teton Valley Humane Society's Friendship Wall.

This is a unique way of memorializing and remembering those who are important to you. Your special words and picture will be etched in a Lucite plaque and then placed in the entryway of the TVHS shelter on The Friendship Wall.

Your thoughtful donation of \$75 will give you an opportunity to leave a lasting message and to help the many homeless animals in our care.

For more details, please call us at (208) 354-3499.

FEAR OF THUNDER?

Does your pet hide under the bed when the thunder rolls? The reasons for fear of thunderstorms are not well understood, but Dr. Wayne Hunthausen, a veterinarian and renowned expert on animal behavior, says one possibility is changes in the lower brain as an animal ages.

If your dog trembles at the rumbles for more definitive reasons, such as a close brush with a lightning strike, then you can try desensitization. Use a recording of a thunderstorm. If the dog reacts with fear, turn the volume down. Then slowly turn it up. When the animal calms, reinforce the behavior with treats, and try a little higher volume. If lightning seems to be the problem, use a flash camera occasionally (when it's not storming) to desensitize the dog over time, again rewarding calm behavior with treats.

If a fear of storms is new, don't comfort your pet. That may only reinforce the fear. Instead, distract it with unusual noise or activity. Then give treats when the dog doesn't seem to notice the thunder or lightning.

If desensitization doesn't work for your pet, medication might be needed. See your veterinarian for proper diagnosis and to discuss medical treatment options. With a little patience and time, your pet will be less afraid of storms, which will make life a lot more enjoyable—for both of you.



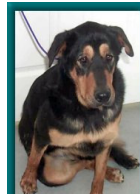
CORY



BUZZ



JIMMY



JADE



SABRINA



TARA



SPIRIT



Dear Tabby,

Questions for TABBY?

Write to:

Teton Valley Humane Society
Attention: **Dear Tabby**
185 East 25 North
Driggs, Idaho 83422

Dear Tabby,

Both my 7-month-old kitten and 2-year-old cat love to drink milk. Is it ok to give it to them everyday?

Most cats and kittens over the age of six-weeks should not have milk because of a probable lactose intolerance. This means that the cat or kitten is not able to digest the lactose in milk properly because he or she is lacking the necessary enzyme, lactase. The end result being diarrhea. However, if your cat and kitten don't seem to have a problem with this, and as long as they are eating a well-balanced diet, then a little milk on occasion shouldn't hurt. Instead of milk, though, you might try a high-quality, plain yogurt. It's best to buy a brand of yogurt with live active cultures (*S. Thermophilus*, *L. Bulgaricus*, *L. Acidophilus* or *Bifidus*) and one that doesn't have an abundance of sugar, additives or preservatives.

Listed below are a few other reasons why it's important **not** to give your cat or kitten **cow's** milk very often:

- ☛ Milk is low in protein with approximately 3 percent compared to a mother cat's milk which is approximately 10 percent.
- ☛ Milk is low in the amino acid, taurine, which is found only in meat and fish. Without, taurine, cats can develop visual, cardiac or reproductive problems.
- ☛ Milk is low in arachidonic acid which is an essential fatty acid that cats need and can only get enough of from meat.
- ☛ Milk should never be used instead of water as it could cause your cat or kitten to become severely dehydrated.

Dear Tabby,

Our two cats, Fred and Ethel, are scratching our new couch and carpet. We've heard they can't help it, is this true?

Fred and Ethel are just being normal cats and not intentionally destroying your couch and carpet. Scratching is instinctive and allows cats to condition their claws, stretch their muscles, release tension, and claim their territory by leaving visual and scent

marks. So rather than being angry, frustrated and compelled to get rid of a behavior that is part of their natural make-up, it's best to redirect their scratching needs to an appropriate object. In many cases the scratching post they are presently using isn't sturdy enough, the right texture or tall enough. Being able to stretch up and dig their claws into a scratching post is an important aspect of a cat's physical and mental health. In the wild, a cat uses a tree or a fence for scratching. But, in order to avoid planting a tree in the middle of your living room, try providing several scratching posts with various textures; such as sisal, bark, wood, rough-textured carpet or a honeycomb cardboard scratcher scattered with catnip. And then, feel flattered—as most cats scratch when they are pleased to see you.

Dear Tabby,

My cat is always hungry even though I feed him a well-balanced diet that my vet recommended. Are there any types of nutritious, low-cal treats that I can feed him between his regularly scheduled meals?

Giving treats to your cat is a great idea and not only fun for your cat but you as well. Besides giving your cat the pleasure of munching on a tasty morsel, treats can enhance your relationship, be used as rewards for good behavior, lower stress and encourage physical activity. Remember, though, to always introduce any new food gradually and in small quantities so your cat's system has time to adapt. Otherwise, it can cause indigestion. Here are a few suggestions for your hungry cat:

- ☛ **Cantaloupe** - cut up in a small ball
- ☛ **Cucumber** - fresh, peeled and chopped
- ☛ **Alfalfa Sprouts** - fresh and chopped
- ☛ **Asparagus** - cooked (avoid stringy or tough stalks)
- ☛ **Carrots** - raw and grated
- ☛ **Broccoli** - fresh, steamed and chopped
- ☛ **Garlic** - fresh and chopped
- ☛ **Green Beans** - steamed and chopped
- ☛ **Lima Beans** - steamed and chopped
- ☛ **Peas** - whole or mashed
- ☛ **Wheat Grass** - kits are sold specifically for cats



