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TAKES A BOLD AND  
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○ SUMMER 2006

○ SPAY AND STAY

○ Lake County, Illinois

# Feral cat focus

NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL,  
COMMITTED PEOPLE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED,  
IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS. —MARGARET MEAD

## Illinois recognizes national feral cat day

Over the past several months, Illinois has taken the lead in adopting innovative legislation to combat companion animal overpopulation. This past August, the State passed Anna's Law (Public Act 94-0639), which creates a statewide spay/neuter/vaccination initiative called The Pet Population Fund. This initiative provides funding for the sterilization of pets of low-income residents as well as feral cats.

On May 3, 2006, the State House also adopted a resolution (HR 1235) which endorses non-lethal Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), when accompanied by ongoing feral cat management, as the most

effective and humane method of reducing the feral cat population in Illinois. This State resolution also recognizes October 16, 2006, as National Feral Cat Day and encourages all citizens to support Trap-Neuter-Return for feral cats throughout the State.

The State's bold support of TNR will go a long way in bringing attention to the issues surrounding the plight of outdoor cats. It will also encourage counties throughout the State to recognize TNR programs so that they can take advantage of subsidized spay/neuter for feral cats through Anna's Law. 



### Cook County may be paving the way

On a recent WGN *Pet Central* radio show, Cook County veterinarian, Dr. Dan Parmer, announced that he will be forwarding a bill to support managed feral cat colonies in Cook County. This pro-TNR ordinance has been in the works for over a year and even though the introduction of the bill is not necessarily a guarantee that the ordinance will pass the Cook County Board, it is a huge step in the right direction.

Passage of a pro-TNR ordinance in Cook County would provide the legal foundation for the feral cat work that is already being done in the area. It would also act as a model for other counties in the state, as well as throughout the country.

**GIVE A PAWS-UP!**  
*Send a note to Dr. Parmer via the WGN radio BLOG and show your support for the humane initiative he is taking in Cook County. Visit [www.wgnradio.com/weblog/petcentral/index.html](http://www.wgnradio.com/weblog/petcentral/index.html)*

Changing an existing animal control ordinance to support TNR is generally a slow process and requires a team approach by local humane organizations, municipal governments, and animal control agencies.

Spay and Stay has been working on a draft of an agreement between itself and Lake County Environmental Health. Creating a successful collaboration with the County will go a long way to ensure that the residents of Lake County have access to low-cost spay/neuter for feral, stray, and barn cats. 



#### ► SEND US YOUR STORIES

WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORIES WITH OUR READERS. TELL US ABOUT YOUR COLONY. HOW HAS STERILIZATION IMPACTED YOUR COLONY? HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO GET ANY OF YOUR CATS ADOPTED AFTER BEING STERILIZED AND RETURNED TO YOUR COLONY? E-MAIL YOUR STORY AND PHOTOS TO: INFO@SPAYANDSTAY.ORG.

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## Views from the E.D.

There is generally a sense of anticipation this time of year for all of the people who work in the humane field. Why? It's kitten season. That time of year when shelters get lots of calls from well-meaning people who have rescued a litter—or two—from the streets and need help getting these babies adopted.



During Spay and Stay's first couple of years, we were also inundated with calls from people looking for some kind of help for the kittens they found under their porch, or in their wood pile, or on a shelf in their garage. This season, we are still receiving a few calls from people who have found kittens, but these calls are more often than not coming from people who have not participated in our Trap-Neuter-

Return program. The birth rate in our managed feral colonies, i.e., in colonies that have been sterilized and have a dedicated caretaker, is almost at zero growth.

#### Caretaker assistance plan

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Spay and Stay's 332 registered caretakers. These are the people who are in the streets daily, caring for these cats and making sure that every animal in their colony is sterilized. If kittens should be born, these caretakers are dedicating more of their time to trap and socialize these kittens so they can get placed into loving homes, rather than letting them grow up on the streets to continue the cycle of breeding. This is real team-work and with the help of these dedicated people, we ARE making a difference. See our story on page 5, "Every one you socialize helps TNR succeed," for more on this citizen-based effort.

