



P.O. Box 121
Sunbury, Ohio 43074
www.snackohio.org
info@snackohio.org



October-December 2016

Welcome to the 4th Quarter SNACK newsletter! We are happy to report we reached our 2016 goal of 575 cats spayed/neutered at the It's Mother's Day Not Fix-it Day on November 15! With our Happy Holidays Fix-it Day and an overflow day scheduled for December 20, we estimate our final total of SNACK-supported surgeries to be about 650 cats! Since the group's start in 2011, we are nearing 2000 spay/neuter surgeries. By making these surgeries affordable and accessible, SNACK is helping with three C's—cats, clients, and communities.

New Board of Director Member

Cheryl Clark, a SNACK volunteer, joined the Board of Directors at the BOD meeting on August 27. Cheryl works as a vet assistant, has fostered for the group and helped in our can-recycling efforts. She and her family live in Knox County and enjoy both dogs and cats. Welcome, Cheryl!



The beautiful 2016 Fundraiser Quilt is complete and tickets are now available for \$1/each. Tickets can be purchased from volunteers, by contacting the group by email or phone, or at our upcoming fix-it days. The drawing will be held April 30 during the volunteer appreciation event (to be scheduled and announced later). Kudos to volunteers, Debi B and Susan H, for their hard work and commitment to the project!

Did you know our talented volunteer webmaster, Ann D, recently re-did the SNACK website and added a tribute page? If you would like to honor your cats on the website, contact us at info@snackohio.org and we can add them. Our thanks to Ann who spent many hours on this re-vamp.

Our Mission and Programs

We are often contacted by people who have cats “dumped” on them or people find cats and we are asked to rescue or find homes for these cats and kittens. While we would like to meet all these needs, our group's mission is to reduce the overpopulation of cats by supporting spay/neuter programs and conducting trap/neuter/return in feral cat populations. When we do foster kittens or cats, the kittens or cats are those who cannot be returned safely to a colony because the caregiver cannot care for them, the cat or kitten is injured, or it is not a safe situation for the cat or kitten to remain in the colony. We are also limited by the

availability of foster homes. In addition to our spay/neuter fix-it days and our trap/neuter/return program, this year we were able to assist a few cats with veterinary care when their caregivers were unable to afford it. Among the cats we helped were cats with ear polyps, ear mites, lice, and dental issues. A big thank you to the guardian angels!

Upcoming Events

12/13—Happy Holidays Fix-it Day, Fredericktown Vet Clinic
12/20—2016 Overflow Fix-it Day, Fredericktown Vet Clinic
1/7—SNACK BOD Annual Meeting, Centerburg Public Library 1 pm
1/10—Happy 2017 Fix-it Day, Fredericktown Vet Clinic
2/14—Valentine's Fix-it Day, Fredericktown Vet Clinic

A Tail of 20+ Cats by Gail & Bob Lyall

Our neighbors' renters moved from the farm and left 20+ cats behind; 12 cats are alive and starting to look better thanks to my husband, me and generous help from SNACK.

I contacted the owners of the farm and asked if we could spay/neuter the cats—they told me they don't care about nor do they want the cats. I impressed upon them that even though they were not “their” cats, the cats were on their property and we were offering to help by getting the cats spayed/neutered. I touted the health benefits of fixing the cats including no reproduction = less cats.

I told the farm owners we would feed and shelter the cats but they had to stay on the farm. We are now in the process of working with SNACK and the KC Animal Shelter which has agreed to help trap and keep the cats for two days in their heated garage while the cats recover.

We know the renters meant well; however, their irresponsible and cruel actions have caused the deaths of several cats and created a lot of work and effort for several people. These young cats are used to people—not used to being on their own—when we arrive to feed and water, they run out to greet us—once they are spayed/neutered, we pray we can find homes for at least some of them—they deserve to have a furever home!



Photo of healthy colony cats. Spaying/neutering as well as a good diet help these beautiful felines maintain their health.

We had a great year and look forward to 2017! We thank everyone involved in their efforts! Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!