About Carole Wilbourn

A cat therapist forever, Carole has published 6 books on cat psychotherapy, and logged more than 100,000 miles making house calls to patients throughout the world. Hailed as “the founding mother of cat psychology”, she cofounded The Cat Practice, the first veterinary hospital in New York City exclusively devoted to cat care in 1973.

Over the years, Carole has consulted with veterinarians to devise treatment programs for cats with psychological and emotional disorders. From this emerged ‘The Wilbourn Way’ — logical, easily implemented methods of preventing and/or correcting common feline emotional problems.

Also known as The Kitty Freud or Freud of Felines, Carole wrote a monthly column, Cats on the Couch, for Cat Fancy magazine for 16 years, and was an online columnist for In Defense of Animals. Her current Blog is The Wilbourn Way. She gives seminars at The Open Center and 92nd Street Y in Manhattan as well as The Learning Annex in Toronto. In addition, Carole is a staff consultant and sees clients at Westside Veterinary Center in New York City.

Carole serves on the board of the Humane Society of New York and resides with her present cat O2 (Orion2) in Greenwich Village.

Client Testimonials

Indiscriminate Urination/Defecation
“After three years, our cat - for what seemed like no reason at all - just stopped using the litter box. Carole’s house call was a revelation!” P.R. Washington, D.C.

Inter-Cat Hostility
“My two cats never had a peaceful day together... until Carole Wilbourn paid us a visit. Now they sleep side by side.” J.D., Boston, Massachusetts

Destructive Behavior
“Our cats no longer wreak havoc with our sofa and drapes. The Wilbourn Way really worked with them. And it was so simple.” V.N., Lake Charles, Louisiana

Matching Your Cat’s “Catsonality”
“Carole is incredibly insightful and sensitive. With her advice, we were able to pick out a dog with just the right temperament for our cat.” M.M., Anchorage, Alaska

The Wilbourn Way of Introduction
“My cat was always so hostile to other cats, I never thought he’d accept a new kitten. But with Carole’s introduction technique, he bonded with the newcomer in a week.” S.F., New York City

Listen and Re-Learn
“Years after our sessions with Carole, we continue enjoying their beneficial effects by re-playing Carole’s CDs of our cats’ sessions for them. These are part of the Wilbourn Program of continual behavioral reinforcement.” E.M., Santa Fe, New Mexico
**Preventive Care**

**Are you...**
- Moving?
- Getting a new domestic partner?
- Planning a vacation with or without your cat?

**Getting a new...**
- Cat, dog, iguana, ferret, bird or bringing home a new baby?

Carole can help you, your cat, and other companions adjust to major transitions and avoid unwanted behavior problems with a preventative consultation or house call.

**Corrective Care**

**Not certain your cat is happy?**
- Does your cat avoid the litter box?
- Does your cat keep you awake at night?
- Is your cat aggressive with you, or other people?
- Is your single cat destructive, or a victim of Single Cat Syndrome?
- Do you worry about introducing a new baby, roommate, or spouse to your cat?
- Is your cat a closet cat?
- Do your cats feud constantly?
- Is your cat fixated on food?
- Is your cat reacting badly to another family member, or companion animal?

If you answer “yes” to one question above, your cat may need therapy. Two “yes” answers indicate that he is really unhappy and you both need help.

**Services**

Carole consults with her clients by telephone and video, and travels for in-home visits around North America. Carole is also available for appointments at Westside Veterinary Center in New York City. She now adds Reiki services. Reiki is a balancing, healing practice that enhances physical, mental and emotional well-being for both cats and their guardians.

**Telephone/Video Consultation**

A structured question-and-answer therapy session typically lasting 45 minutes, depending on the problem. Having diagnosed the problem, Carole provides you with a treatment plan and suggests a prognosis for your situation. Carole has been successfully helping cats and their guardians with this technique for many years.

**In-Home Consultation**

Years of in-person experience with tens of thousands of cat behavior situations means that Carole is finely attuned to how cats behave in their natural environment, making an in-home consultation Carole’s most highly effective service. Typically a single, one-hour visit and therapy session is sufficient for curing the problems of one or two cats and their guardians.

**Seminars + Guest Speaking**

A well-known entertaining speaker, Carole has spoken to both professional and non-professional cat care givers at veterinary schools, animal hospitals and shelters, cat shows, fund raisers, learning sessions, seminars, colleges, libraries, luncheons and parties.

Carole has trained veterinary assistants and care givers as well as first-time and experienced cat guardians, offering new sensitivity and insight into the feline mind, body and spirit.

**Press**

**Select Television Appearances**
- CBS
- 20/20, ABC
- NBC
- PBS, “Nature: Extraordinary Cats”
- EyeWitness News
- Prime Time
- Regis & Kathie Lee
- Entertainment TV’s “The Gastineau Girls”
- Animal Planet’s “Most Extreme” Series
- Access Hollywood
- Japanese Television’s “Pet Encyclopedia”

**Select Radio Shows**
- National Public Radio, “The Leonard Lopate Show”
- Radio Canada
- BBC
- Radio Australia

**Select Media**
- The Huffington Post
- Vocative.com
- The Big New Yorker Book of Cats
- The New Yorker, Talk of the Town
- New York Times, Sunday Styles
- National Geographic: Cats, Nature’s Masterwork
- Montreal Gazette, Feature article
- The National Post (Canada), The Cat Whisperer
- The Globe And Mail (Canada), Psycho Kitty
- The New York Daily News
- The Chicago Tribune
- The London Daily Mail

**Books**
- The Complete Guide: Sterling
- The Total Cat, Harper Resources/Quill
- Cats on the Couch, Macmillan
- Cat Talk: Macmillan
- The Inner Cat, Stein & Day
- Cats Prefer It This Way, Coward, McCann & Geoghegan
- The Total Cat, Understanding Your Cat’s Physical and Emotional Behavior from Kitten to Old Age