



If you have a cat, you're in good company. Almost half of all households with pets include at least one cat. Yours may have a purebred cat, or maybe you adopted a stray. Either way, odds are that you ended up with a smart, loveable companion that provides your family with endless amounts of entertainment.

Attitude and Behavior

If there's one thing we know about cats, it's that they're independent, unpredictable and unique. Every cat is different, and part of the fun of having a cat is discovering their individual personality and temperament. Of course your cat may be the exception to these rules, but in general, here's what we've learned.

- Cats that are socialized to people and other pets at an early age tend to be more outwardly affectionate than those that started life as strays. On the other hand, those more solitary individuals tend to be scrappier and better equipped to defend themselves in outdoor environments.
- Cats that are larger (15 pounds or more) tend to be less active than smaller cats. These big guys are more suited to napping in a sunny spot or curling up on your lap. Smaller cats (10 pounds or less) tend to have a lot more energy and be expected to be zipping through the house and getting into lots of mischief.
- Almost every cat is trainable. Admittedly, some cats are more stubborn than others, but it's worth taking the time to see if you can not only get your cat to use a litter box, but maybe play a game of fetch, perch on your shoulder or "speak" on command. You might be surprised by the results!

Grooming and Nutrition

In general, high energy equals high metabolism, and active cats can be free fed; more sedentary cats should receive portioned meals to control calorie intake. Weight can be monitored with this simple test: you should be able to feel the ribs, but they should not be noticeable by sight. If you can't feel them at all, your cat has packed on a few extra pounds. Feed a balanced diet, as recommended by your veterinarian, and adjust calories and exercise if needed. A high-protein diet will keep his coat shiny and healthy.

IF YOU
HAVE
A CAT?

PALM BEACH ISLAND CATS

OCT-NOV 2010

NATIONAL FERAL CAT DAY

Did you miss the party?

Friends and supporters of Palm Beach Island Cats (PBIC) gathered together October 16 to celebrate National Feral Cat Day in Palm Beach. Local celebrities Dr. Mary Ellen Scully and Dr. Brad Ochstein were behind the bar at The Leopard Lounge at The Chesterfield Hotel serving the customer's preferred beverages while accepting tips to benefit the cat management program. The raffle prize of a gift basket was won by John Zin.

MESSAGE FOR HOMEOWNERS

PBIC recently encountered a heartbreaking scene that could have been avoided. What happened is cruelty to animals by anyone's standards, and it has to stop. A frantic call came into the Field Director about a dead cat in the road, and she went immediately to pick up the deceased animal. What she found was a dead newborn kitten, but when she investigated the source of audible mewing, she found the rest of the newborn litter in the pile of landscaping trash piled at the curb. *Not one of the kittens survived; the kittens needlessly died a painful death!* Please ask your lawn crews to look before leaping when working around bushes, and if they encounter kittens they should call PBIC at 512-4884. One phone call could have prevented the senseless death of these kittens.

Innocent animals are not curbside trash!!!

CARETAKER SPOTLIGHT



Another un-named caretaker deserves a pat on the back for a decade of feral cat colony management with one of the largest colonies. "I was appalled at the living conditions of the innocent animals, and I knew I could help. That's why I became a volunteer," she said. Ten years ago there were approximately 100 under-nourished cats on the property and some not well. Management began with all kittens removed, then trapping female cats for spaying and then males for neutering. That colony now numbers slightly more than 40 - TNR works to prevent more cats, and then attrition begins which is the humane way.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ Commemorative Bricks
Promotion of engraved bricks for the memory walk for the Park Avenue garden
- ✓ Adoption promotions at Palm Beach Publix
- ✓ TBA

Check the website often for details of events planned by PBIC - you won't want to miss a thing!

WANT TO HELP?

Volunteer to help innocent animals, or think outside the box about ways to help. Donations of goods will be much appreciated and can help support the program, too. Help care for the cats by donating something listed below -- **Donations are Tax Deductible!**

Cat food – wet and dry
Paper towels -- Trash bags
Plastic plates (black only)
Gift cards from Publix, PetsMart, Petco
Gasoline gift cards (field operations)

Call 512-4884

DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED

PBIC desperately needs financial support from residents and friends NOW to continue managing the homeless and feral cats in Palm Beach!!

With 700 homeless cats in residence, PBIC must secure \$240,000 a year just to provide the basic medical care and nutrition which helps maintain the health of the animal. With the additional cats being abandoned on the Island, sterilization surgeries for the newcomers as well as the resident cats adds to the annual costs.

PBIC is extremely grateful to everyone that has made a donation, purchased a brick, dropped cash in a "jar" and attended events. But the coffers are very low again and help is urgently needed!

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Join PBIC today!

Basic Membership \$25

discounted neighborhood party fee

Basic Level Two - \$100-\$199

discounted neighborhood party fee, tote bag

Basic Level Three - \$200-\$349

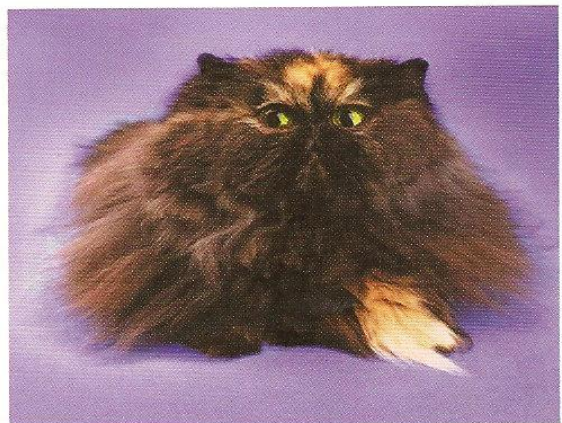
discounted neighborhood party fee, coffee mug

Basic Level Four - \$350-499

discounted neighborhood party fee, umbrella

To join, mail your donation to P. O. Box 173, Palm Beach, FL 33480 – or send an email to pbislandcats@gmail.com with your preferred payment method. Your card will be mailed promptly, and you will be the first to know what is happening with PBIC.

JUST FOR SMILES



Tell me the truth.

Does this hairdo make me look fat?

There are many intelligent species in the universe....and they are all owned by cats.
-- Anonymous

PALM BEACH ISLAND CATS

OCT-NOV 2010

Residents will receive a brochure from PBIC as soon as the second week of December. The brochure will be mailed the second week of December and features a drawing of the park to be created on Park Avenue, and the memory walk of engraved bricks is explained. PBIC is asking residents to donate bricks in honor or memory of their pets, or to commemorate events or loved ones. Proceeds will support the feral cat program in Palm Beach.

WATCH YOUR MAILBOX

MEMORY WALK

Groundbreaking for the memory walk to be a part of the new park on Park Avenue cannot commence until all the bricks have been donated for the walk. Bricks are \$100 each and engraved with a message of the donor's choice. Proceeds will help PBIC continue the work to control the feral and homeless cat population in Palm Beach and provide medical and surgical services to maintain healthy colonies. Call today for more information or to receive an order form. Call **512-4884** today.

JOIN PALM BEACH ISLAND CATS

www.pbislandcats.org

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