Spay and Stay is aware of the incredible year-round dedication it takes to commit to being a registered caretaker for a feral colony. We want to give as much support as we can to this army of citizen volunteers and one way we plan to do this is to set up neighborhood teams consisting of registered caretakers who can lend a hand to other caretakers in times of need. See our story on page 5, "Plotting our colonies for caretaker support" for details.

If you are a registered caretaker with Spay and Stay, and you would like to be available to help other caretakers in your area, please give us a call at 847-289-4557 so we can put you on our caretaker assistance phone tree.

*Sandra Kooper, Executive Director*



#### Three away from 1500!

To date, Spay and Stay has sterilized 1497 feral and stray cats in Lake County.

LEFT: Brenda Pierro, Spay and Stay Board member and dedicated spay day volunteer, cares for a cat in recovery at a recent spay day.

## Purrs and headbutts

Spay and Stay gets so much help in so many ways from our dedicated volunteers and supporters. We are especially grateful to the following people whose generous financial support helps us serve these special cats:



#### MeowHouse Sponsors

Lynn Celing *in memory of Precious*  
Tina Santopoalo *in honor of Brandy & Alfalfa*

#### Special Thanks to our Grantors

D.A.S. Charitable Fund for the Preservation of Feline Animal Life  
The J. Robert Nonemaker Foundation for Small Animals, Inc.  
Dr. Scholl Foundation

#### Purrfect Friends

Paul Adler  
Cheryl Anderson  
Chicagoland Stray Cats *in memory of Sandra Kooper's brother, Karl Koperski*  
Connie Lee Becker  
Anita Beckner  
Margaret Capitani  
Nancy and Ronald Coolley *in honor of Sassafras*  
George Covington  
Bonnie Denz  
Nancy DeSecki  
Sharon and Kurt Dittmer  
Helene Dunne  
Gretchen Gabriel  
Dorothy and Marvin Haymes  
Latrice Hogan  
Clarence Hovorka  
Peggy Hough Kerkman

Sandra Kooper  
Nancy Kravicsin McClain  
Tom Kuhn  
Ruth Kulmala  
Lucretia Lynch  
Roger Muellermann  
Lauran and Randal Olsen  
Susan O'Neil  
Diane Petti  
Carter Prescott  
Gail Riihimaki  
Philip Rutledge  
Daniel Schwind  
Jayne Sheehan  
Iris Sherman  
Leslie Walleck  
Sam Wheeler  
Mary Wise  
Tonja Ziemann

#### A Fur Bowl Thank You

Spay and Stay held it's first annual **Feral Fur Bowl** on April 29 at Lakeside Lanes in Mundelein. We want to send special thanks to all of the wonderful people who donated their time and dollars to help make Fur Bowl 2006 a fun and successful event. *See page 3 for more details on this event.*

Companies and individuals that donated items for the Fur Bowl Raffle include: **Mary Ann Bumbera, Animal Communicator; Egg Harbor Café; Jennifer Donohue; The Enchanted Cat, Richmond; Home Depot; Deborah Krueger; Kym's Canine College; The Onion Pub and Brewery, Barrington; Trattoria Pomigliano, Libertyville; and Wal-Mart.**

**Spay and Stay's Calico-colored TNR wristband is now available.**



**Support TNR.  
Keep a calico  
on your wrist!**

Call 847-289-4557  
to order: \$2 each.

► "WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT SPAY AND STAY'S SECOND ANNUAL FERAL FUR BOWL AT THE END OF WINTER 2007. KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE AND UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS FOR MORE DETAILS."

