



Summer 2024
Celebrating our 25th Year!

The Country Kitty B&BSM

Casual Boarding for Feline Friends.SM

The B&B means so much to so many people and has been the happy home away from home for over 2,300 of our furry friends. We provide a much needed service in our community.

Looking back over the years, there are so many memories.

I reported to *The Country Kitty B&B* for my first day of kitty care boot camp on October 27, 2006. As a customer, my goal back then was to be able to give Kip and Jean enough time off that they would reconsider their decision to sell the B&B. My help was not enough and two months later, I owned the place. Now here we are 18 years later and the three of us are still working together to continue *The Country Kitty B&B* tradition of outstanding cat care on its 25th anniversary.

The first time I was on my own here for a week without Kip and Jean available to help, a customer arrived with her four cats. I went out to greet her and the cats in the parking lot. She proceeded to tell me that all four cats were sick, had just been to the vet, and would all need medication while they were here. Ooo...kaaaay. I looked around for Allen Funt and the Candid Camera crew, but they were not here. This was not a joke. I got through it and it was a good learning experience. Trial by fire, as they say.



Inside:
Kip remembers 1999
The Birth of The B&B

"Thank you for taking great care of me during my recent stay. My first time away from home was scary but you made me feel safe and secure. I'd rather Mom and Dad stay close to home but I hope if they go away again I can return to you."

Jameson



Maxie enjoys the view from his room at the B&B

Many years ago, we boarded 3 cats from North Creek: **Blackie**, **Friskie**, and **Pinky**. **Blackie** was the girl of the group, a small black cat with a round face and wide eyes. **Friskie** was a grey and white tiger and diabetic. He couldn't take the car ride and always arrived drooling and frothing at the mouth, totally wiped out. **Pinky** was a heavy, long-haired cat that also couldn't take the car ride. He would come out of the carrier, wet with drool and urine and immediately jump into the litter box, lay down, then get out and shake. Picture dipping a chicken breast in egg and rolling it in bread crumbs. **Friskie and Pinky** would slip and slide around the room and **Blackie** would watch from a cubby, round faced and wide eyed with her head slightly tilted as if to say, "Don't look at me!"

Judy just brought **Jasper** in for his first stay with us. Judy has been a customer for 25 years, since the beginning! Her **Calvin** first stayed with us a week after the B&B opened in 1999. He was "helping" on the ladder as the finishing

touches were made to his room. **Calvin's** last stay with us was in 2018 at age 20.

So many memories and every day we make more. We thank you for allowing us to care for your kitties for the last 25 years and for being a part of *The Country Kitty B&B* family.

Lynn



Always In Our Memory

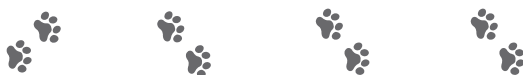
Guests who are sleeping
in their final resting place

Bambi, 15	Gumby, 18	Luigi, 8	Tabby, 20
Callie, 18	Henry, 16	Max, 17	Timber, 16
Cokey Puff, 18	Jasmine, 10	Mya, 10	Willa Mae, 11
Dusty, 7	Lovey, 18	Skips, 10	Zaphod, 18
Fabio, 18	Lucy, 14	Snowball, 15	

The purrrfect place for your best friend!

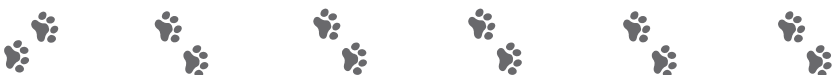


Life at the B & B



CAT TALES

Stories About Favorite Felines



Total Eclipse of the Heart

Karen first boarded **Allie Acorn** with us in 2013. Last summer, **Allie** escaped from her house when Karen came home during a severe thunder and lightning storm. An unfortunate clap of thunder just as the door opened caused **Allie** to run out of the house. **Allie**, being an indoor only cat, had never been outside on her own. After months of searching and leads that ended in more heartbreak, **Allie** is still missing.



Allie Acorn

During the afternoon of April 8, Karen was here to pick up her other feline friends, **Cricket** and **BB Butterfly**, and stayed to watch the eclipse with Jean. A hot air balloon was also in the sky that afternoon and Karen says it was, “magical”. Karen feels a special connection to the *B&B* and still believes that **Allie Acorn** will come back to us someday.

Pixie and Her Cubbies

One of the great features in the cat rooms are the cubbies the cats can play in - or “entertainment platforms” as one customer calls them. When **Pixie** stayed with us last year, she loved the cubbies. She would hide behind a curtain in a cubby and then poke one paw out , then the other, then finally her face would appear. We played her game every day.

Soon after **Pixie** went home, we received an e-mail from her mom with photos of **Pixie’s** new favorite place, the bathroom vanity.

“Hi Lynn, this is our bathroom vanity. Before boarding **Pixie** had little interest in it. Now if you look at the bottom left, you will find her in the towels.”



* * *

Kip remembers *The Birth of The B&B*

Jean was recently telling a visitor how the *B&B* came to be. Later, she commented to me, “It was some dream, wasn’t it?”

