



New Beginnings: Adelaide

Angela Townsend, Development Director

When Adelaide arrived at Tabby's Place, her pain was as clear as the nose on her face. The elderly calico's nose was hairless, hot pink, and almost certainly stricken with cancer.

We feared Addy's time was



Adelaide

short. But, we resolved to lavish her with love – and Adelaide delighted in our devotion. Within her first five minutes at Tabby's Place, as our medical team did her intake exam, Adelaide cheerfully marched in place, “making biscuits” with her paws to show her bliss at being touched. As emaciated as she is, Addy loves affection even more than food.

And it seems you can't keep a good cat down: that “almost certain” diagnosis of cancer turned out to be incorrect. Addy's raw, red nose was simply inflamed from sun exposure, and she's already on the mend.

Although Adelaide is feeling



Now healthy, Adelaide loves sunshine and being snuggled

fabulously now, she will require ongoing treatment for severe dental disease and FIV. You can help make more miracles for Adelaide as one of her first sponsors by clicking [here](#).

Cat Countries

Last quarter, we looked at cat states and dog states. But it's a wide world of cat lovers, so this time we zoom out to analyze our amis in ailuromania.

The United States is the global leader in cat ownership, followed by Russia, Brazil, France and China. Euromonitor's researchers found a correlation between highly developed countries and more balanced cat and dog populations, although the reasons for this are not clear.

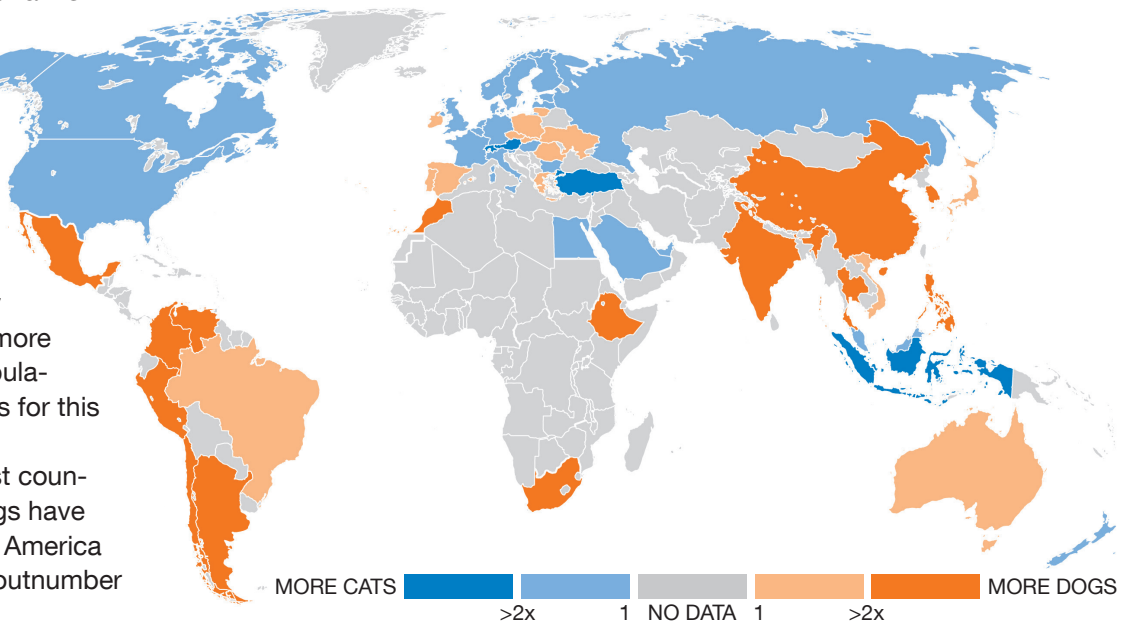
Looking for the cattiest countries per capita? While dogs have the edge in most of South America and Southeast Asia, cats outnumber

canines 3-to-1 in Switzerland, Austria and Turkey.

But don't pack your bags just yet: the U.S. has over 60 million cats more than the next highest-cat country. Tabby's Place's home state

of New Jersey alone has 1.5 million cats – more than Norway and Denmark combined. – A.T.

Sources: [Euromonitor/Washington Post](#); [FEDIAF](#); [AVMA](#); [The Nest](#); [Alberta Agriculture and Forestry](#)



You Did It!

The Linda Fund Matching Challenge 2015

You've always been generous to our cats...but this year, you nearly knocked their furry white socks off. Thank you for donating \$143,000 to the 2015 Linda Fund Matching Challenge – over \$40,000 more than last year!

