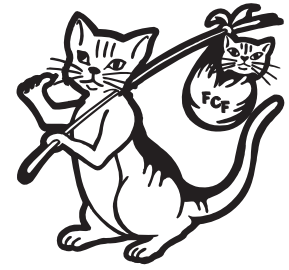


# Feral Cat Foundation

PO Box 1173 Alamo, Ca. 94507

Winter 2006



The members of Feral Cat Foundation diligently try to meet the needs of our respective communities. In Alameda and Contra Costa Counties FCF is often the last hope homeless or feral cats have, if they are going to get the help they need and continue to live. In 2006, from January through September, FCF has already altered almost 700 cats, thus interrupting the sad cycle of sick or injured cats, kittens too many to count, and hungry cats. Our members often face hostility when feeding, sometimes to such extent that colonies are poisoned before they can be removed. Often we are told that a colony that is stable (all are spayed and neutered) is a nuisance and must be removed, or they will be professionally trapped and euthanized. We have received many calls this year to help with badly injured cats, abandoned mothers with babies, or just plain homeless cats in backyards. We give hands-on help where we can, and always offer encouragement, equipment, and vet appointments when no one is available to help any other way.

We have far exceeded our Medi-Cat budget, which is money set aside specifically for cats badly injured or sick. We have had several broken legs that needed to be amputated, many eyes that needed to be removed due to injury or disease, and cats that needed extensive blood work to diagnose their problem and set a course for treatment. Why does FCF do this? Because our mission statement is that we relieve the misery and suffering of feral, stray, and abandoned cats. Of course we could let them die. But we choose to make a difference in a more positive way, by giving these cats the attention and help they need to live their lives out safely and pain-free.

This year we have received many calls about sick cats that needed to be picked up. Many were formerly owned, now older cats that had been abandoned in parks and office complexes. Some were young kittens, ill equipped to survive on their own. Left to fend for themselves, these cats and kittens ate what and where they could find food, resulting in serious gastric problems.

Lucky races up and down the stairs of his new home, chasing the ball his owner throws. And he actually brings the ball back to play a game of fetch. Lucky still has a slightly runny eye, but his owner has been assured that there has been no permanent damage. Cats do not usually get cataracts, and true to his name, Lucky is extremely lucky. His cataracts have not grown in the 8 months since he was found.

Sickly would not come close to describing the condition the little kitten was in. He was dehydrated, skin and bones, had a continually running nose, and his eyes were swollen shut. The FCF member tried to feed him, but he was too weak to eat. So she got out the syringe, and gently force fed him some baby food. He ate willingly enough, but five minutes later all the food came out the other end, looking exactly like it had going in. Three months later, after lots of TLC, patience, and medicines, Lucky was ready to start on his second (or perhaps third) life as a healthy, happy, five month old companion in a new home.

At this writing, Feral Cat Foundation has over one hundred cats shown for adoption on our web site. These cats are cared for in our member's homes as part of their families. Expenses for the maintenance of these cats are absorbed by our members. This responsibility is willingly assumed, because we are dedicated to our cause.

However—with ever rising medical expenses, FCF needs your help now, more than ever, if we are to continue to rescue those forgotten or abandoned cats. Your donation is applied directly to medical expenses—we have no paid staff. Won't you please send in your donation now, because without your support, we wouldn't have our happy endings. Remember, your donation is tax deductible. So, please be as generous as you can.

A few of our adoptable adult cats are featured below. During this holiday season, please consider giving a safe, forever home to one of these deserving adult kitties. They will return your love ten-fold, and will keep your feet or lap warm all winter long.

Please visit our website, [www.feralcatfoundation.org](http://www.feralcatfoundation.org), to view all the available cats.

<b>Name/Sex</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
Humo (M)	8 yrs	dsh gray/ white	Would love to be an inside, lap kitty. Very affectionate. Purrs a lot!
Shirley Ann (F)	7 yrs	dsh brn tab/ white	Long, cold winter nights on your lap would be nice.
Tiger (M)	6 yrs	dsh brown tabby	Sweet, but shy. A quiet adult home would be wonderful. One or two other feline friends would be ok.
Zana (F)	5 yrs	torti-point	A beautiful torti-point Siamese, looking for a single cat home.
Amelia (F)	4 yrs	dsh Calico	Stunning yellow-green eyes will gaze at you adoringly when you rub her tummy. She wants to be your only feline friend.
Hannah (F)	4 yrs	dmh dilute torti	Affectionate and easy going, she is still very playful. Content to be your only feline friend, she easily amuses herself.

At this holiday season, may your hearts be filled with peace, love, and a renewed sense of responsibility. If you already have a pet, please treat your pet as a friend and cherished member of your family. If, for some reason, you find you cannot keep your pet, please surrender it to a responsible rescue organization instead of abandoning it. If you are considering adding a pet to your family, please do so with the understanding that this is a life-long commitment and make your choice with that in mind.