

cat tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK



Friday, June 13, 2014
Knox Presbyterian Church
Doors open at 7:00 pm
Film screening 8:00–9:00 pm

FFN's 2nd Annual Feline Film Festival is ready to entertain cat-lovers of all stripes!

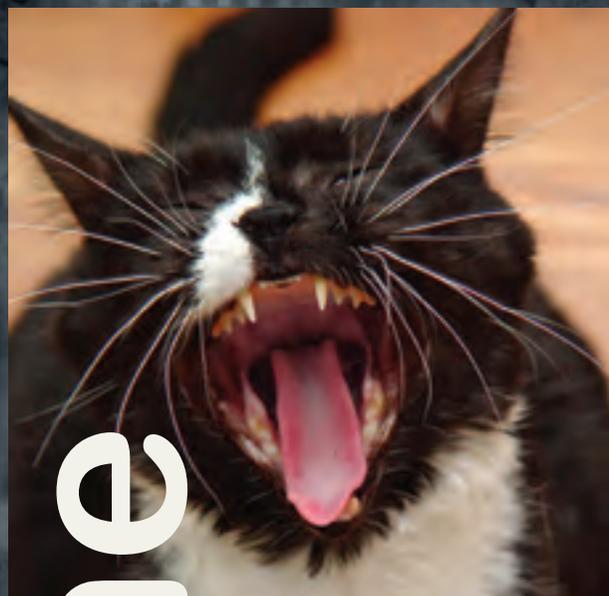
After a grueling selection process in which several selection committee members risked grievous repetitive stress injuries to their funnybones, FFN's second annual Feline Film Festival offers an hour-long slate of the finest short feline films – the cute, the poignant, the amazing, and the hilarious. This year's line up includes new material and a few old favourites. Vote on your favourite film felines and prepare to laugh until your ribs ache – and perhaps shed a tear or two.

Last year's inaugural event was so successful that this year we are moving to a larger venue, Knox Presbyterian Church at 142 Ontario Street.

FFN is also delighted to welcome Stratford Festival company member – and certified cat-lover – Claire Lautier as host to this year's event. In her fifth season at Stratford, Claire has the roles of Fawn in *Alice Through the Looking-Glass* and Countess Ebba Sparre in *Christina, The Girl King* and is also an understudy for *Hay Fever*.

Also new this year, our 'Best of Stratford Raffle', in which one lucky winner will receive gift

/continued on page 2



feline

film
festival

'Best of Stratford' Raffle at the Feline Film Fest

WIN 61 GIFT CARDS FROM STRATFORD BUSINESSES!

Thanks to the creativity and hard work of FFN member, Sue Pasquale, we have a new raffle this year! With a prize of 61 gift cards from Stratford businesses, there is something here to interest everyone. The winner will enjoy sampling some of this city's finest shops, restaurants, and services. Each gift card has a value of \$10 (except where noted below).

The draw will be held at the end of the evening at our Feline Film Festival, Friday, June 13, 2014, at Knox Presbyterian Church, but you don't have to attend the event to win. Tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, or a book of 15 for \$20. They will be available at the Film Fest and in advance at Boomers Gourmet Fries, 26 Erie St., Stratford.

Donating businesses are:

Long & McQuade ReMax John Wolfe (LCBO gift card)	Queen's Inn, Boar's Head Pub, and Henry's at The Queens	Swanson's Jewellers Buzz Stop Jenn & Larry's Brittle & Shakes
Kitchen Connaisseur Small-Mart	Irene Miller	Resonance
The Gold Shoppe/ The Finishing Touch	Photographic Art Konrad's Gold & Gems Fine Jewellery	the spa on albert White Oleander Treasures
Kiwi Kraze Sinclair Pharmacy	The Wee Book & Photo Shop	Sew More Seams Duke's Grill & Ice Cream
Juno Kids Emporium CWT Blowes Travel & Cruise Centres (\$25 value)	Jane's Fashions The County Food Company	Distinctly Tea Village Studios The Milky Whey
Pazzo Taverna & Pizzeria	Watson's Chelsea Bazaar	Sirkel Foods Onsite Technology
Grüv Boomers Gourmet Fries	The Gift of Grace The General Store Filsinger Music	Blowes Cards & Gifts
York Street Kitchen Ross Bike Works	Gordon's Mens Wear	Totally Spoke'd Fanfare Books
CloseKnit Quality Yarns	Stratford Health & Wellness Centre	The Dressing Room Global Pet Foods
Inkzilla Revel Caffè	MacLeods Scottish Shop	The Green Room Family & Company
Foster's Inn AJ's Hair & Aesthetic Studio	Bradshaws & Kitchen Detail	Down the Street
Monforte Dairy Co. Feed-All Pet Centre	The Magic Box Wuerth's Shoes Fundamentals books & toys	

/continued from page 1

cards from 61 Stratford businesses (details at left). Raffle tickets will be available at the Film Fest and can be purchased in advance at Boomers Gourmet Fries.

In addition to the film screening, the gala event will feature a silent auction, the sale of pet-related items, and the chance to have your Tarot cards read by our own talented Tarot reader, as well as hors d'oeuvres, wine (donated by Dawn Bell and family), and beer from the Stratford Brewing Co. Sincere thanks go to the aforementioned as well as L&M Catering and Global Pet Foods Stratford for their generous support.

