



## **“Kitties that Rub Against Our Legs”**

**By Kit Belcher, Executive Director  
Beltrami Humane Society  
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**Why is it that kitties twine sinuously around our legs, rubbing insistently with their heads? Are they hungry or is this a friendly greeting? Believe it or not, we are experiencing a combination of a feline greeting and claim of ownership.**

**All cats have scent glands distributed over their bodies. The perioral glands are on the lips and chin. The temporal glands are on each side of the forehead, and the caudal glands are along the tail. The scent emitted by these glands is undetectable by humans, but they serve as an important role in feline and feline/human social rituals. On occasion, one cat approaching another will raise its tail in greeting. If the second cat raises it's tail also, the two of them will then rub against each other.**

**A cat will also in the same manner, greet their people by butting heads with them or rubbing up against their hands or legs. This is not only a friendly gesture, but it allows the cat to indicate to all of its sundry felines that this person is his. Cats will also mark their humans in this manner excessively if they are nervous or unsure of themselves.**

**So the next time your cat greets you swirling through your legs or with a good head butt, be sure you thank him for his compliment, and let him know that you are devoted as his slave for life. He will love you forever!**

**At Beltrami Humane Society, we have lots of huggable, loveable kitties ready for adoption. Two special cats are “Sally and Jimmy”. They have beautiful black coats with splashes of white on their chests. Their eyes are yellowish gold, and they came to the shelter as 3 mo old kittens. They are currently 10-11 months old. They were found at our local transfer station scavenging for food with no mother around to be found. They were cold and quite fearful upon arrival, and it took many weeks to gain their assurance and socialize them. They have become a**

wonderful young pair, and are now very loving and easily approached. They have settled into a normal daily routine, have been spayed and neutered, and would like very much to go to a great home together. They are quite playful and adventurous at times as they will occasionally open a floor cabinet to help themselves to a quiet place for a good afternoon nap. They know their names, and never turn down a moment for a little hug or some lovin'. They have been around small dogs, but not large ones. We think they could adapt with time to dogs. They do just fine around other cats. If you can provide a very special and loving home for this pair, please contact the shelter. These two awesome cats have been discounted due to a generous donation on their behalf, so they can go to their new forever home. They are so deserving of this after their rough start in life, and lengthy stay at the shelter.

You can see "Jimmy and Sally" at Beltrami Humane Society at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, 12-5:30 p.m. Our phone number is (218) 751-7910. If you cannot come to our physical address, visit our website photo gallery at [www.beltramihumane.com](http://www.beltramihumane.com) or see our animals on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com). We do have a great selection of cats and dogs waiting for adoption. All animals leaving our facility MUST be spayed and neutered prior to departure. See our "Pets of the Month" at Pamida, photos of pets at the ends of the pet aisles at your Walmart Store (we are participants of the Very Best Pet Network), or listen to KKBJ Mix 103 morning show to hear about our "Pets of the Week."

**Upcoming Events: May 5-6<sup>th</sup>, FURR BOWL 2007!**

**Pick up your registration packets at the shelter or register online by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Come alone, or grab a team. There are many sessions to participate in! Enjoy trophies, food and fun! "Help Us Strike Out Animal Homelessness!"**

**Are you interested in volunteering? Pick up a volunteer application--fill it out, and then plan to attend our next training session which will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1-2 pm at the shelter. We appreciate your help!**

**Shelter Wishes: Medical \$\$ for "vaccinations, antibiotics, routine medical care", laundry & cleaning supplies, puppy & kitten chow, Conference Room Table, 10-12 folding chairs.**

