

Feral Cat Foundation

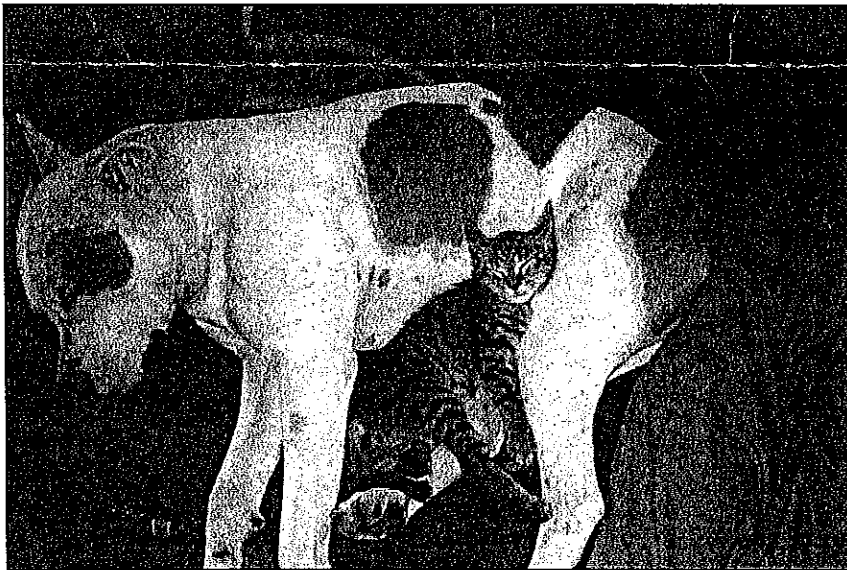


Summer 2010

An all-volunteer non-profit organization

OUR COMMITMENT

The overpopulation and suffering of homeless and unwanted cats in our society demands a humane solution. Feral Cat Foundation (FCF) accepts the challenge to promote public recognition of this problem, to pursue workable solutions and, without euthanasia, to humanely reduce the population while improving the quality of life for these innocent victims of human neglect.



Although each cat and kitten that enters into the Feral Cat Foundation system is special, every once in a while there is one that especially grabs at our hearts. Reggie was one of those. He was probably four days old when an FCF member got a call that this little kitten had been found on someone's front porch. "Bring him to us" we said, little knowing what we were getting in to. Weighing in at one quarter pound (about the size of a stick of butter) he was all attitude, knowing exactly when he wanted to eat and when he didn't. We had a nursing mother who was willing to add him to her brood (remember

Shelly from our Spring letter?) but Reggie would have none of her, not even tempted by the kitten formula we dripped on Shelly's nipples. Even so, Reggie thrived, while we held our breath. Often when a single kitten is found it has been abandoned by the mother because of some perceived illness, and we often lose these little ones. Not so with Reggie. He was right on schedule - eyes opened, and teeth came in, and he finally decided that Shelly was an OK food source. He became the darling of the house, purring when you even looked at him. He suffered a setback at seven weeks after having a serious vaccine reaction, but then he bounced back and was able to be neutered at nine weeks and went to adoptions. Reggie was snatched up immediately (who wouldn't fall in love with our little angel?), but the young couple had a large dog, which was a major concern. While Reggie was used to dogs because his foster family had two, we were not sure how the large dog and tiny kitten would do together. The picture tells it all! Goodbye Reggie - we love you and will miss you terribly. But we are so happy you have a forever home.

While Reggie was one heartwarming success story, more challenges await our members in many areas.

An unfortunate ripple effect was felt in Fremont when the Nummi Plant closed - there was a (now abandoned) feral cat colony at the facility. Employees had been feeding for years, but no one had ever thought to spay and neuter any of the cats. Homes were found for some of the kittens that were continually being born, but most just stayed there to continue the reproduction cycle.

An FCF member in Fremont heard of the problem, contacted some of the workers, and a trapping program was started in May. Several FCF members have been trapping with the help of several other volunteers and some feeders who are still at the Nummi facility. Because the site was going to be shut down, it was decided that the cats that were trapped should be relocated. When it was discovered that there were Nummi Facilities personnel also trapping and taking those cats to the shelter the FCF trapping program went into high gear to save as many cats as we could. So far 18 cats have been relocated to six different ranches.

One of the most recent kittens trapped was a beautiful siamese mix male. One of a litter of four, this little kitten was covered with fleas and badly in need of some food. He is now doing very well, and efforts are being made daily to trap his siblings before they perish from flea anemia or starvation.

The Nummi facility was a huge undertaking, requiring not only time for trapping, but additional time for finding new homes for these cats. Our FCF members will continue trapping as long as possible, and as long as they can get help from the workers who know where the cats are hiding.

Feral Cat Foundation members continue rescuing neglected and abandoned cats in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties daily, in addition to our main mission of relieving the misery of the feral and stray cats and kittens in colonies by humanely trapping, altering, releasing, feeding and caring for colonies of cats that are too wild to be adopted. We also find homes for the tame cats and kittens that have wandered into our colonies, and we tame and adopt feral kittens born in those colonies to forever homes.

YOU are a very important part of our rescue work. Thanks to you, FCF can continue to help improve the lives of these innocent victims of human neglect. Feral and abandoned cats endure a miserable life. They deserve better, and with your help we can offer them a chance.

Enclosed are our annual raffle tickets, which are \$2.00 each, or a book of 6 for \$10. Won't you please help us continue our rescue work by purchasing the tickets? Check out the fantastic prizes! Just as our organization is all volunteer, our raffle prizes are all donated. Use all your extra address stickers, or fill out the stubs, and mail them with your check for \$10, or more, if you can, to FCF in the enclosed envelope. Want more chances to win that trip to Hawaii? Leave a message at (925) 829-9098, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to FCF, PO Box 1173, Alamo, Ca. 94507. We would be happy to send you as many tickets as you would like.

All proceeds from this raffle are spent directly on the cats we rescue. We know there are many worthy causes that ask for help. However, FCF is one of the few all-volunteer rescue groups with no paid staff, and no professional fund-raisers; and your purchase of these raffle tickets will have a real impact on the work we do. We hope we can count on you for help. Please send in your ticket stubs and donation TODAY.

