

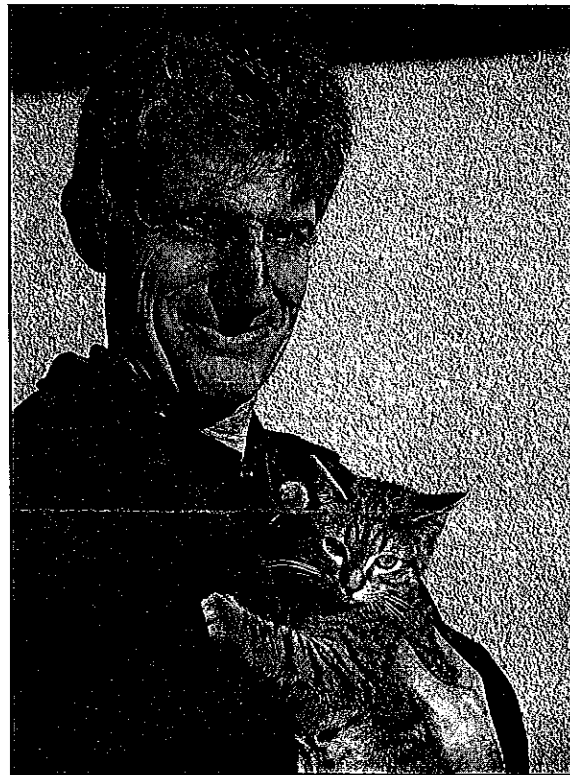
## OUR COMMITMENT

*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.*

Again this year Feral Cat Foundation would like to begin our Holiday Season letter by sincerely thanking all those people who have so faithfully supported us over the years. Each family has had to tighten its collective belt a little more this last year, and tough decisions have had to be made about where to spend money. FCF has been again greatly blessed because so many of you have recognized the good work we do, and see the need to help us continue to help the abandoned and feral cats in our communities. The number of abandoned cats has increased this year, and FCF members do their best to be there to help. The offspring of these un-altered, abandoned cats become feral, thus increasing the feral populations as well. And kittens, as we all know, have a knack for getting themselves into trouble.

One such kitten went snooping away from mom late one evening. Looking for some fun, the kitten went romping off the sidewalk and into the street. No cars were coming, and the

kitten would have been safe had it not been for the storm drain. Down into the sewer went the seven-week-old kitten, landing miraculously unharmed. Mom went rushing over to see what had happened and why her baby was



yelling so loud, and from so far away. Her other kitten followed at a safe distance. Who wanted to disappear into that big hole in the road? The feeder of this colony noticed the problem immediately upon arriving on the scene to feed later that night. The little kitten was crying plaintively, with the forlorn mother cat answering above.

A call was made, and the Feral Cat Foundation network sprang into action. Two fearless members

enlisted the help of "The Husband," who generously agreed to give them aid. All three sped to the scene of the accident to get this little tabby back on the ground. Food was dropped down to the kitten in the hopes that it would stay near the opening. With great determination and strength the three removed

the sewer cover and "The Husband" went down the ladder. The kitten immediately disappeared down another drain line. A small trap was set in the junction of drains, and a rope was tied to the trap. Hopefully the little kitten would be overwhelmed by hunger and go into the trap. Unfortunately, this rescue was not to be so easy. The kitten was having nothing to do with that trap! Time was of the essence, as a storm was expected within the next day or so, but the decision to try again the next night was made by the weary three. Removing the trap, the sewer cover was replaced and they went home.

The three were back the next evening with renewed energy and determination to rescue the reluctant kitten.

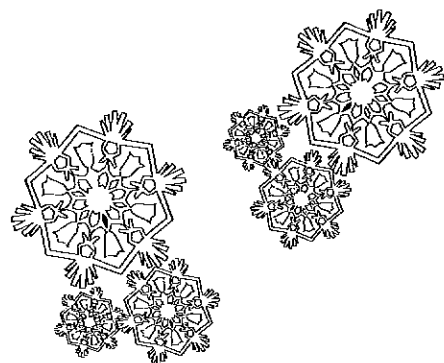
He was still in the drain, and yelling louder than ever. Mom was nervously pacing, trying to keep an eye on her remaining kitten while at the same time offering comfort to her lost one. The trap was reset, the rope retied, and the wait resumed. Luckily, the kitten was hungrier that night, and went into the trap in a short time. Success!!!

During the drama in the drain the two FCF members were able to trap the other kitten. Both kittens, now named Mushroom (from the marshy drain) and Midnight were taken to the vet the next day where they were combo tested and given a health check. Both have since been spayed and are living with a foster family until they find their forever homes. Mom has proved elusive, but the feeder is diligently continuing to try to trap her.

