

*Deborah & Charles Doe  
In memory of Elizabeth Cooper and  
in honor of Mitzi*



*John Dunn  
In memory of Renee and Joey*

*David Jones  
In memory of Dusty*

*Amy Pearsall  
In memory Janice Pearsall Vinas*

*Jane Scherer  
In memory of Rascal*

*Henry Anderson &  
Ronald Heinrichsen  
In memory of Felix, Mickey and  
Henry Buzz Anderson*

*Jan Bettencourt  
In memory of Oscar Wilde and  
Toby One Kanobe*

*Michael & Naomi Rorro  
In memory of Mary Ernest Tarvis*

*Miriam Collinson  
In memory of Rose Martin*

*Bob & Sharon Fodor  
In memory of Linda Thompson*

*Joanne M. Baldouf  
In memory of Miner*

*Nicholas Skinner  
In memory of Mary Oliver*

*Elaine Anderson & Lorraine Kujawa  
In memory of Sophie*

*Diane Murphy  
In memory of Nancy Ann Thornton,  
mother of Tim Callis*

*Albert Merola & James Balla  
In memory of Nancy Ann Thornton,  
mother of Tim Callis*

*Carolyn Smith Tomasian  
In memory of Bianca, Towanda's cat*

*Joanne M. Baldauf  
In memory of Sheena,  
a very special cat*

*Linda Lamanna & Inez Mello  
In memory of Becky*

*Judy Linen & Ellen Daley  
In memory of Daisy*

*Charles Roye  
In memory of Misha and Muki*

*Steve Schunk  
In memory of Kevin Stinson-Johnson*

*Maria Bizzotto  
In memory of Socrates*

*Bob & Sharon Fodor  
In memory of Marian Bradon*

*Provincetown COA Staff  
In memory of Joseph Corea*

*David & Anita Butler  
In memory of Bently, a very fine dog*

*Shirley Lauffer  
In memory of Grady, dear sweet Grady,  
whose greeting made my day*



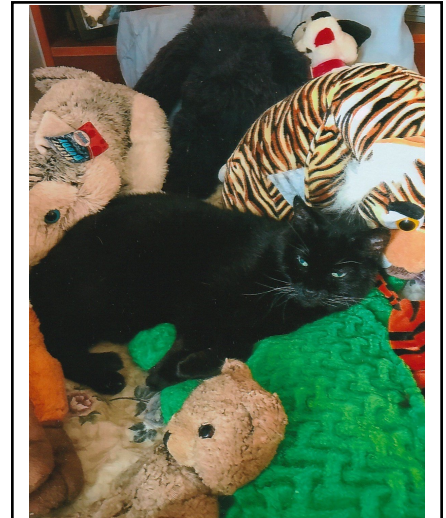
*Sandra Bolin & Cynthia Glott  
In memory of Milo and Cooper and  
their little brother Thomas, Three of the  
best kitties ever.*

*Sandra Bolin & Cynthia Glott  
In memory of Nancy Thornton*

*Martha Dilts  
In memory of my nephew Adam*

*Kathryn Buck  
In memory of Dusty and Pagoda*

*Nancy Yeaw  
In memory of Anne Brinton  
Alycia Goody & John Davies  
In memory of Purzy,  
King of Coastal Acres,  
who leaves behind his loving ser-  
vants, Avis Johnson, Kevin Harte  
and James LaBelle*



*Eddie Jason  
In memory of Mona*

*Viola Briseno  
In honor of Gina Hlobik's 60th*

*Melissa Jones  
In honor of Charley and Maggie*

*James Mcauliffe  
In honor of our delightful Nicole*

*Anu Advani & Sons Fund  
In honor of Dr. Bishop and Jess*

*Roni Siegal & Liz Angelino  
In honor of Anita and Dave Butler*

*Betsey Kuzia & Steve Trimm  
In honor of Suede, "Mr. Kitty"*

*Anne Irwin  
In honor of Hunter*

*Kathy & Jonathan Weisblatt  
In honor of Charlie and Wilber*

*Don & Roberta Jamieson  
In honor of Katie*



**CAT CHAT**  
**THE MYSTERIOUS CAT: MYTHS**  
**and MYSTERIES**  
**by Roz Goldstein**

Have you ever wondered whether the cute fur-ball next to you on the sofa was really an alien or a magician? Why have cats through the ages been regarded as mysterious beings? Here we will journey through some common myths and try to answer some of these questions.

Cats have nine lives

Many stories (I have read most) tell of cats coming back in their next life. This came about because of the cats seemingly uncanny ability to survive obstacles.

Cats are very agile due to the way their skeletal system is structured. Their shoulder blades are not attached giving them the ability to twist in mid jump. Also they are able to squeeze through very tight spaces. These abilities, along with a great sense of balance, allow cats to jump down from amazing heights and still land on their feet. Of course, many do not avoid impact injury or even death when falling from great heights. The ability to squeeze through small spaces has helped cats to escape from danger. This has also allowed them to get caught in precarious situations. I had a cat that got into walls and ceilings. They are not infallible and surely do not have more than one life.