The Linda Fund is all about keeping our promise to the cats who need us most. When a cat like Adelaide arrives at Tabby's

Place, we promise her that she will receive all the medical care she needs, regardless of cost.

When we set this year's Linda Fund goal, we knew it was outrageous: to cover all our cats' projected emergency care costs for the whole year. We knew we might not reach that outrageous goal...but more than that, we knew that you love our cats from

your soul. The cats count on us to keep our promise. We believed the cats could count on you, too.

And could they ever!

Your generosity will be saving lives all year long. Thank you from the depths of our hearts – and please join us in thanking the generous corporate sponsors who helped to provide the matching funds. – A.T.

Next Generation Trust Services Thinks The Linda Fund is the Cat's Meow!

We are proud to be a corporate sponsor of The Linda Fund, which helps Tabby's Place provide emergency medical services to cats in need. We hope you'll join us in helping to boost this crucial fund's kitty.

For Tabby's Place supporters who want to boost their retirement plan's potential, we can help you do that with a self-directed IRA.

Give us a call and we'll tell you why we also think self-direction is the cat's meow for savvy investors.



Hooper, a Special Needs cat adopted from Tabby's Place by Next Generation Trust Services' CEO & Founder



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Wear Your Love: Tabby's Place Shop Now Open

You love the cats, and you want everyone to know it. Now you have your chance: Tabby's Place is proud to announce our [new online shop](#).

You can purchase logo t-shirts, mugs, hats and more – or choose a shirt

or mug with your favorite Tabby's Place cat's [face](#). Morgan, Rose, Peachy or Psi would love to keep you company during your morning coffee.

Click [here](#) to start shopping. A portion of your purchase helps to care for the Tabby's Place cats. – A.T.

Ask the Behaviorist

Taking the Mystery Out of the Meow

Nancy Meyer, [Feline Behavioral Consultant, Volunteer, Benefactor & Adopter](#)

Kittens aren't born meowing, and adult cats almost never communicate with each other via meow. So what's the story behind cats' signature sound?

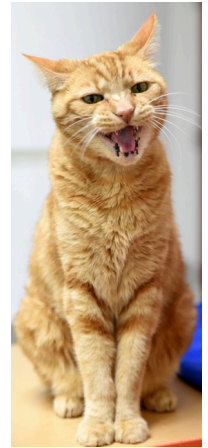
Kittens cannot meow the moment they are born, but develop this ability shortly after they are weaned. They express different ranges of the

meow and quickly learn which versions get the best responses from their owner. In contrast, feral cats are silent in the presence of humans, in the hope they will go unnoticed.

Owners often claim that they know what their cats want by the particular tone of their meow. In a [Cornell University study](#) involving 12 cats, volunteers listened to the various meows and attempted to interpret them. Owners were able to identify angry and affectionate meows quite easily by their distinctive tones. The volunteers had more trouble distinguishing demand meows, such as requests for food or for a door to be opened. The reason for this is that each particular cat, through trial and error, learns

which meow will get rewarded by his owner. Each cat and his owner develop a specific "language," which they both understand, but other cats and their owners do not share. This is a form of training.

Cats have discovered that if they "command" us by using a meow, we will perform a particular task. We train for specific behaviors in our cats, and they also have the ability to shape our behavior through the magic of the meow.



[Mango has trained us well with his meows](#)



[Kittens like Beemo aren't born meowing, but they learn quickly](#)

Feline Dental Disease, Part II: Feline Odontoclastic Resorptive Lesions

[Dr. Laura Collins, Veterinarian](#)



[No teeth, no problem – Mario's many dental extractions don't keep him from looking forward to every meal](#)

In the [previous issue](#), we discussed periodontal disease in cats. This time we will discuss feline odontoclastic resorptive lesions (FORLs), and leave lymphocytic-plasmacytic stomatitis (another feline dental disease) for the next issue.

Painful FORLs (also called cervical neck lesions or tooth resorptions) affect up to two-thirds of cats. They result from the activation of cells

called odontoclasts, which eat away at the outer layers of the tooth below the gumline, eroding into the central pulp cavity, and eventually breaking down the enamel. FORLs usually occur at the junction of the tooth and the gumline, and the holes that develop are frequently covered with gum tissue, or gingiva. When your veterinarian touches the overgrown gingiva, your cat will chatter, indicat-

[continues on the next page](#)

ing severe pain.

Most clients do not notice any symptoms of FORLs, because cats will not stop eating unless the pain is extreme. The hunger drive is very strong, so most cats will chew on the other side of their mouths, or swallow their food without chewing, rather than starve. As anyone who's suffered dental pain can imagine, dental procedures improve the quality of these cats' lives tremendously.