TETON VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

TVHS HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday 10-4
Closed Sunday & Monday

Closed Holidays

Phone: (208) 354-3499

Fax: (208) 354-3489

Staff

Michelle DeLange—Executive Director
Jani DeLange—Shelter Manager
Mary Hughes—Special Projects
Danielle Flint—Shelter Tech
Lora Prange—Shelter Tech
Katy Carter—Shelter Tech
Christy Reece—Shelter Tech

Board of Directors

Roy Moulton—President
Dennis Brower—Vice President
Pauline Bagley—Secretary
Ilene Hammond—Animal Control
Brent Robson

Advisory Board

Clark Kinghorn, DVM

We're on the Web!

www.tetonvalleyhumaneociety.org

We are now selling

Science Diet

- Available in all lifestages
- Well-balanced nutrition
- Gentle & easy to digest
- High quality ingredients
- Maintains optimal health
- Customized nutrition
- Vet recommended

**"Our dogs & cats give
it a four-paw rating!"**



WARM WEATHER TIPS

Now that summer is in full swing, there are some special precautions to keep in mind for your pets. Animals are extremely susceptible to the heat so it's especially important to always provide them with plenty of fresh water and a dry cool place to relax. These other tips will also help your pets endure the long, hot summer days.

- ☀ Overheating can kill an animal. Never leave an animal alone in a vehicle—even with the windows open, a parked car, truck or van can quickly become a furnace. Parking in the shade offers little protection, as the sun shifts during the day. When traveling, carry a gallon thermos filled with cold water.
- ☀ In extremely hot weather, don't leave your dog standing on the street, and keep walks to a minimum. He is much closer than you are to the hot asphalt—his body can heat up quickly and his paws can burn.
- ☀ Don't force your animal to exercise after a meal in hot weather. Always exercise him in the early morning or in the evening.
- ☀ Never take an animal to the beach unless you can provide a shaded spot and plenty of fresh water for him to drink. Rinse him off after he has been in salt water.
- ☀ Provide plenty of shade for an animal staying outside, preferably by using a properly constructed dog house. Bring your dog inside during the hot time of the day, and provide plenty of cool water. Keep cats indoors.
- ☀ Be sensitive to old and overweight animals in hot weather. Brachycephalic (snub-nosed) dogs (especially bulldogs, Pekingese, Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apsos and Shih Tzus) and those with heart or lung diseases should be kept in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.
- ☀ Avoid walking your dog in areas that you suspect have been sprayed with insecticides or other chemicals. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435) if you suspect that your animal has been poisoned.
- ☀ Be alert for coolant leaking from your vehicle. Animals are attracted to the sweet taste, and ingesting just a small amount can be fatal. Try animal-friendly products that use propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center if you suspect that your companion animal has been poisoned.
- ☀ A clean coat can help prevent summer skin problems; keep your animal well-groomed. Shaving heavy-coated dog hair to a one-inch length helps prevent overheating. Don't shave the hair down to the skin; this robs the dog of protection from the sun. Cats should be brushed often.
- ☀ Take your companion animal to the veterinarian for a spring or early summer check-up. Have the doctor recommend a safe flea-and-tick-control program if needed.
- ☀ Never let your animal loose outside—he can contract a fatal disease or be injured, killed or stolen. Make sure to keep windows and doors closed or screened.

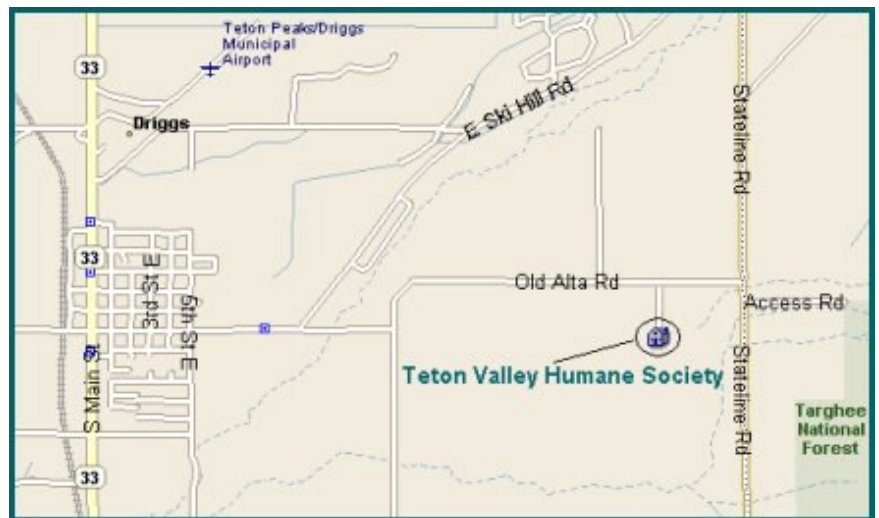
Teton Valley Humane Society
185 East 25 North
Driggs, ID 83422
(208) 354-3499



Non Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Driggs, ID. Permit #31



TVHS Shelter Picture



Directions

From downtown Driggs, turn east off Highway 33 at the giant bison, which sits atop Mike's Eats, onto Little Avenue. Continue straight and this road will turn into Ski Hill Road. Stay to the right when you come to a fork at Cottonwood Corner. (Going left will bring you to the Targhee Ski Resort). When you come to a yield sign, turn left. You will pass the Driggs Cemetery and the town landfill on your left. About a half mile beyond the landfill look for the Teton Valley Humane Society sign on your right-hand side which marks our driveway.