In 1998,we were wondering how we might keep busy when it came time to retire. We both liked the idea of something animal related. About then, one of our cats came back from just a few hours of observation at the vet and did not enjoy her stay. I saw the light bulb come on over Jean’s head. We were lucky and always had family to watch our cats when we vacationed. “Maybe we could open a place for cats to stay.” She began sketching a plan for a building...and kept improving on it. One day we surprised ourselves when we said, “Let’s do it now!”

Upon receiving the town’s blessing we bonded with a wonderful builder named Terry Brand. We’ll also never forget Chris, the only local banker who believed in our idea and approved financing. As news of what we were doing was getting around, a Post-Star reporter asked who would be running it. We looked at each other and decided at that moment that Jean would continue teaching and I would give up my job with the town.



Jean felt *The Country Kitty* was a fitting name for the place and one of her friends remarked, “Oooh, a B&B for cats!” So we tacked on “*B&B*”. I wanted a cute phone number and a local dentist

agreed to give up 792-MEOW. A young lady at Bell-Atlantic cheerfully waived a waiting period when she heard our story.



An open house on June 12, 1999 dispelled any worries we might have had. The Albany TV stations all came and the AP picked up a Times-Union story that went nationwide. We were guests on a radio show in Canada and one afternoon I walked in to find Jean on the air with a radio station in Dallas.

The *B&B* has been a success from the very start thanks to the encouragement and guidance of so many and, of course, the support of thousands of customers who have entrusted their cats to our care.

And then there’s Lynn. Jean and I hadn’t recognized the seven day a week responsibility of our “retirement”. As efforts to find new owners failed, along came Lynn and her husband who had just become customers only to learn they might not have the *B&B* for **Lily**. They must have felt adventurous because it seemed that within weeks Lynn was in training (“*Kitty Camp*” she called it) and the *B&B* was hers. The card Jean and I gave her is framed on the wall. It reads in part “The best things come to those who seize the moment and make it their own!” And that she has.

Settling In

* * *

We often refer to cats “settling in” at the *B&B*. Some cats start out seemingly right at home without much of a transition, especially if they’ve been here before. We do have some first timers that do the same. Usually the first timers are cautious at first. “Cautious but friendly”, is a description we often use. We always enjoy watching those leery cats go from cautious to cavorting.

During his first stay, **Zeus** would only eat at night. He stayed in his cubby behind a curtain during the day and didn’t want much to do with us. His grandma came to visit him at the *B&B* and brought one of his special squeeze-up treats. **Zeus** seems to know that she carries these treats in her bag and has been known to root around in there looking for more like a kid looking for a butterscotch candy from Grandma . **Zeus** had a party on night 3 and the next morning he was at the door yelling at us for food. He couldn’t get enough of us after that and had “settled in”. We laugh about it because now **Zeus** settles right in each time like he owns the place.



Zeus

“Maybe you could house them in a pristine apartment with a private window? Wait– YOU DID!
Play with them, brush and pet them? YOU DID!
Spoil them by shopping for their favorite treats? YOU DID!
Indulge their custom eating schedules? YOU DID!
Country Kitty B&B is the Treasure of NY state! Gold standard care for our furry family!”

WP and Family

Photos at left, from top:
Aspen, Grace O’Malley, BP, Pumpkin, Piper, Louis



The Country Kitty B&BSM

1195 Ridge Road
Queensbury, NY 12804



Celebrating Our 25th Year!

"It's very important to be able to leave your precious animal with people you can trust and know that they are safe while you are away. I really appreciate that you can provide that for me. Have a great summer and we'll see you in the fall." AD

We get lots of compliments on our attractive web site. Pictures truly are worth a thousand words. And it's a great way to communicate!

- Many customers book return visits totally via e-mail.
- Other folks have their family and friends check out the place where their cats are staying.
- Customers often e-mail us from hotels or homes of friends and relatives asking how their pets are doing. We even e-mail snapshots of our guests to their owners showing kitty's having fun at the B&B.



*When making your
vacation plans,
don't forget the cat!*

www.countrykitty.com

It's Never Too Early to Call

We are frequently asked, "How far ahead should I call to make a reservation?" The answer is, "It's never too early to call". Some customers plan a year ahead to make sure their cat can be with us. Others call to see what we have available and then make the rest of their travel plans.

We know you can't always plan ahead, but whenever you make plans for yourself, don't overlook the cat. As soon as you know you need us, call. Don't wait!

When we are full, please always get on the waiting list as things change every day here. We will call you if a room opens up and you can decide then if you still need it or not.

On a similar note, don't assume we're always full. Pick up the phone and call! So, rule of thumb – It's never too early to call and never too late to try.

"Absolutely best place to board your cats. Don't look anywhere else! Facility is insanely clean and quiet. All the rooms have plenty of space and places to hide, with windows so they can watch what's going on outside. Prior to boarding, I was encouraged to check everything out to make sure it was the right fit. All their kitty guests were happy and healthy. They were even giving me little details of each guest as we walked past. The staff genuinely care for the cats and are passionate about the work. Also the decor is adorable! Lynn sent me email updates with pictures of my two cats throughout their stay. Both **Cinder** and **Atticus** loved their stay, and we will definitely be back!"

JG From an on-line Google Review

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