

Let's talk about cats. It seems to be a never-ending story, going back to a reader's request for cat-oriented advice. Her cat preferred carpets and furnishings to its scratching post. Within days, she provided her own answer, from a book, **"From the Cat's Point of View."** No cat counselor could have done better. You must understand cats to train them. It may take days, and there may be times when you feel a bit silly, but never lose sight of the goal. You will learn how to set booby traps (cats don't like loud noises), or you may have to explain why furniture is covered with netting (cats don't like to snag their claws), but in the end it is worth it. A well-trained cat is a joy to behold, or was it "be held," even if the cat is a bedraggled waif rescued from the garbage, which is what the cat that started all this was.

Several readers have asked where to buy the book. Just remember, as you wait for your book, there are no bad cats, only bad communication. And this book is a good example of that, since it provides no contact address or phone number, only that it is published by Perfect Paws, San Francisco. With great effort (three phone calls, two faxes, no responses) I have finally received the address: P.O. Box 885214, San Francisco, CA 94188, USA. Write and hope for the best. The cost is \$9.95 plus postage.

If you aren't a cat person but you have pet problems, or if you like animal-oriented books, you will want to know about the **Pet Bookshop**, P.O. Box 507, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771, USA, phone 516-922-1169 or fax 516-922-2970. Their order form tells us they are a division of Pampered Parrot Haven. It makes you wonder what the head office does.

A woman has her own challenge. She remembers reading of a device that predicts the exact time of ovulation. My first call when I receive such questions is always to the **American Pharmacy**, (03) 3271-4034. If they don't carry what I am looking for, they can usually tell me where to find it. They have **Discre/test**, a kit which allows users to predict accurately ovulation time. English-language instructions are available. The cost, ¥8,000.

Oh, the things we miss, like the open-house at Sugino University, a leading **fashion design and dressmaking school**. The reader who asked about sewing courses will be pleased to know there is an international division. Had she gone to the open-house, she could have seen a fashion show and picked up some tips on professional sewing. There are classes for those seeking professional training as well as for people who want to improve or learn home-sewing skills. Classes are in English. For information, phone Kenneth Oh, (03) 3491-8151.

What, I have often wondered, do people do with used **telephone cards**. Those with calls remaining can be used for paying phone bills, but used ones? Still, I have been told there is a card collection box at the Franciscan Chapel Center, and here is a request from a woman who says a Japanese friend is collecting used cards for a local church which has an agreement with NTT: They will contribute to a milk fund for needy children in exchange for used cards. So, save them and send them off to Gail Cram, Mefu Heights 101, 1-9-4 Maitani, Takarazuka, Hyogo-ken 665. She offers to reimburse postage charges, but you wouldn't want her to do that, would you? It's such a little thing we are being asked to do.