So come eat, drink, and laugh with us at Stratford's Feline Film Festival! Tickets are available at the door on a first-come-first-served basis and admission is \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 13 accompanied by an adult. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres and one beverage. Additional beverages for sale.

For more information, call Sharon at 519-271-3401 or email films@felinefriends.ca.

Donate your old gold

Don't forget to bring your broken and unwanted gold jewellery to the Feline Film Fest. FFN can turn your mismatched gold earrings, gold necklaces with broken clasps, and out-dated gold bracelets and rings into a pot o' gold to help us help more cats.

*There are two means of
refuge from the miseries
of life: music and cats.*

– Albert Schweitzer



“Mudflap” finds a home & a new BFF with Jack & Donna

by Nancy Taylor

This past winter, I had just succeeded in getting Big Jake (a stray who had been coming round my home) securely indoors and on his way to a new life, when a new warm body appeared on my porch for some nice soft food on the heated pad. This little man was a chirpy, saucy grey tabby who met my eyes and danced around as if to say – “hurry up with the food, Miss Cat Person!” With that kind of attitude, getting “Mudflap” to come indoors didn’t present much of a challenge and he was soon neutered and searching for a home on FFN’s Facebook page.

His photo was seen by Donna, who had lost a beloved cat earlier in the winter and whose other grey tabby, Jack, was bereft. She thought Mudflap might be the answer. And it was – Mudflap, now rechristened Louie, has found his forever home and Jack has a new BFF. Donna gave me permission to share an excerpt from her latest email update with FFN:

Hi, just thought I would send you a note to let you know that everything is going great here!



The boys run through the house and it sounds like a stampede. :) They get along great. Louie will try to nip at Jack’s back legs as he walks by and then the race is on. A few minutes later it will be Jack following Louie, trying to nip his back legs. They are just too funny. They play like mad and then they sleep, eat, and start over. They haven’t slept together but are getting closer at times. They were relaxing once close to the shape of an “L” and Jack gave Louie a few quick licks on his head.

... just wanted to let you know how they were doing and to thank you for your part in all the fun.

Stay well and talk later.

Donna



Catapawlooza!

It’s coming! And some adorable, adoptable kittens are getting very excited to be admired by the crowds and adopted by that special someone. Catapawlooza 2014 is set for SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 in the upper and lower Optimist Halls. Several animal welfare agencies will be represented and visitors will be able to adopt on-site at special reduced prices. Other popular recurring features include vendors, a barbeque, interesting speakers, displays, and Tabby Tats. And new this year – grab a coffee at the mini Cat Café or spend some quality in our enclosed Adoption Lounge with the cat/kitten you are considering adopting.



Cat toys for Canada Day

Canada Day in Stratford is always a great time but this year it will be even better with FFN! Our Education and Community Outreach Committee will have a booth at Stratford's Canada Day celebrations which take place on Tuesday July 1, in Market Square (behind City Hall) from noon until 5:00 pm. We'll be promoting responsible pet ownership, educating the public, and challenging visitors to a "Guess the number of Cat Toys" game to win an FFN-inspired prize!

At the moment, we are still seeking donations of new small cat toys from members to use in the game. The toys will then be donated to various rescues to give to new parents when adopting a cat/kitten. Donations can be dropped off between now and the 27th of June in the FFN Cat Toy dropbox on the front porch of **35 Church Street, Stratford** (across from the library's back parking lot). Thank you to those who have already dropped off toys!!

Feline Friends at City Hall

Stratford mayor Dan Mathieson has asked the Feline Friends Network to attend the June 9th City Council meeting at City Hall to update council members on what FFN does and how we benefit the community. We hope that members and friends of FFN will attend to view the presentation from the gallery to help show that FFN is a strong vibrant organization with many members and supporters. So please put it on your calendar!

Although the meeting begins at 7:00 pm, it is not necessary to be in attendance from beginning to end. To find out where FFN is on the agenda, visit this link a few days before the meeting: <http://www.stratfordcanada.ca/en/calendar/council/default.aspx>

Hope to see you there !

In favour of micro-chipping

by Cheryl Simpson

Most cats adopted from shelters have been micro-chipped. If your cat hasn't undergone this procedure, should you consider getting it done?

Judging from the number of recent Facebook posts regarding lost cats, I would say the answer is a resounding "Yes!"

A micro-chip is a "living-tissue friendly" glass bead about the size of a grain of rice. It is embedded with a unique number that is registered in a database with the owner's address and contact information. The procedure is simple and relatively painless – the chip is placed into a large needle with a special injector and is inserted deeply under the skin between the shoulderblades of the cat. The insertion, done by your veterinarian, does not usually require sedation and local costs are around \$50-\$60 per cat.

Occasionally you will read of concerns that micro-chipping can cause sarcomas, but to date there has been no real evidence to support that view.

To balance that remote possibility, consider the number of news stories about micro-chipped pets who have been returned to their owners – sometimes from great distances – after being found and having their chips scanned by veterinary clinics or animal shelters.

One important caveat – the micro-chip is only as good as the information it holds. So, one more thing to remember if you are moving or if you decide to rehome your cat – make sure to provide the micro-chip company with the new contact information.

Cats always know whether people like or dislike them. They do not always care enough to do anything about it.
– Winifred Carriere

Meow is like aloha – it can mean anything.
– Hank Ketchum

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