## Everyone had a ball at first Feral Fur Bowl

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Spay and Stay hosted its first Feral Fur Bowl at Lakeside Lanes in Mundelein. The day was filled with an outpouring of support from community members and their many sponsors. As feral fur-bowlers enjoyed pizza, soda, and unlimited bowling from 1:00-4:00 p.m., they raised more than \$6,000 in support of Spay and Stay's successful TNR program.

**Thanks for rolling strikes  
for cats!**



### Congratulations to Feral Fur Bowl Raffle Winners!

We look forward to seeing you at Spay and Stay's second annual Feral Fur Bowl at the end of Winter 2007, so keep an eye on our website and upcoming newsletters! Other fun events are also on their way, so stay tuned for details.

**We love bowling!**



- Wendy Jahnke
  - Two \$25 Home Depot Gift Cards
  - Dining Gift Card to The Onion Pub and Brewery, Barrington
  - Dining Gift Card to Trattoria Pomigliano, Libertyville
- Dave DeSecki
  - \$75 Walmart Gift Card
  - Dining Certificates to Egg Harbor Café
- Beth Richmond
  - Handcrafted Blue Stone Cat Bracelet
- Christine Lobojko
  - Handcrafted Pink Stone Cat Bracelet
- Hannah Frampton
  - Dog Obedience Class from Kym's Canine College, Libertyville
- Michelle Frampton
  - Session with Mary Ann Bumbera, Pet Communicator
- Maria Sanchez
  - Basket of Cat "goodies" donated by Deb Krueger
- Mary Wise
  - Luxury Cat Boarding from The Enchanted Cat, Richmond
  - Spay and Stay's 50/50 Raffle Winner, who donated the majority of her winnings back to Spay and Stay!
  - Thanks Mary!

Special thanks to Lakeside Lanes in Mundelein. They hosted Feral Fur Bowl with enthusiasm and incredible support.



*LEFT: Spay and Stay volunteer and devoted cat lover, Beth Richmond looks pretty pleased with herself. Must have been a good roll!*

*BELOW: Another happy bowler, Linda Sowray, takes a break as she poses for the camera.*



*ABOVE: Spay and Stay Board member, Paul Adler looks on as Michelle Frampton, Director of Development, signs in a bowler.*

## The cats can get more for your dollars

Help Spay and Stay's cats by increasing your donations through corporate matching programs. Here is a list of Illinois companies that have Matching Gift programs. Contact them directly for details.

Abbott Laboratories  
ABN AMRO  
Accenture  
Akzo Nobel Inc.  
Allstate Insurance Co.  
AMSTED Industries Inc.  
Aan Corp.  
Archer Daniels Midland

Ariel Capital Management, LLC  
Bankers Life and Casualty  
Baxter International Inc.  
Bituminous Casualty Corp.  
BMO Financial Group US  
BP  
Caterpillar Inc.  
Central Illinois Light Co.

Chicago Mercantile Exchange  
Chicago Tribune Co.  
CAN  
Commonwealth Edison Co.  
Enesco Group  
Jamee and Marshall Field Fndtn.  
Follett Corp.  
*Continued on page 5*



► REGISTERED CARETAKERS DONATE THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO INSURE THAT THE CATS THAT MUST REMAIN IN THEIR OUTDOOR HOMES HAVE THE BEST OF CARE BY SUPPLYING FOOD, WATER, AND SHELTER ALL YEAR LONG.

## Bird Flu and our feral cat community

Even though the Bird Flu virus (H5N1) has not yet appeared in the United States, there may be some concern because a few cats were recently found to have the disease on an island in Germany and in an animal shelter in Austria. In both of these cases, the cats probably ingested raw infected meat from wild birds or local chickens that were found to be carrying the H5N1 virus.

