

## *Open your heart to our community's homeless cats*

A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. We are dedicated to the care of feral cats, and members of our group work on a volunteer basis to feed, water, and provide medical care for hundreds of feral cats in Knoxville and surrounding areas. We participate in a trap/neuter/return program in an effort to control the feral cat population. The TNR program is where feral cats are humanely trapped by volunteers, taken to a clinic to be spayed or neutered and vaccinated, and returned to their colony where they are most comfortable. We are not an adoption agency nor do we take in unwanted pets. *Our organization only holds* adoption fairs in order to find homes for socialized kittens born into feral colonies and to re-home stray pets that are *abandoned in our colonies!* We are funded solely from donations and fundraisers with 100% of money raised going directly to controlling and maintaining the feral cat population.

**What we can do:** mentor you with your TNR (trap-neuter-release) project by teaching you how to use the traps (including care of the cats while in the traps) and loaning you traps to get the cats to the vet or a low cost spay/neuter clinic.

**What we cannot do:** remove feral cats from your neighborhood, place of business, etc., trap and transport the cats for you; loan traps for you to take cats to any animal service for euthanization.

### Monthly Meetings

🐾 Feral Feline Friends meets the second Tuesday of every month at Mr. Gatti's at 6913 Kingston Pike (just west of Papermill Road.) Please come so you can learn about how you can help the feral cats of our community.





## Feral Fixin Dates

Oct 27th

Thanks to all the volunteers who made Feral Fixin a successful event on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup>. We spayed/neutered 113 cats.

(130 cats were spayed/neutered at the July event)



## *Adoption Center at Petsmart Turkey Creek*

### SEPTEMBER ADOPTIONS :

Hunter, Bam, Chloe, Daisy, Dolly, Bear, Cameron, Meesha, Lancelot, Stripe, Whisty, Chester, Callie, Peeta, Acadia, Haley, Peanut, DelGato, Einstein, Brindi, Badger, Maple, Charli, Jim, Stanley, Marigold, Special, Ashes, Honey, Ms. Tux, Catcher, Isis, Bubba, Max, Choctaw, Charlie and Boomer.

We still have 70+ kittens and many adults in foster care needing homes!

A big **THANKS** to the dedicated fosters and Petsmart volunteers who take such good care of our cats!

Please contact Deb at (865) 300-6873 or [debmarsh@comcast.net](mailto:debmarsh@comcast.net) if you would like to help in our adoption center.

Special thanks to Deb who keeps the adoption center staffed and so organized!!!





## Mast General Store Display for National Feral Cat Day



Please go and visit our display at Mast General Store (downtown Gay Street) during the month of October for National Feral Cat Day 2012. We are hoping to educate the community and bring awareness to feral cats and how to care for them.

# Happy Tails Adoption Story : Bert and Ernie



The kitties are doing great! So fun to watch their little personalities develop and integrate. The kittens actually helped our other cat, Poki, learn how to be a loving cat. Shorti (a.k.a. "Ernie") took the lead with him and taught Poki how to play and chase like a cat and that loving and hugging is a good thing. Now we call Poki and Shorti the "BFF's" because they play the hardest together and they also snuggle with each other. Nikki (a.k.a. "Bert") is more of an observer of everything, but he will get in there and play and love when he wants to. When the 3 of them get into play mode, it is great fun to watch!

Also, a while back Poki got some kind of virus that caused a blister on his tongue. Poor Poki was miserable. He couldn't eat, had trouble drinking, and he for sure couldn't groom himself. We were worried about him as he was losing weight as well and he looked so pathetic because he would drool all over everything and himself so his fur looked awful. The kittens were so good to Poki during this time and they especially couldn't stand it that he was not able to groom himself, so they both stepped in and spent a great deal of time grooming Poki as well as themselves. At first Poki didn't like it, but then one evening I was watching this ritual and Poki had this look on his face like, "Ooooh, this feels GREAT!" and he just laid back and enjoyed it. From then on he was much more accepting of affection. We have the kittens to thank for that. After a week of antibiotics and a little recovery time, Poki is fine and is back to his regular weight and glossy fur.

We have enjoyed the cats so much and they are our favorite source of entertainment. Even though Poki was so mad at us when we first brought the kittens home, we know that he is so glad to have brothers to play with.

I attached a couple of pictures taken recently. The first one is The Boys on their tree. From top to bottom: Shorti (Ernie), Poki, Nikki (Bert). The second picture is in the laundry room. Poki is in the back. Nikki is still wearing the blue collar he had when we got him, and Shorti is in front. By the way, if you're wondering about their names, they are nicknames for their formal ones. The cat we already had is called Popoki Ele Ele (Hawaiian for Black Cat), so we decided to stick with the theme. Bert is now Kuroneko (Japanese for Black Cat), and Ernie is Schwarze Katze (German for Black Cat).

Feel free to add info to the newsletter!

Kathy

*Special Thanks for Donations to help care for the unwanted*

Trent Maxfeldt

A special thanks to Chris Smith for making our banners and  
Linda Parsons for making our brochures and business cards.



*Support Feral Feline Friends of East Tennessee*

*In Honor/Memory of \_\_\_\_\_*

*Enclosed is my donation of: \_\_\$10 \_\_\$25 \_\_\$50 \_\_\$100 \_\_Other*

*Your donation will solely be used for the care of  
Knoxville's feral colonies, to include spaying/neutering,  
food, or other necessary care. Your donations are tax  
deductible under section 501c3 of the IRS code. Please let us  
know if your employer will match your gift.*

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