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January-March 2020

Welcome to SNACK's first quarter newsletter!

Plans for 2020

The Board of Directors held the annual meeting on January 18 and approved a 2020 work plan and budget that includes 12 fix-it days at the Fredericktown Veterinary Clinic, three low-cost spay/neuter days with the mobile Rascal Unit, and extension of the Trap/Neuter/Return (T/N/R) program. Our goal for the year is 600 spay/neuter surgeries—510 in clinics and with the Rascal Unit and 90 surgeries in the TNR program.

2019 in Review

SNACK's 2019 financial and activity reports are now posted on our website. Among some of the more impressive numbers, we made \$1,018 from the Kroger Community Rewards/Amazon Smile/PayPal charitable programs and \$302 from Cans for Cats (aluminum and scrap metal recycling). On the debit side, we spent nearly 92% of all expenses on fix-it days, Rascal days, veterinary medications, and the trap/neuter/return program. We had 330 clients for fix-it days and the Rascal Days. Over 50% of clients were from Knox County, followed by Richland County (30%), and Morrow County (9%). Other counties represented included Delaware, Franklin, Licking, and Holmes. To see more about 2019, see our website, <https://snackohio.org/about-us>.

Updates

In the last newsletter, we were seeking a home for two foster kittens, Dana and Denny. They were great buddies and we were hopeful of finding a home where they could be together. We are happy to report the siblings were adopted shortly before Christmas to a couple in Johnstown. They are doing great!

Rascal is Coming!

We are big believers in the idea if spay/neuter is affordable and convenient, people are more likely to have their cats sterilized and reduce feline overpopulation. To this end, we have added three low-cost spay/neuter clinics with the Rascal Unit to our monthly fix-it days with the Fredericktown Veterinary Clinic. The first date is Tuesday, March 24. The clinic

will be held at the Mount Vernon Fire Department, 200 West Gambier Street. Pre-registration and pre-payment of \$35/cat are required. See our website for more information.

Our thanks to Chief Christopher and the Mount Vernon Fire Department for working with us to bring the Rascal Unit to Mount Vernon and the Knox County community.

Never try to out-stubborn a cat.
Robert Heinlein

Upcoming Events

3/10/2020-Spring is Near Fix-it Day, Fredericktown Veterinary Clinic (FVC) (FULL)
3/24/2020-Rascal Day, Mount Vernon Fire Department
4/14/2020-Tax Day Eve Fix-it Day, FVC
5/12/2020-20th Week of 2020 Fix-it Day-FVC
6/9/2020-World Pet Memorial Day Fix-it Day-FVC

Gimme Shelter

Buckeye Chuck declared an early spring but if you care for a feral cat colony, the cats can use shelter even when it's not cold. Alley Cat Allies (alleycat.org) have the following tips for a feral cat shelter:

- A plastic tote works well for a shelter and is easy to make. Make sure the entrance is large enough for a cat to enter (6 to 8 inches diameter opening) but not so large as to encourage other animals to use the shelter. Face the doorway away from the prevailing wind or use a door flap.
- Get the shelter off the ground if possible—a wood pallet works well.
- Place the shelter away from busy paths and in a safe place with little or no traffic. If possible, put the shelter under cover to keep it dry and out of direct sunlight.
- Use straw as bedding rather than blankets or hay; straw is the better insulator for body heat.

A cat doesn't care if you are smart or dumb,
give him your heart and he will give you his.
Abraham Lincoln

