



## **FERAL CAT FOCUS INC. COMMUNITY CAT NEWS**

P.O. Box 404, East Aurora, NY 14052

1-888-902-9717 (toll free)

[www.feralcatfocus.org](http://www.feralcatfocus.org)

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**PROVIDING FERAL & FREE-ROAMING CATS WITH FUNDAMENTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**APRIL 2020**

Well here we are again, getting ready for our 16<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser "FUSION". We only have a fundraiser once a year. Other than that, we rely strictly on community donations.

We altered over 2,818 feral free roaming cats in 2019. This means for every cat that comes in to be altered at Operation PETS Spay Neuter Clinic of WNY we subsidize! And in some cases, we subsidize or handle an entire Trap/Neuter/Vaccinate/RETURN project. Notice we capitalize the RETURN part of TNVR? That is because Feral Cat FOCUS does not support the removal of feral/free roaming cats unless they are kittens that are able to be socialized or cats that are in extreme peril.

Feral Cat FOCUS realizes that we all wish every cat could be house cats. And that all cats could have a plush home, but we realize that it is not possible to expect that. There aren't enough homes for them all and not all cats want to be confined. There is an entire breed of cats out there that wish to be free and would rather have a shorter life and be free, rather than a longer life and their freedom taken away from them. Feral Cat FOCUS respects that freedom and that way of life. Please think before any of us take that away from the free roaming cats.

Trapping season is about to begin with Feral Cat FOCUS appointments starting to open up. We remind all those who are trapping to NEVER drop a trap till you have a plan. All these decisions make up a good trapping project plan:

- Do you have an appointment to get the cat seen by a veterinarian?
- Do you have a place to recover the cat?
- What if the cat needs medication?
- Can you hold the cat for treatment?

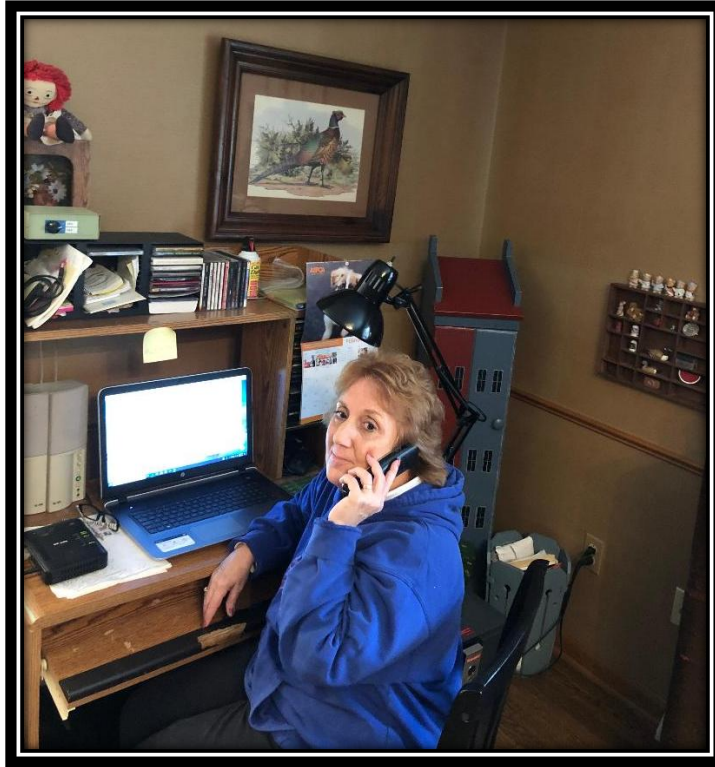
Do not forget to check the weather. If you know it is going to rain the day before your trapping begins, you might have to step it up a bit and trap earlier so that you are sure you can get the cats to come out. But most of all, we are finding that people are way overfeeding the cats, then wonder why the cats are not getting into the trap! STOP feeding three days before you trap - the cats will be fine. Make sure they get fresh water.

We hope you visit our website and check out our educational material at [www.feralcatfocus.org](http://www.feralcatfocus.org). Also check out our Facebook page for current projects and programs. There is a current list of feral friendly veterinarians on [www.feralcatfocus.org](http://www.feralcatfocus.org) and on our Facebook page, on Feral Cat Alliance Facebook page, and on Operation PETS Facebook page.

Hope to see you at FUSION on April 25 at the Grapevine Restaurant in Depew (invitation enclosed). We would love to see all your wonderful faces there. Happy Spring!

Formula for figuring out how many feral/free cats are in any municipality: Figure the amount of people and divide it by 6. That is an estimate of the number of feral cats in an area.

## VOLUNTEER CORNER



Claudia Johnson has volunteered for Feral Cat FOCUS for 15 years as a faithful phone volunteer. She answers the many questions people have as well as arranging for caregivers to get their traps, and making appointments to get the feral cats altered. It is often very challenging trying to get problems solved, and difficult to hear the sad stories and deal with problematic people, those that want the cats gone, and now!

Claudia was born in Buffalo and now lives in Wheatfield. She has been married for almost 45 years and has one two-legged male child and three four legged furry kids named Roxie, Callie and Blue. She taught in the Buffalo schools for over 30 years and retired (hardly looks old enough to retire, don't ya think?)

"When I started volunteering with Feral Cat FOCUS in 2005 I started right off the bat. Being a phone volunteer has always been interesting and there's often a new situation that I haven't dealt with before, or a problem I'm not sure how to handle. That's when I often ask others in the group for help or advice. I also started volunteering in 2005 in the Wildlife Department at the SPCA serving Erie County. I often foster orphaned or injured baby cottontails at home and release them when they are ready. I love to read and travel (when FCF lets me go!)".

vol-un-ter - A person who donates time or efforts for a cause or organization without being paid.

Being a volunteer means that you are offering something – something that is not required nor an obligation. As a nonprofit organization Feral Cat FOCUS understands how valuable volunteers are.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of what we can accomplish.

If you think that volunteering with Feral Cat FOCUS is something you want to try,  
send an email to [rose@feralcatfocus.org](mailto:rose@feralcatfocus.org) to see how you can get involved.

# FERAL CAT FOCUS

PROVIDING FERAL CATS WITH FUNDAMENTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES



## NOT EVERY CAT HAS A WARM, SAFE HOME

Many cats are left to fend for themselves outdoors.

Feral cats struggle throughout the year to find food, fresh water, safe shelter and to just survive.

Feral and free-roaming cats who only know the outdoor life shouldn't be forgotten.

Please help us make 2020 a better year for the feral and free-roaming cats of Western New York. Saving one cat may not change the world, but it certainly will change the world for that one animal. It is only through the generosity of people like you that Feral Cat FOCUS programs can continue.

Feral Cat FOCUS is committed to humanely reducing the feral and free-roaming cat population in Western New York through the use of Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return as fully understood, accepted and practiced in every Western New York community.

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Please mail your donation to the address below or you can make an online credit card donation at [www.feralcatfocus.org](http://www.feralcatfocus.org).

**YES**, I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Feral Cat FOCUS

\_\_\_\_\_ No Acknowledgement Needed

\_\_\_\_\_ I Would Like an Acknowledgement

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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Feral Cat FOCUS is a registered nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. A copy of our latest annual report may be requested from us or from the Office of Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271