



Open Window

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Open your heart to our community's homeless cats



Knoxville Feral Cat Friends

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Knoxville Feral Cat Friends is a project group of Peaceful Kingdom, a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. KFCF was founded in 2000 by a small group of people dedicated to the care of Knoxville's feral cats. Members of KFCF work on a volunteer basis to feed, water, and provide medical care for hundreds of feral cats in Knoxville and participate in a trap/neuter/return program in an effort to control the feral cat population. The TNR program is where feral cats are humanely trapped by volunteers, taken to a clinic to be spayed or neutered and vaccinated, and returned to their colony where they are most comfortable. We are not an adoption agency nor do we take in unwanted pets. We are funded solely from donations and fundraisers with 100% of money raised going directly to controlling and maintaining the feral cat population.

KFCF MONTHLY MEETINGS

Knoxville Feral Cat Friends meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month (March 13th, April 10th) at Mr. Gatti's, 6913 Kingston Pike (just west of Papermill Intersection). Please come and learn how you can make a difference in the feral cat community. We welcome your ideas and company!

ADOPTION FAIR

Our weekend adoption fair locations are SuperPetz in Farragut and PetSmart at Turkey Creek every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Please contact Diane Stephens at kfcf@knology.net if you have any questions about adoptions.

FUNDRAISING

There will be a Garage Sale on Saturday, March 31 at 712 Kimbee Road at Diane Stephens's house. Items can be dropped off at any time. If no one is home, items may be left on the covered front porch. This is a great opportunity to raise funds for KFCF as well as create some much needed space in your closets. Please contact Diane Stephens at kfcf@knology.net if you have any questions or can help at the sale.



Colony Characters Meet "Peter Pan & Tinkerbell"

Caretaker Kara Disbrow

Peter Pan and Tinkerbell have been living with Kara for 2 years. They were born in a feral colony of 18-20 cats in West Knoxville at a home where the residents were unable to continue caring for them all. Since they were only 8-10 weeks old at the time they were trapped, Kara took them home with the intention of taming them and putting them up for adoption. Peter Pan and Tink had other ideas and decided not to tame well enough to be adopted; they probably decided that Kara had the perfect place for them to live! They are completely devoted to each other as you can see from the pictures. Peter Pan now allows Kara to pet him sometimes; Tink isn't interested! Although they live in a safe home, they held on to lots of their feral instincts. Tink occasionally hisses at Kara, but most of us who work with ferals can translate that into "Thanks for taking care of me. Understand that I am still in charge."

Do you have a "colony character" that you would like for us to meet? Send a picture and description (or any other colony news) to Donna Poling at dmpoling@comcast.net.

UT VET SCHOOL FERAL FIXIN EVENTS

Our February 24th event was a big success with 65 cats trapped in 13 colonies. These cats were altered, vaccinated, and returned to their colonies. We appreciate everyone who trapped and helped at the Vet School as we made a huge dent in the number of kittens that will be born this spring.

UT's Vet School will host a second feral spay-neuter event on April 14th. We need volunteers to trap, transport, and house the cats in a warm place for one, two, or three nights as well as work at the Vet School during the events. If anyone has cats that they want to bring to UT, they must confirm the details with Diane Stephens first. She has the master schedule and it is important that she has your name and number of cats expected so that the Vet School can plan accordingly. Contact Diane at kfcf@knology.net to let her know if you will be bringing cats and/or helping out. The Vet School does a fantastic job with our colony cats and is a tremendous resource for the community.

DO YOU LIKE TO SHOP ON-LINE?

Did you know that on-line shopping can help us raise money for KFCF? All you have to do is register at www.igive.com and select KFCF as your charity. Whenever you are going to shop on-line, go to igive to see if the merchant you want is listed. If so, click on the merchant link directly from the igive site and they will send a percentage of your total purchase to KFCF! Even if you aren't buying right away, register and browse!

COPING WITH ALLERGIES TO PETS

Information from www.bestfriends.org

Many people with cats often use “allergies” as a reason for surrendering a pet to a shelter or rescue group. Some people are truly allergic to cats and have terrible physical symptoms. HOWEVER, there are many things you can recommend to people you know that DO NOT involve getting rid of their family pet! The following strategies can be used for allergies to household pets:

- Have an allergy test done to see if you are actually allergic to the animal. Though your pet may seem the likely cause of your distress, a medical specialist may be able to pinpoint the source more accurately. With all of the allergens in the Tennessee Valley, don't assume that you are only allergic to animals!
- Keep the animal out of your bedroom.
- Try one of the allergy relief products available at pet supply stores and over the Internet. For example, you can buy pre-moistened cloths that quickly wipe away the pet dander and loose hair that can cause human allergic reactions around pets.
- Use an air filtration system or air purifier.
- Vacuum the house and furniture completely and often. You could try using a special vacuum filter that removes dander and other allergens.
- Use washable scatter rugs in your home rather than wall-to-wall carpet.
- Wash your pet weekly and groom your pet often.
- Wash your hands immediately after petting the animal.
- Wash bedspreads, sheets, throw rugs, and slip covers frequently.
- Add a coat conditioner to your pet's food to prevent skin dryness, which can increase shedding.
- Consult your doctor about allergy shots or medication to control the allergy symptoms.

If you have children, it is always a good idea to take them around friends' pets to see if any physical symptoms develop before you adopt a pet.

Even if your pet is the cause of your allergy, remember that your pet, who has been your friend over the years, is truly depending on you now. If you can invest the time and effort to find ways to cope with your allergy, your pet can stay where he or she belongs – at home with you.

If I tried to tell you how much I love my cats, you wouldn't believe me - unless your heart is also meow-shaped and covered in stray fur. ~Lexie Saige



FANTASTIC STATISTICS!!!!!!!!!!!!

Adoptions	Spays	Neuters
2004 75	2004 93	2004 81
2005 161	2005 208	2005 163
2006 171	2006 255	2006 228

<i>Total Spays and Neuters</i>	
2004	174
2005	371
2006	483

The spays and neuters listed above were paid for with KFCF funds. We had an additional 250 spays and neuters in 2006 with Feral Fixin' at UT. Our work is making a difference!!!

Ways to support Knoxville Feral Cat Friends:

- Help with Fundraising activities**
- Would like to learn more about Trap Neuter Return**
- Volunteer to be a Feeder for a colony**

In Honor/Memory of _____

Enclosed is my donation of: _____ **\$10** _____ **\$25** _____ **\$50**
_____ **\$100** _____ **Other**

Your donation will be used solely for the care of feral colonies, to include spaying/neutering, food, or other necessary care for Knoxville's feral cats. Your donations are tax deductible under section 501c3 of the IRS code. Please let us know if your employer will match your gift.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

