



SAVE A KITTY FERAL CAT PROGRAM, INC.

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NEWSLETTER

Welcome: 2005 has arrived and we are right on target. We have held three (3) clinics and a total of twenty-five (25) cats were sterilized. All of the cats did extremely well. We hope to hold weekly clinics and continue to see our sterilization numbers grow with each week. As of this newsletter, we have sterilized over ninety (90) cats. We are always looking for sponsors and volunteers to help with our efforts. If you are interested in assisting in any way, please see our website for information at www.saveakitty.org. We continuously need items for our clinics, such as: towels, old blankets or sheets, cat carriers, etc. If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact us @ our email address: saveakittyferalcatprogram@yahoo.com

501(c)3 update: We are now an official 501(c)3 non-profit organization. An approval letter was received on March 19, 2005. The tax-exempt status is almost always required when filing for grants or assistance through other non-profit corporations. Most of the grant suppliers require that you be in operation for one year before applying. This will limit us somewhat until July 2004. There are a few grants the Board is working on and will receive notification by the end of 2005.

Sponsorship Program: The organization now has a sponsorship program. Donations will be listed on the Website under a level of sponsorship as follows:

Platinum - \$1,000 donation

Gold - \$500 donation

Silver - \$250 donation

Bronze - \$100 donation

Thanks to Marti Gotts of the Virgin Islands for the \$500 donation to our spay/neuter program. We were able to sterilize several cats with this donation. Thank you Marti! Also, we would like to thank Julia Sheets for her donations to help purchase traps for our TNR (Trap, Neuter and

Return) program. Thanks to all who have made our program possible.

www.saveakitty.org Our website is constantly being updated with new and exciting things. Our website designer, Pat Walter of Marietta, OH has added our sponsorship-thank you page and is also working on putting our quarterly newsletter online. She will be adding a comment page that will allow visitors to comment on the work we are doing or ask questions. Thanks to Pat, our information is reaching many interested citizens and helping them learn more about caring for feral/homeless cats.

TNR (Trap, Neuter and Return) works. Cat populations gradually decrease. Nuisance behaviors associated with mating and breeding are virtually eliminated. The cats can live healthy, safe and peaceful lives in their territories.

If you are feeding stray or feral cats and would like to learn how to humanely trap them for medical care, Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. will assist you in your efforts. Please contact Kandi @ (304) 482-8987 or Sue @ (304) 482-8631. Our e-mail address is available on-line @ saveakittyferalcatprogram@yahoo.com. Or e-mail kandicozad@charter.net. You may also visit our Website at www.saveakitty.org for information.

Monthly Meetings: Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. will continue to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month. If a holiday falls on these days, the meeting will be held on Tuesday. All meetings are held at the Knights of Columbus council home, 1010 Market Street @ 7 p.m.

Cash for Critters: The Cash for Critters fundraising program is going very well. We have collected several empty ink cartridges, toner

cartridges and un-used cell phones. We would like to expand this program and increase the cartridges and cell phones that we collect. Please check with your family and friends and any businesses that may be able to assist us.

Foster/Adoption Program: We would like to welcome Tina Gilbert as our new Foster/Adoption Coordinator. She is ready and willing to take on the challenge of building a large network of foster parents and making sure that these beautiful animals are placed in to loving, permanent inside homes, if they are adoptable. Please welcome Tina and wish her the best. If you know of anyone interested in fostering for the organization, please contact Tina at talkot@zzzip.net . A foster care contract is required.

Humane Trapping: Save a Kitty Feral Cat Program, Inc. now has fifteen (15) traps available for trapping sessions. The traps are available to caretakers who wish to humanely trap their colony cats for transport to the veterinarian. A trap loan agreement must be signed in order to utilize them. Thanks to everyone who donated traps or the funds to purchase them.

National Homeless Animals' Day: This special day is always the 3rd Saturday in August. This year the date is Saturday, August 20, 2005. The International Society for Animal Rights created and sponsored this annual event as a form of educating the public on the desperate need for nationwide spay/neuter programs. Animal welfare and animal rights organizations, as well as individuals, have taken part in the annual vigils to increase public awareness of the millions of healthy dogs and cats killed each year for the lack of a good home. A candlelight vigil observance not only memorializes the animals that have been euthanized because they were unwanted or abandoned, but also honors the many dedicated, caring people who work selflessly to an overwhelming tide of cruelty and abuse, the tragic result of dog and cat overpopulation. Please light a candle on this special day to honor these special animals.

Shelters and Automatic Feeders:

The following picture is an example of one of our shelters. Six of these shelters were built and donated by Luther Merckle of Sardis, Ohio. One of the shelters was placed in downtown

Parkersburg for six homeless cats and unfortunately it was destroyed and placed in a dumpster. We were unable to recover the shelter. The Parkersburg police department is investigating this incident. We are also building automatic feeders that hold 40-50 lbs. of dry food. They automatically dispense as the cats eat. They keep the food dry and allow the cats to eat when they like. If you know of anyone who would be willing to build these shelters and feeders for us, please let one of our volunteers know or contact Kandi Cozad @ (304) 482-8987.



Did You Know? (Cat Trivia)

Cats almost never meow at another cat. They use this sound to communicate with humans.

Sir Isaac Newton invented the cat door.

Feeding a cat dog food can cause blindness. Dog food lacks taurine, a nutrient essential for cat health. Taurine keeps their hearts healthy and their eyesight sharp.

21% of U.S. households have at least one cat and 32% of homeowners have at least one cat.

More than 35,000 kittens are born in the U.S. each year.

The Maine Coon is the only natural American breed of domestic cat.

A group of kittens is called a kindle. A group of grown cats is called a clowder.

95% of cat owners talk to their cats.