Black Cats are bad luck

This myth has hurt the adoption of many black cats and kittens. This may have started in the past when cats were demonized and came to be associated with witches. Of course coming upon a black cat crossing your path in the dark may lead to an accident. The cat is as likely as you to get injured. In fact, the black cat has been associated with good luck as well. Sailors had a preference for black ship cats as they were good hunters in the dark cargo holds of the ships. In Japan, a black cat crossing your path is associated with good luck and benevolence. All in all, black cats are as affectionate and comforting as any other cat.

Black cats as witches companions

Every Halloween we see the inevitable images of the spooky black cat. Why “spooky”? Imagine (as some of us have experienced) walking down a path with a lantern. You shine this ahead and a black cat, which has blended in with his surroundings, suddenly appears with glowing yellow eyes. To top it off, she hisses at you not knowing who you are. Certainly a “spooky” situation. Now put that together with the feline association with witches. These women, mostly widowed without families or single, were often midwives and herbal healers, sometimes collecting herbs into the dusk. These women were outliers of the community and so in a superstitious society, the first to bear the brunt of suspicion during a community problem. They were probably animal helpers and the first “cat ladies”. No, the cat was not her magical familiar, just an animal she helped.

Cats see in the dark

Many think of a cat as nocturnal and capable of seeing in the dark. This is associated with some of the myths we have explored. In fact, cats are “corporeal”. This means they prowl and hunt at dusk and dawn. Their sight has evolved to suit these low light periods. Firstly, their pupils open from side to side, unlike our own which are round. This allows the pupil to open fully allowing more light to enter the eye. When there is an abundance of light, their pupils close, giving a cat a slit-eyed appearance. In addition, the back of their pupils have a reflective surface called the “tapetum lucidum”. This gives their eyes the ability to magnify any small bit of light. This reflective layer is what gives cats' eyes that appearance of glowing in the dark. But, of course, they, like all animals, cannot see in total darkness. This dawn and dusk hunting rhythm is why your cat is awake and active and wants to eat and play at 4 or 5am.

Cats are unsocial and can do better alone

Those of us who have cared for cats for many years know this to be untrue. Many people really believe this and so either disdain cat contact or even ne-

glect them. Cats that have had early contact with people are very sociable. (I have one sitting next to me as I write this.) Often even cats that have had minimal human contact will bond over time with one person. Our cats are one of the household pets who were domesticated later than dogs and still do have some wildness. This is why they have appeal. It does not mean they are unsocial. They also do bond with other household pets, dogs or cats. Some of this allusion to unsociability is connected to the cat's innate behavior patterns. They consider themselves to be both hunter and prey. The hunter part allows them to develop play patterns with us. The prey part leads to hiding and withdrawal if they feel threatened. People that chase a cat to hold them, or hold them too tightly, force them to sit on a lap, or corner them, will find the cat withdrawing or even hiding or scratching. This is because the human behavior, no matter how well intentioned, feels threatening to a cat. Cats need patience to allow them to express their affection in a way acceptable to them. Cats living within a household are used to our care. They cannot care for themselves if abandoned. They also do need some human affection, play, and attention. These are essential to a well behaved, confident cat.

Cats are picky eaters

Anyone who has cared for cats, jokes about cats being picky eaters. Perhaps there are many cats that have preferences or are unsatisfied with their food options. After all, they do not choose their own food. One of the reasons some cats may smell, walk away, then come back or wait until other cats have eaten (I have all of these types at home) is that in the wild, those that are most cautious live to see another day. Food can be spoiled or tainted. If it smells wrong, they may not eat it. They do have a sensitive sense of smell. Of course, the scent of food is what may most appeal to the cat. “The smellier the better”. Yes, smelly tuna has great appeal but if it is spoiled or tainted (i.e. containing some medications) it will be spurned. Make sure the



food is fresh. One note is that in changing foods, go slowly. Mixing new food little by little with an accepted food will help the food to increase its appeal.