This dedication to helping the feral and abandoned cats by FCF members is repeated daily in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. We are there when there is no one else to help. We go up ladders, down sewers, over fences, into fields, and even once onto a closed bridge to rescue a cat thrown from a car. Our members are indeed fearless, persistent, and dedicated

to our mission statement of helping the abandoned, stray, and feral cats. But even with all these attributes, we still could not do the work that we do without YOU. Your generous, tax-deductible donation allows our members to help where help is needed. Feral Cat Foundation has no paid staff, and remains an all-volunteer organization. Your donation is applied directly to medical expenses for the cats. From January to October this year FCF has spayed 897 females and neutered 723 male cats. We can make this huge difference because of your donations.

There are many other ways you can help FCF: eScrip is an easy, automatic way to generate funds every time you do your normal shopping. There are many participating merchants--you can search/browse the list, or view the newest merchants from the eScrip Merchant's page. FCF will automatically get a percentage of your purchases. The Safeway Club Card is another really easy way to help. Just register your club card using the link on our website, [www.feralcatfoundation.org](http://www.feralcatfoundation.org). Be sure to renew your commitment to this program on an annual basis. There are donation jars for change, and bins for food at all our adoption sites. Can you foster a cat or litter of kittens? Or feed a colony once or twice a week? There are many, many ways you can help. Just call our hot line (925) 829-9098. We will be glad to answer questions, give advice, or point you in the right direction.



Our Holiday tradition is to feature some of our adult cats that are waiting for their forever homes. Some have been waiting a long time. They don't realize that at only one year of age they will most likely be passed over in favor of little kittens (who will soon be adults themselves). Feral Cat Foundation has many adult cats who have been waiting for their forever home for several years. While they are safe in their foster homes, they still deserve to have a family of their own. Won't you consider giving one of them a chance to warm your lap or your feet on cold winter nights? You won't regret opening your heart to one of our adult cats.

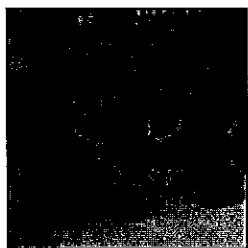
Here are just a few. Please check out our website: [www.feralcatfoundation.org](http://www.feralcatfoundation.org) for many other available cats.

Pixie is a beautiful manx tuxedo. She is very sweet with people, but needs to be in a one-cat household.

Felix - Personable, and always at ease.  
Tuna - a big sweetheart and very playful.

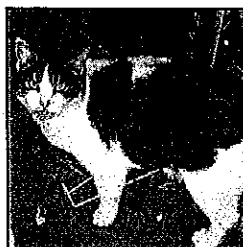
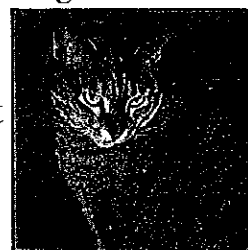


Mr. Snowflake  
- Extra toes for extra impact when he is making bread on your lap.



Earnest - Very loving and outgoing.

Laila - A quiet little lovebug.



Possam - Seeks out her humans and will talk your ear off.

This Holiday Season may your hearts find peace and love. In a world filled with uncertainty, stress, and frustration, please take time to enjoy whichever holiday tradition you honor. And take time to allow into your life an animal that will surely give you happiness and unconditional love. And please remember--We could not have our happy endings without your help.

### The Feral Cat Foundation needs YOU!

Your tax-deductible contribution provides much-needed (and appreciated!) support to FCF in its ongoing efforts to help improve the quality of life for feral and homeless cats and kittens throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties of northern California. Please mail your donation with this form to the: **Feral Cat Foundation, PO Box 1173, Alamo, CA 94507.**

\$15       \$25       \$35       \$50       \$100       Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: _____		I am interested in these and other volunteer opportunities with FCF:
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____ Zip-code: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Thanks, but no thank-you note is needed.		
I am making this donation in (circle one) <b>memory / honor</b> of:		
Please send acknowledgment of this donation to:		
Name: _____		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feed a local feral colony</li> <li>• Help with the spring newsletter and holiday letter (writing, editing, stamping and stuffing envelopes, etc.)</li> <li>• Recover spayed or neutered kitties</li> <li>• Fostering</li> <li>• Publicity</li> <li>• Annual raffle</li> </ul>
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____ Zip-code: _____	
		Please send me an application.

The Feral Cat Foundation is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization (tax ID 68-0411209) funded solely by contributions from the public. Contributions are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.