### What exactly is Bird Flu?

H5N1, or Avian Influenza, is one strain of the influenza virus which most commonly affects birds. It is predominately found in poultry raised outdoors rather than in most commercial poultry flocks. Avian influenza is generally spread through direct contact between healthy birds and infected birds, or it may spread indirectly when a healthy bird comes in contact with contaminated equipment or other materials. The H5N1 strain is currently affecting some poultry flocks and other birds in parts of Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Avian Influenza spreads easily among wild birds, but it can also infect domesticated birds such as chickens, turkeys, ducks and pet birds; humans; and some other mammals. Fortunately, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) "the H5N1 virus does not usually infect people."

**No cases of Avian Influenza in humans have been linked to exposure to sick cats and no outbreaks among populations of domestic cats have been reported.**

### What happens if a cat eats an infected bird?

Luckily, because there is currently **no Bird Flu in the United States**, this is not a problem for pet cats that may be allowed outside, or for the feral and stray cat colonies in our communities. However, even though domestic cats are not usually susceptible to the influenza type A infection, re-

search has shown that cats in a controlled laboratory setting can become infected with H5N1 and are capable of transmitting it to other cats. It is not known whether this spread would occur in a natural setting, however. Also, the American Veterinary Medical Association has reported that, "No cases of Avian Influenza in humans have been linked to exposure to sick cats and no outbreaks among populations of domestic cats have been reported." The Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine also states that none of the known strains of the influenza virus can be transmitted between cats and people.

Many organizations are monitoring Bird Flu worldwide and as long as this disease stays out of the U.S., the likelihood of it infecting cats here is slim. However, it wouldn't hurt to take some recommended proactive precautions such as refraining from feeding raw poultry to cats and keeping domestic cats indoors.



For more information on Bird Flu do a search for "Avian Influenza (H5N1)" at the following web sites:

- The American Veterinary Medical Association: [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)
- The World Health Organization: [www.who.int/en](http://www.who.int/en)
- The Center for Disease Control: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- The United States Department of Agriculture: [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)
- Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine: [www.vet.cornell.edu](http://www.vet.cornell.edu)
- Alley Cat Allies: [www.alleycat.org/flu.html](http://www.alleycat.org/flu.html)
- The National Wildlife Health Center: [www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease\\_information/avian\\_influenza/index.jsp](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/avian_influenza/index.jsp)



## HELP US STOP THE LITTERING

With your support, Spay and Stay can reduce the overpopulation of cats in Lake County through sterilization and humane management of feral and stray cats. Your donation will make a difference in the lives of thousands of cats.



### PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT OF:

- |                               |                                |                                  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ |

### REMEMBER FERAL AND STRAY CATS IN YOUR WILL:

- I am interested in receiving information about including Spay and Stay in my estate planning.

### Here's my information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check out to **Spay and Stay** and send to:  
P.O. Box 484, Gurnee, Illinois 60031.

*Spay and Stay is a 501c3 organization and your contributions are fully tax deductible. For more information contact us at 847-289-4557.*



- ▶ “AS SPAY AND STAY HELPS BUILD A NETWORK OF SUPPORT AMONG ITS REGISTERED CARE-TAKERS, MORE AND MORE CATS ARE GUARANTEED THE ONGOING CARE THAT IS AT THE CORE OF ITS MISSION.”

Every one you socialize  
helps TNR succeed

The Humane Society of the United States has stated recently that “feral and other homeless cats produce approximately 80% of the kittens born each year and are the largest source of cat overpopulation in the United States.” In order to reduce this percentage, all registered caretakers should make sure their entire colony gets sterilized. All it takes is a phone call to Spay and Stay to get unsterilized cats onto the surgery schedule.

If kittens are born into your colony, please make every effort to trap and socialize these babies as soon as they are weaned from their mother so they can be taken off the street and placed into loving homes. Spay and



Stay has an adoption agreement with a local shelter. They will take kittens into their program, as space permits, if the kittens are completely socialized to people of all ages.