Because FORLs develop from the inside of the tooth, filling them is not feasible. Extraction or crown amputation are the only viable treatments.

The cause of FORLs is not understood, so we don't know how to prevent them. We do know that these are painful but curable. We also know that cats with few or no teeth are able to eat without pain and live a comfortable life.

Your veterinarian can examine your cat's mouth and assess him for FORLs. If your cat has a dental procedure under anesthesia, your veterinarian may find additional FORLs or other dental issues. Most veterinarians strive to handle all the problems under one anesthetic procedure to minimize stress to your cat.

FORLs have been seen in cat



Despite her young age, Rose has already been treated for FORLs

skulls up to 800 years old. Thanks to advances in dentistry, our beloved pets no longer have to endure the pain they cause.

It's In The Eyes: Your Cat's Precious Peepers

They go from baby blue to glorious green. They've inspired generations of women to wield kohl pencils in imitation. But for all our awe of cats' eyes, science is only beginning to understand their mysteries. Next time you greet your cat's gaze, consider the following:

- Your cat communicates with you through her eyes. A sudden surge of strong emotion – whether fear, anger or excitement – can make her pupils contract to slits.
- If your cat's eyes are wide open, her heart may be, too. A kitty's eyes are easily injured, so opening them up when her face is close to yours can be a sign of calm trust...
- ...but if those unblinking eyes are at some distance, she may be showing aggression. The unbroken stare is a common way cats con-



She may only see pastels, but Georgia thinks life is beautiful

trol or bully each other. By staring, one cat can warn another away from the food, litter box, or other "contested territory."

- Cats can't see in complete darkness, but they only require 1/6 the amount of light we need to see. Cats' eyes have 6-8 times as many rod cells, which detect light at low levels, as humans' eyes. Their elliptical eye shape also gathers more light.
- Cats' eyes are built for hunting: they have outstanding depth perception and peripheral vision. While we have only a 180-degree view, cats' field is about 200 degrees.
- Kitties aren't entirely color blind, but they see the world in pastel tones. With only a tenth as many cone cells, which function best in bright light, cats' eyes can see blue and yellow wavelengths, but experience our "red" as nearly black, and much of our "green" as shades of white.
- Compared to humans, cats are nearsighted. While we see clearly from up to 200 feet away, cats only see fine detail within about 20 feet. In bright light, humans detect

subtle motion 10-12 times better than cats, again due to our higher number of cones.

- In consultation with the University of Pennsylvania's veterinary school, artist Nickolay Lamm created a series of images giving us a glimpse of how cats might experience different scenes. – A.T.



Ali's eyes have an astounding 200-degree view of the world

SOURCES/RECOMMENDED READING:

- Cornell Feline Health Center, Feline Vision Problems: A Host of Possible Causes
- Nadia Drake, Wired, This Is How Cats See the World
- Tia Ghose, LiveScience, Feline Vision: How Cats See the World
- Huffington Post, How Do Cats See The World? A Lot Differently Than We Do
- Dr. Arnold Plotnick, Manhattan Cats, Your Cat's Eyes
- Amy Shojai, CABC, About Cats, Cat Talk: Eyes

Forever Loved: Casper

Jonathan Rosenberg, Founder & Executive Director

I have thought frequently about Casper since we helped him leave this world on July 5th, 2015. I had been pondering how I would write his eulogy. I realized that words are not capable of expressing the emotional impact of Casper's time with us. But I have no other option here, so bear with me.

I was frightened about accepting Casper into Tabby's Place. He was found lying in the woods by a kind couple. All four limbs were paralyzed, and the neurologist had no diagnosis or prognosis. I figured the outcome would be a painful decision



Casper loved life with every fiber of his being

to euthanize a cat who was not in pain, but had no quality of life.

But faith (and courage) prevailed, and we accepted Casper.

Looking into Casper's eyes evoked intense emotions. There was an intelligent being inside the helpless body; he could only lie on his left side and eat with assistance.

As it turned out, Casper had the heart of a lion. One morning, we found he had flipped onto his other side during the night. This was miraculous. We moved Casper into the Lobby, and day by day, we saw his incredible will as he struggled to walk again.

And, he did. It wasn't graceful. It required the use of the back of his



Casper

right front foot. But he was walking. He used the litter box, he climbed into beds, he ate, and he relished human attention.

Seeing Casper every day was an incredibly poignant experience. His determination was daunting and humbling. I have crumbled facing significantly smaller problems.

