

THE CATS MEOW

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Home for Princess</i>	1
<i>Thank You!</i>	1
TNR	2
<i>Senior Shelter Program</i>	2
<i>Feral Cat Boot Camp</i>	2

Officers and Executive Board

President

Carole S. Milker

Treasurer

Nancy Fahnestock

Secretary

Diane Falkowitz

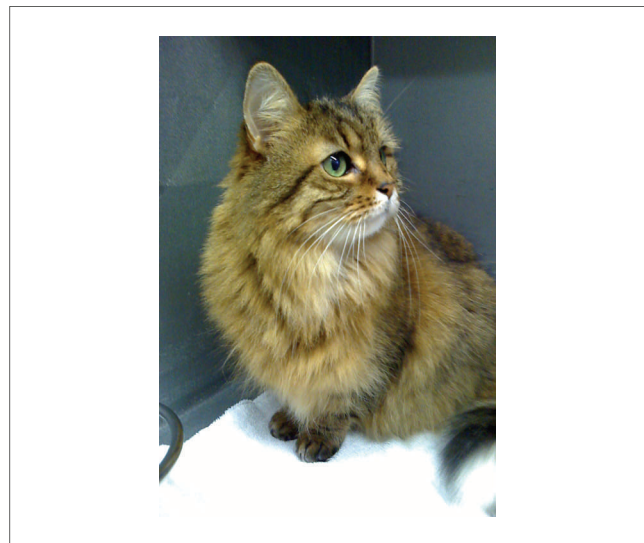
Please Donate

- Visit our webpage at <http://www.csmstray.org>
- Click on the Donate button which takes you to a secure website hosted by Network for Good
- Mail Check or Money order payable to
CSM Stray Foundation
PO Box 150128
Kew Gardens, NY 11415-0128



CSM STRAYS FINDS A NEW HOME FOR A SENIOR MAINE COON

Making provisions for your pets in your Will or trust is essential to their continued health and well-being if something shall happen to you. It's not something we think of. In a recent case, CSM Strays was contacted by a local veterinarian that informed us about a 12 year old Maine Coon cat whose caregiver suddenly passed away. The person left the cat to the veterinarian in her Will with no other provisions. Luckily, the veterinarian is ethical and kept the cat in the office. She was so sad and lonely and didn't understand why her mom didn't come to pick her up. CSM Stray Foundation was notified by the veterinarian. We posted the cat on Petfinder and the Senior Pet Blog. We were expecting a long wait since most people do not consider adopting a 12 year old pet. Something in our posting caught the eye of a nice lady in Brooklyn. She had a Maine Coon cat that passed away 8 months ago from old age. She called and said the line that caught her attention was "Princess deserves to have a good senior life." She filled out our application and decided to adopt the cat. Princess adjusted beautifully and is so happy to get out of a cage at the vets office. She is eating well, playing with company and sleeping with her new mom.



Princess not understanding why her mom is not coming to get her.

A Pet Trust is recommended to incorporate into your estate planning documents. It is legally enforceable while the owner is alive—even if incapacitated and after death. A trust can cost as little as \$50. One attorney that specializes in Pet Protection and Trusts is Rachel Hirshfeld, L.L.C at 877-773-8878. It's important that someone carries out your wishes and knows what your pet's needs are.

THANKS FROM ALL OF US AT CSM STRAYS

From Trap Neuter Return Days to feeding a feral colony to supporting our Senior Citizen Shelter Building Program, transporting cats to and from the veterinarian and everything in between, we could do nothing without your support! CSM Stray Foundation is an all volunteer 501 (c)(3) feral cat protection group that provides services to the Queens NY area. We depend on the generosity of the public to provide these services. All donations are tax-deductible.

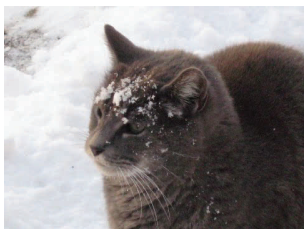


*Donate
Monthly*

Monthly Donations make a difference for feral cats. Going to <http://www.csmstray.org> and clicking on the Network for Good button, then choosing to make a monthly donation of any amount you can afford helps us to feed and care for the many feral cats that we've saved from euthanasia. Just \$25 per month provides food for two weeks for a small colony of cats. Please consider monthly donations.



"It keeps them motivated to do something for the cats even when they are not able to physically get out"



Support our Senior Shelter Building Program

TNR MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Trap Neuter and Return is making a difference City-wide in the control of the overpopulation of feral cats. TNR is the best humane solution to prevent more unwanted kittens from being born.

CSM Strays is most noted for reaching out to seniors of Queens that are not able to trap or reach out to the ASPCA locations. We get calls on a daily basis from seniors in Queens that claim there are kittens in their yard and the mom won't let them touch her to get to a vet. We ask the most important question, "How long have you been feeding the mom cat?" Their answers are always similar: "A little over a year." Somehow they thought that one nice cat in the yard would be the norm.

We usually have them begin a feeding pattern, once a day in the morning at exactly the same time. A veterinarian appointment is made after the mom nurses the kittens for 4 to 6 weeks. Our volunteers trap the cat the day of the appointment, have them spayed, left ear tipped and rabies shot with one of the low cost partici-



pating veterinarians they choose. We return the cat to its environment. This year we have done this for 101 cats and assisted 32 other seniors that were not able to afford the surgeries with a CSM Stray spay/neuter certificate of \$25 towards the surgery with funding from Grants from Neighborhood Cats and The PETCO Foundation. If you need more info on TNR, visit our website at <http://www.csmstray.org> or write to us at csmstray@aol.com

SENIOR SHELTER BUILDING PROGRAM

Our senior volunteers work very hard to build shelters for the feral cats of feral cat caregivers. Not only do we support the TNR projects of feral cat caregivers but offer them an opportunity to keep our seniors busy by purchasing at cost, a feral cat shelter made from Rubbermaid Roughneck containers, insulation and straw. The cost of the materials this year is \$40 and each senior that builds the shelter gets a photo of the cat(s) that use it. It keeps them motivated to do something for the cats even when they



Masquerade in shelter

are not able to physically get out. If you are interested in having our group build a shelter for you or your neighbor, contact us via e-mail at csmstray@aol.com

FERAL CAT BOOT CAMP

CSM Strays Presented their expertise at the first Feral Cat Boot Camp In NY City in December 08



Nancy Fahnestock trains participants on the use of a drop trap to catch feral cats.



Carole Milker answers question regarding transferring feral cats from drop to regular traps.