If you are aware of a litter of kittens in your colony, contact Spay and Stay for instructions on how to get these cats into this local shelter's adoption

program. Also, make sure the momcat gets booked for her spay surgery. For tips on socializing kittens, visit Spay and Stay's website: [www.spayandstay.org](http://www.spayandstay.org). 

## More for your dollars

*Continued from page 3*

Illinois corporations with Matching Gift programs:

Fortune Brands Inc.  
GATX Corp.  
GKN America Corp.  
W.W. Grainger Inc.  
Grant Thornton, LLP  
Grenzebach, Glier & Assoc. Inc.  
Hartmax Corp.  
Herold & Assoc.  
Hewitt Assoc., LLC  
HSBC – North America  
IDEX Corp.  
Illinois Tool Works Inc.  
Invensys Building Systems  
Leo Burnett Co. Inc.  
John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur  
MacLean-Fogg Co.

McDonald's Corp.  
Miehle-GrossDexter Inc.  
Motorola Inc.  
Nicor Gas  
Northern Trust Co.  
Nuveen Investments  
Ondeo Nalco Co.  
Playboy Enterprises Inc.  
Rexam Inc.  
RLI Insurance Co.  
Sara Lee Corp.  
Schneider Electric Square D Co.  
Scott, Foresman and Co.  
SoftSheen/Carson Products  
Spiegel Inc.  
A. E. Staley Mfg. Co.  
Swiss Bank Corp.  
Tellabs Inc.  
TTX Co.  
Unitrin Inc.  
USG Corp  
Zurich-American Ins. Group

# Plotting our colonies for caretaker support

Spay and Stay is using an interactive mapping program to assist us in keeping tabs on our feral cat colonies. This program has also helped us see that our 332 registered colonies are spread out all over Lake County.

In addition to plotting out a visual representation of the impact Spay and Stay is having on controlling the population of feral and stray cats in the county, this program may help caring for those who cannot find anyone to take care of their cat in the surrounding area and find it a home. This allows the caretakers to know that their cat will continue to get care.

As Spay and Stay helps build a network of support among its registered caretakers, more and more cats are guaranteed the ongoing care that is at the core of its mission.

# **ASSISTANCE for cats and their caretakers**

If you are one of Spay and Stay's registered caretakers and you would like to help other caretakers in your area, call us at 847-289-4557, or drop us an email at [bvoss@spayandstay.org](mailto:bvoss@spayandstay.org). There may be a current caretaker in urgent need of some temporary help, or there may be a brand new caretaker who could learn from your experience with trapping and managing a feral cat colony. Sometimes, a new caretaker is nervous about the trapping process, fearing it may stress the cats. Those of you who have gone through the process could be a great shoulder to lean on for these new caretakers. They may need physical help, or just a phone call reassuring them that they are setting the trap correctly. The more we can be there for others, the more cats we can help.



*Have you filled out  
your colony census?  
See back page.*



*Have you filled out  
your colony census?  
See back page.*

# ► Support Spay and Stay

There are many ways to give.

## Cats have dreams and so do we!

*Here's our WISH LIST. Call for details, if you can help:*

- Projector for laptop presentations
- Printer cartridges
- Office supplies
- Bags of dry cat food
- Paper towels
- Depends underpads (30" X 36")
- Large bath towels



## \* Help us sterilize more cats AND protect the environment!

THINKGREEN. That's the environmental fund-raising program that will help Spay and Stay earn valuable funds and protect the environment by collecting used printer cartridges and cell phones. On top of the funds we can collect, THINKGREEN will sponsor the planting of a tree on our behalf through American Forest. More places for our kitties to climb! If you have old cell phones or printer cartridges, give us a call at 847-289-4557 and we'll let you know how to get them to us.



## Ensure the future

We would be honored to work with you and your financial advisor to explore ways to include Spay and Stay's feral cats in your charitable giving plans.

### Outright Gifts

Use the form on Page 3 to make a direct donation to Spay and Stay.

### Bequests

Ask your attorney to include a charitable bequest to Spay and Stay in your will.