*I hope that you have enjoyed learning or reviewing these cat myths. As I write an article for most all the CASAS newsletters, I would enjoy hearing from you with any comments or suggestions (tlgcreations@comcast.net).*

*Thank you for supporting CASAS,  
Roz Goldstein*

### RECENT ADOPTIONS

*Dominique, now DiDi, to Bethany Gregory*

*Amelia to Marissa Kidder*

*Mitzi to Kat Marissal and Paula Candage*

*Smokey and Tigger to Dawn Rickman*

*Shona to Rosemary Roberts*

*Kip O'Casey and Beanie to Deborah Fulcher*

*Bella to Paula Whittle*

*Bear to Rose Carmichael*

*Sheba to Donna Santos*

*Silkie to Laurie McCarthy*

### Pinaud, the cat: a prose poem

The barber shop cat was a feline fixture at Sam's West Village shop for 18 years. Being a New Yorker, she had attitude--lots of it: if she were asleep on her favorite

chair when the shop was busy, she stayed right where she was and you stood and waited. When she was awake she'd leap into the lap of a random customer just to lie down and purr--she could care less about being showered with the gentleman's

hair. White as a snowball, Pinaud was peppered with men's hair and everyone agreed that she preferred blonds. When she died, her photograph was placed in a gold frame on her preferred chair and no customer ever sat on that regal throne again.

**Dennis Rhodes**

### PET PHOTO CONTEST

And the winners were:



Most Beautiful: **Luna**  
submitted by Gabby Hanna



Best Dressed: **Sammie**  
submitted by Jayne Richardson



Most Unusual: **Melvin**  
submitted by Maria Harvey



Funniest: **Meadow**  
submitted by Rachael Sokolowski



Most Interesting: **Big Bob**  
submitted by Stephen Shenefield

# In Memoriam

Donations made in memory or honor of a beloved pet or person

Meghan Wenzel  
In memory of Kevin Stinson-Johnson

Brian Glidden  
In memory of Kevin Stinson-Johnson  
Brenda Silva  
In memory of Claudia Martin

Dick & Enid Caouette  
In memory of our beloved Foxy

Marge Piercy  
In memory of Xena, warrior queen

Emily Flax  
In memory of Moose

Carol Mooney  
In memory of Antoinette Marsh

Carol Mooney  
In memory of Richard A. Silva

Carol Nickerson  
In memory of Nick, Kimberley and Nancy

Heidi Dyer & Martha Wheeler  
In memory of Kathy Dyer

Edward & Carol Lindemann  
In memory of Dad "Bud"

M.J.T. Enterprises  
In memory of MJT and Martha

Catherine Cotter  
In memory of Jan Rankin

Geoffrey & Anna Roberts  
In memory of Nestle

TK & Peg Dahill  
In memory of Shannon

Bernadette Mainz & Margueriete Van Doren  
In memory of so many beautiful souls

Michael & Naomi Rorro  
In loving memory of Mary and Ernest Tarvis

Bob & Sharon Fodor  
In memory of Niki,  
a cat for all seasons

Kathleen Harlan  
In memory of Sherri Agen

Antonio Geurreiro & Lee Ann Morris  
In memory of Vivian Morris and Helen Joseph

Sandi & Jack Taglia  
In memory of Sheila Silva

Marguerite Lopes  
In memory of Sheila Silva  
Jane Weissman & Mary Lou Bell  
In memory of Maple Sugar

John Browne & Frances Coco  
In memory of Sheila Silva

Kathy Clobridge  
In memory of Little Nancy

Robert & Laurie Hart  
In memory of Su Hoffman

Dana Noble  
In memory of Jack Lawton and Charlee

Bob & Sharon Fodor  
In memory of Hilde Guzman

John & Patricia Roderick  
In memory of Kevin

Teel Tomasella  
In memory of Min-Min

James & Vivian F. Dickson  
In memory of Kevin Stinson-Johnson

Michael R. Manley & Carol Chmielewski  
In memory of Sheila E. Costa Silva

Edwin & Lisbeth Berrio  
In memory of Sadie, Foley Hans Samantha

Kathleen Higgins & Timothy Shea  
In memory of Maple Paddon Lapinski

The Barnstable  
In memory of Sheila E. Costa Silva

Bob & Sharon Fodor  
In memory of Randi Allen

Carole Shander  
In memory of Penny and Pearl

Artemis Vasilos  
In memory of Kevin Stinson-Johnson

Anonymous  
In memory of Timothy Wilson

Joni Seager  
In memory of Tundra

Rita Burke  
In memory of Joie Deall and her cats

Rita Burke  
In memory of Joie Deall, a friend

Rita Burke  
In memory of Joie Deall  
She truly loved her animals.

Lawrence Moodry & Wade Simpler  
In loving memory of Tina Louise Cerra

Edward & Carol Lindemann  
In memory of Lynn Hiller

Robert Russell  
In memory of Sheila Silva

Dana Noble  
In memory of Charlee and Jack  
Susan Goldberg  
In memory of Smitty, Simon and Yonkers

Kenneth Freed  
In memory of Nancy Ann Thornton

Robert & Rosalyn Goldstein  
In memory of Lucy and Cooper

David & Anne Ditacchio  
In memory of Amigo, Cleopatra and Xena

Ruth Ostenson & Joann Eldridge  
In memory of Mitzi

Christine Roman  
In memory of Jan Ranken,  
Bruswick and Fuzz Buzz

Rev. David Clarke  
In memory of Shatzi Gonzales