

# Feral Cat Foundation

PO Box 1173 Alamo CA 94507

SUMMER 2004



## Koan's Kitten

Friends of FCF, join us in applauding our newest members, Koan and Wallis, whose recent efforts saved the life of a tiny orphaned kitten. As it happened, Koan the Giant (105 lb. German Shepherd), with the help of Wallis the Torticat (Average Housecat), rescued Little Orphan Emma (5 oz. Kitten) on a sunny spring day in Orinda.

It was a typical Sunday afternoon in the suburbs. Bob, Tina, and their dog, Koan, were outside chatting with the neighbors. Bob was vaguely aware of a distant animal-related disturbance, so he barely noticed when Koan wandered off to check it out. Several minutes later the big German Shepherd strolled by with a rat-like object in his mouth. When Bob commanded Koan to "Give," he gently dropped a tiny bundle into Bob's outstretched hand. It didn't take Bob long to realize that this tiny bundle was a kitten, whose mama had probably been scared off by the disturbance he had heard earlier. Bob reasoned that the little kitten needed warmth and her mama more than anything else, so he placed her in a soft towel and returned her to the vicinity where the earlier interaction had occurred. He watched from a distance, but after an hour decided he could wait no longer for the mama kitty to return. He retrieved the kitten and took her to his neighbor, Marilyn, who was acquainted with Feral Cat Foundation's work. Together they contacted FCF's president Estelle Breitmeyer who invited them to *come right over.*

Estelle's years of experience rescuing cats was obvious as she calmly examined the kitten, cleaned her, and removed the remnants of her umbilical cord. She estimated the kitten's age at about a week, weighed her (5 ounces!) and measured her (4" tiny body!). Estelle thought she had seen just about everything in the realm of cat rescue, but this was the first time she had encountered a dog as the primary rescuer. It was Koan's effort that had saved little "Emma." Now it was up to Bob and Tina to nurse her and care for her. Estelle showed the willing couple how to care for little Emma and sent them home loaded with supplies. Over the next week Bob & Tina took turns bottle-feeding the little kitten every 3 hours. When the time was right, they introduced her to their adult torticat, Wallis, a "rescue kitty" herself. Although spayed years ago, Wallis' maternal instincts kicked in, and she was a great help



*Koan, Bob, Emma, Tina & Wallis*

to Bob & Tina, who by this time were showing some signs of wear. She continues to “mother” Emma to this day, and is beginning to show her a few “big kitty” tricks. This is especially helpful, as so many orphan kittens have no one to “show them the ropes.” In this respect Little Orphan Emma definitely lucked out. Koan continues to watch over “his” kitten and Emma in turn loves her gentle giant.

Neighbors on Bob & Tina’s street are currently working with FCF to spay and neuter a group of feral cats in the area. They will feed and provide shelter for these cats while they live out their lives, but thankfully there will be *no more homeless kittens*. We salute the good people and the caring DOGS & CATS of this community ! Their involvement will ensure a very happy ending to this tail . . . er, *tale* !

Feral Cat Foundation continues in its main mission of relieving the misery of feral and stray cats and kittens by humanely trapping, spaying/neutering, finding homes for tame cats, taming and adopting kittens, and feeding and caring for colonies of the cats that are too wild to be adopted.

Please help us continue our rescue work by purchasing the enclosed **Raffle Tickets**.

Generous friends of FCF have donated great prizes—from trips to Hawaii to lots of cash prizes !!

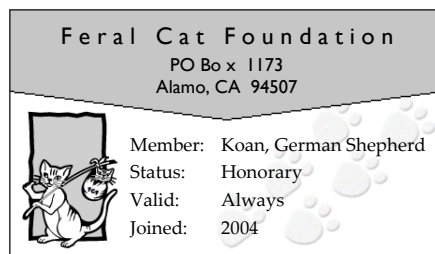
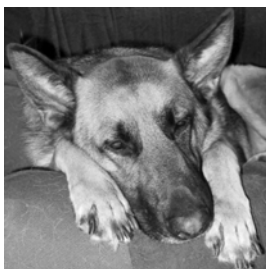
**Tickets are \$2 each or a Book of 6 for \$10**

Simply fill out the ticket stubs and mail them with your check for \$10 (*or more if you can*) to Feral Cat Foundation in the enclosed envelope. For more tickets, leave a message for Pam at 510-395-2460 or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to FCF, P.O. Box 1173, Alamo, CA 94507.

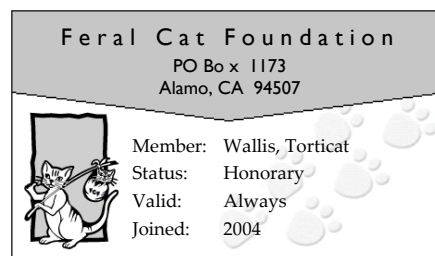
Remember, FCF has no paid staff and no paid fundraising personnel—  
**All Raffle Proceeds Go Directly To The Cats !**

Thank you for being such an important part of our rescue work. Each time you contribute to FCF, you help improve the life of a neglected cat or kitten.

Sincerely,



Nell Randisi  
Director/Fundraising



PS Little Orphan Emma has a wonderful home with Koan, Wallis, Bob, and Tina – but many cats and kittens are not so lucky. Do visit [www.feralcatfoundation.org](http://www.feralcatfoundation.org) to see all of the special kitties waiting for homes and to select the adoption site nearest you ! *Thank You !*