### Retirement Plan Beneficiary

You can ensure the continued success of TNR by naming Spay and Stay as a beneficiary of your retirement plan(s).

*Please contact Spay and Stay's Director of Development at 847-289-4557 if you have any questions regarding planned giving.*

## ► Join the CAT-A-MONTH Club

As a **Cat-A-Month Club** member, your gift of love and support will help sterilize a feral cat each month of the year. Through your kindness, one cat per month will learn what it's like to live a peaceful life, free from constant breeding.

You can send one check for \$300, or \$25 per month to support the spay or neuter of one feral or stray cat each month. Just complete this form and send it in with your life supporting donation.

### I'd like to help more cats live better lives by becoming a CAT-A-MONTH Club Member

#### PLEASE ACCEPT MY GIFT:

- Here's my full year's support of \$300.
- I'd prefer to help monthly. Here's \$25 for the first month.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to Spay and Stay.*

Please send a copy of this newsletter to my cat loving friend

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SMR2006

Mail this form to:

**SPAY AND STAY**

P.O. Box 484

Gurnee, IL 60031



► "IT IS WONDERFUL TO SEE ALL THE KITTIES THAT COME IN AND NOW HAVE A CHANCE TO GET STERILIZED, RECEIVE SHOTS AND NECESSARY GROOMING—ALL IN A HUMANE WAY."

-ARDITH PUCIN, VOLUNTEER

## From independent caretaker to special volunteer

It doesn't seem possible that it's been only two years since Ardith Pucin began her volunteer career with Spay and Stay. Ardith had been feeding some feral cats behind her home, but, like many people who care for these special animals, was doing it alone without much support. Ardith heard about Spay and Stay and its Trap-Neuter-Return mission and decided to attend a volunteer meeting. That was in the Spring of 2004 and she's been hooked on this work ever since.

Ardith believes that education and community awareness are crucial components of any successful TNR program. True to her beliefs, Ardith takes every opportunity she can to share the mission and goals of Spay and Stay with everyone she meets. She talks about her volunteer work and educates people about the importance of TNR. Because Ardith believes that Spay and Stay's TNR program is the only program that works to effectively control the feral cat population, she hopes that all of Lake County's governmental bodies embrace TNR in their communities.

There are many ways that Ardith has helped feral and stray cats in



*Ardith assists the vet techs at the anesthesia station.*

Lake County. In addition to adopting strays into her home, she has rescued several feral cats who otherwise may have faced a grim future. These cats have become Ardith's faithful office companions, and, even though they came from different colonies, have bonded to each other forming a closely knit indoor colony.

Ardith helps Spay and Stay with office projects and is always avail-

able to make sure all the spay day supplies get to and from the clinic for each of our local spay days. Her special love, however, are the spay days. She says, "It is wonderful to see all the kitties that come in and now have a chance to get sterilized, receive shots and necessary grooming—all in a humane way." In addition to attending every local spay day, Ardith also gets up extremely early on the days we take cats to the PAWS Chicago Spay/Neuter Clinic, helping us load cats into vans so we can be on the road for the trip to the south side of Chicago by 5:30 a.m.

The PAWS Clinic runs a bit differently than our local clinics, and Ardith

lends her special touch to insuring that all of the cats are well-cared for throughout the day. She then helps us transport the cats back to Lake County and, even after a long clinic day, cheerfully greets the caretakers who come to pick up their cats.

When asked what she would share with someone who is interested in volunteering with Spay and Stay, Ardith said she would tell them that this is a professionally run organization where the volunteers are a great group of people who are wonderful to know. She would also tell them it's a rewarding and educational experience that makes a difference and leaves you feeling good.

