

THE CATS MEOW

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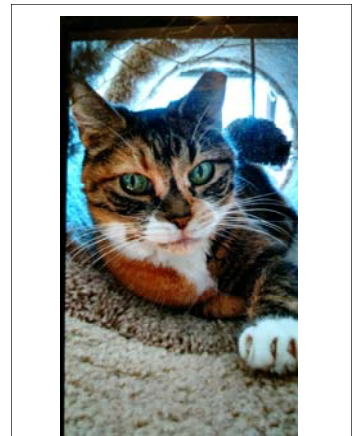
Please Donate

- 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
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MIRACLE FOR BUBBLES, A LONG TERM COLONY CAT

Bubbles, lived in one of our colonies for over 10 years. She is a real survivor and an amazing cat. We have so many stories about her that it would take a whole book to narrate. She was born in a parking lot in Queens. Her late mother's name was Sassy. Sassy was hit by a car when she crossed back from a nearby school with her three siblings. Bubbles was sad but took over the caring for her two sisters. Once during a huge snowstorm, she survived with her sister Masquerade in a winter shelter until she was dug out by our caregivers. She was known all over the neighborhood and found several feeders although we had her spayed and left ear tipped. During another huge snow storm, she was missing for over a week and returned looking well fed and happy. Each morning she would run out to the feeder and enjoy getting a quick brushing but would never let anyone pick her up as she was a feral cat.



Bubbles enjoying a soft cat post in her new forever home.

Two years ago, we noticed that she was not eating well so we trapped her and brought her to one of our vets. She had to be in the hospital for two weeks and had all of her teeth removed except for one upper and one lower as she was to be returned to her colony. To our surprise, Bubbles enjoyed her hospital stay. She never had soft towels and clean litter boxes. We visited her daily and she enjoyed the visits from her feeder. When she recovered from her surgery and infection, we decided to give her a chance at home. At first, we put a familiar shelter in the living room. She began to explore the apartment and was cautious when it was feeding time. She tamed one of our male rescue cats by staring and smacking him when he got too excited with her. He quickly learned how to behave in her presence.

As of today, Bubbles now sleeps in her bed, watches TV and cuddles with her human friends. When one of our volunteer feeders came to visit her, she kept a distance for fear that she would be taken outside. At 12, she is a very happy cat in a loving home.

THANKS FROM ALL OF US AT CSM STRAYS

From Trap-Neuter-Return 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. \$25 per month provides food for two weeks for a small colony of cats. Please consider monthly donations.



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 cats that use it.



Support our Senior Shelter Building Program

TNR CERTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

Trap-Neuter-Return makes 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.

For the past two years, CSM Stray's Carole Milker and Nancy Fahnestock have been conducting TNR Certification Workshops around the five Boroughs. This is made possible by a generous grant coordinated by Alley Cat Allies, Mayors' Alliance for NYC's Animals and ASPCA.



Kathleen O'Malley is the Educational Coordinator of this outreach and makes sure that materials, traps and computer equipment is transported to each training site for participants to get hands-on training. They complete a three hour workshop by pre-registering on the web at nycferalcat.org. A list of future workshops are posted there.

After the completion of this training, certified participants can begin planning their TNR colony projects. They have access to free traps, transportation and spay/neuter and return of their colony cats. Many of interested feral caregivers could not afford to TNR their cats in the past. Food drives help maintain the colonies.



Community outreach is conducted at local fairs to dispense this information. In photo, Carole Milker, Mike Phillips and Nancy Fahnestock provide TNR materials and information for TNR registration.

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NYC FERAL CAT COUNCIL VIA THE MAYORS' ALLIANCE FOR NYC'S ANIMALS DISTRIBUTES CAT FOOD



Photo by Carole Milker (Jane Hoffman and Kathleen O'Malley of Mayors' Alliance)

As an additional reward to those that completed the NYC Feral Cat Council's TNR Training Program, cat food is distributed from various donors to this program coordinated by the Mayor's Alliance. All certified TNR participants are notified via email and have a chance to receive food



Photo by Carole Milker Directions to the Food Distribution Location for Certified TNR Caregivers

with a notice from the TNR

Coordinators. All participants have to make arrangements to pick up their own food and present their acknowledgment letter. This valuable program has enabled colony caregivers to redirect some of their food costs and assist cats with medical needs and shelter materials.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF PINKY

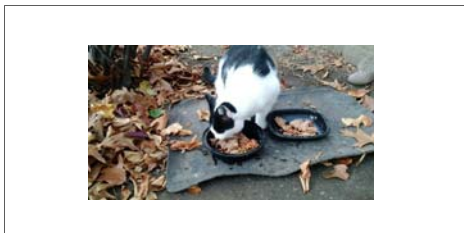


Photo by Carole Milker—Pinky our 19 year old colony member.

With proper care, feral cats can live a long and productive life. Pinky was in one of our colonies for over 19 years. If he were to be brought into a shelter years ago, he would not be adoptable and face a sure euthanasia. He had winter shelters, feeding stations and caring volunteers to feed him each morning. Unfortunately, he developed an inoperable tumor and met his rainbow bridge. He will be dearly missed.