Towards the end of his first year with us, we saw that his kidneys were starting to fail. The universe isn't fair, but this seemed beyond the pale. He overcame paralysis only to be felled by his kidneys? Amazingly, Casper faced down horrendous kidney values and rallied for another month.

But, the kidney disease was too much. He went peacefully, surrounded by a Lobby full of people who loved him. The pain of losing Casper is as great as the joy of having known and cared for him. He was a dear friend.

"yaṃ kiñci samudayadhammaṃ, sabbaṃ taṃ nirodhadhammaṃ"¹

¹"Whatever is of the nature to arise, all that is of the nature to cease." The Pali Canon

Choose Them All

You'd like to sponsor a needy cat...but how are you supposed to



"Have you heard? Now they can sponsor us all!"

choose between all those darling faces?

Now you don't have to decide: you can sponsor the General Special Needs Fund at Tabby's Place. You'll have the satisfaction of knowing your gift is caring for the cat who needs you most each month.

As a faithful sponsor, you'll help ensure that our cats get the care they need, when they need it. Month after month, your love will be there. And, we'll send you monthly updates and photos on the cats you're helping.

Please sponsor the General Fund to save lives today. Sponsorship also makes a great gift! – A.T.



Your sponsorship of the General Fund will help Special Needs cats – and healthy cats like Cheeno who fell into hopeless situations



Where Are They Now?: Tanzy

Karina Jewitt, Volunteer Coordinator and Adopter

June 25th, 2014 is a day I'll never forget. That's the day Tanzy came to Tabby's Place.

At 2 days of age and weighing 3 ounces, Tanzy arrived with 2 puncture wounds filled with maggots, a dangerously-low body temperature, and only faint hope of survival. Our wonderful vet team jumped into action immediately. They got her on heat support, removed the maggots and cleaned her wounds.

Once Tanzy was stabilized, they



Amazing from infancy, Tanzy has only grown in grace and beauty

handed her off to my care. For the first week, I had to tube feed her, because she was too weak to eat. I kept her warm and gave her lots of love.

But pretty soon, we noticed her back legs did not move. She was paraplegic, most likely as a result of an attack she'd suffered.

Over the next few weeks, Tanzy became stronger and started drinking from a baby bottle. As she happily scooted around, she built up the muscles in her front legs. Weeks turned into months, and our little girl became unstoppable. Her front legs are now amazing; she can climb cat trees, sofas, anything!

After fostering her for so long, I couldn't give Tanzy up. She was my baby, and she belongs with me. So on February 21st, 2015, I officially adopted her.



Tanzy

This has been a wonderful year for both of us. I love Tanzy with all my heart, and she reminds me every day that anything is possible, if you just believe.

I'm grateful Tanzy fought so hard to live, and that I get to spend every day with this wonderful force of nature. All of us at Tabby's Place thank Tanzy's generous sponsors from around the world for having helped to save her life. Today, Tanzy's philosophy is simple: When life is tough, don't say "why me?" Just say "TRY ME!"

Happy Endings: Dina, Ambrose & Bello

If you adopt a cat from Tabby's Place, we adore you. If you have room in your heart for a "harder-to-adopt" cat, we fall at your feet.

But if you open your home to not one, not two, but three quirky cats... well, you go down in the pantheon of Most Awesome Adopters Ever.

That's just what happened when the Maaks family came to Tabby's Place this spring. Grieving the passing of their beloved 19-year-old cat, they chose to honor him by loving again. The only "problem" was, they couldn't limit their love to just one



Dina

cat.

Or two.

Bouncy, bubbly Bello captured their hearts first, lumbering down the Suite C ramp with gregarious glee. Just like the Maaks, elderly Bello had known heartache, coming to Tabby's Place after his person passed away. Bello would find love and healing as he brought new joy to the Maaks home.

And he'd have great company.

Strolling into Suite B, the family was smitten by Ambrose. Once petrified, the Twinkie-toned cat with cotton-candy-fluff fur was a revelation of sweetness with his new family. As for his history of infections and possible ear cancer? The Maaks had love enough to accept those uncertainties. Ambrose was going home.



Ambrose

But this amazing day wasn't over yet. From high on the Suite B ramp, an elegant tortie was watching all this love unfurl. With uncharacteristic courage, dainty Dina minced down the ramp, overcoming her fear to introduce herself. And so it was that one of our "Severely Shy" cats finally found her home.

Some adoptions feel almost too good to be true. Leave it to the cats – and some extraordinary humans – to remind us that some things are too good not to be true.



Bello