**You're great, Ardith! Thank you for all your time, energy, and incredible love of these special cats.**



*Ardith takes advantage of an "anesthesia moment" as one of her ferals, German, sleeps calmly as he waits for his neuter surgery and eartipping at a recent spay day.*

## Daisies bloom for ferals

Spay and Stay firmly believes in providing humane education to our youngest community citizens in hopes of proactively addressing issues of pet abandonment, sterilization, and animal welfare. So, this Spring, Michelle Frampton, Director of Development, visited with Daisies Girl Scout Troup #932 to teach the young ladies about feral cats. The information designed for a younger crowd was received with curiosity, concern, and understanding. Most of the girls were unaware of the existence of feral cats, but soon wanted to know how they could help once they heard the cats' stories. Check out some of the fabulous feral art the Daisies created to honor their fuzzy friends!



*Clockwise from top left, feral art from Meagan, Genna, Kayla, and Cassie. If you would like Spay and Stay to speak at your children's school, church, or other group activity, please contact the office at 847-289-4557.*



P. O. Box 484  
Gurnee, IL 60031

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Gurnee, IL.  
PERMIT No. 156

## BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

Spay and neuter your pets.  
Keep your cats safe at home.  
Do not abandon your pets.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sandra Kooper

### STAFF

Michelle Frampton  
Director of Development  
Beth Voss  
Program Assistant

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Jayne Sheehan, Treasurer  
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Paul Adler  
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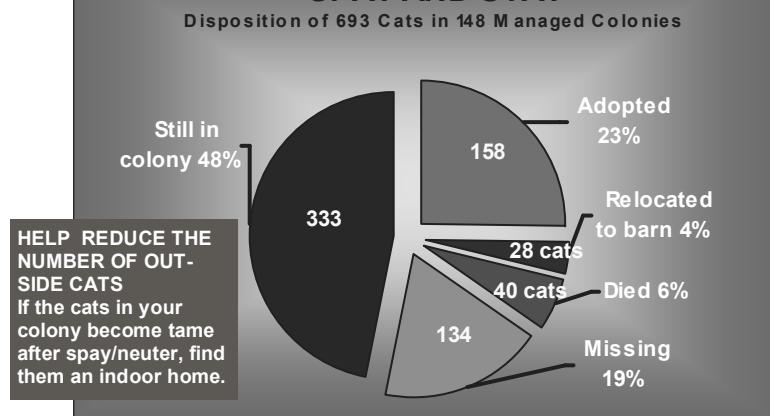
**www.spayandstay.org**  
**847-289-4557**

O SUMMER 2006 | O SPAY AND STAY

# Cat census shows TNR works!

### SPAY AND STAY

Disposition of 693 Cats in 148 Managed Colonies



If you are a caretaker of a Lake County feral cat colony and brought cats through Spay and Stay's program anytime between September 2002 and December 2005, you were mailed a colony census form inquiring about the status of each cat in your colony. The information we are gathering from the forms that

have been returned to us is helping us quantify the success of TNR in Lake County.

This past winter, Spay and Stay sent out 309 census forms and, to date, 148 have been returned. This is a 48% return rate representing 148 active colonies that

had a total of 693 cats returned to them after sterilization.

The most interesting fact we have determined from these census forms, is that almost a quarter of the cats that were sterilized and returned to their colonies have subsequently been taken off the streets and adopted. This supports the theory that some cats become calmer after spay/neuter and are more likely to accept domestication after a life on the streets. This high adoption rate is a secondary benefit of doing TNR and adds to the reduction of the number of cats on the streets of our communities. In the case of the 148 reporting caretakers shown in the pie chart on the left, only 48% of the cats originally returned to their outdoor homes are still in their colonies. **TNR works!**

## THE HUMANE SOLUTION: Living better without litters



Spay and Stay is a non-profit organization dedicated to working with compassionate individuals and local governments to humanely control the growth of the feral cat population in Lake County, IL.

Through humane education and outreach programs, Spay and Stay works to ensure long-term solutions to the source of feral cats: unaltered, free-roaming and/or abandoned domestic cats.