

cat tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK



It's a jungle out there – finding a home for Solomon, the lion king

by Holly Roulston

When the volunteers at FFN starting trapping and feeding feral cats in 2006, we were told that, in general, it is best to have a handful of people feeding colony cats. This way, if someone moves out of the area, rather than trying to relocate the cat – which typically doesn't work – another feeder can be found by knocking on a few doors in the same area.

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Don't delay, renew today!

Feline Friends Network had its annual general meeting on 26 February, the effective start of our membership year (memberships are always valid until 28 February of the following year).

If you haven't already renewed your FFN membership, please consider doing so. Your membership helps FFN to look after the welfare of cats and kittens in need. As a bonus, membership also entitles you to discounts at a number of pet stores around Perth County, members' prices on FFN t-shirts and hoodies, and future issues of *cat tales* with information on upcoming FFN events, reports on FFN's activities, and heartwarming stories about FFN colony cats and friendly ferals.

To renew your membership, please visit <http://felinefriends.ca/membership.html> for instructions and the option to renew online. Once you have renewed, your 2017 membership card will be mailed to you within a few days.

NEED TO CONTACT FFN BY EMAIL?

To ensure the most timely response, please send your message to info@felinefriends.ca

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Solomon first showed up on the Lost and Found Pets of Stratford Facebook page (created and administered by FFN Foster/Adoption chair Marg Usprech). In the photo (see page 1), he was quietly sitting on a porch and the post revealed that Solomon had been visiting numerous homes in the area for over a year – since April 2016.

FFN realized that he had been outside on his own for some time so it was unlikely that anyone would contact us to report that he had been lost in recent weeks.

FFN member Margery Leggott – whose home was among those Solomon had been visiting – offered to trap and foster him until FFN could find him a new forever home. Then, Jodi Braun – another of Solomon’s feeders – contacted FFN and offered to sponsor him!

FFN would like to say a big thank you to Jodi for being the first person to sponsor a specific cat and to Margery for offering to catch Solomon and teach him to trust humans again.



Solomon sporting his “lion” do – so embarrassing but SO good to be free of matted, tangled fur

felinefriends.ca

feline film festival

IT'S BACK! JUNE 9, 2017

Mark your calendar now! Our 5th annual @
Knox Church, Stratford. Contribute videos
now by posting them on our facebook page
(facebook.com/felinefriendsnetwork).

Remember to include [#felinefilmfest](https://twitter.com/felinefilmfest) in your post.
Or, email links to films@felinefriends.ca

Thanks also to everyone who put out a bowl of food and/or water for this guy over the last year. It still really does take a village to help feral cats.

After being outside for so long, Solomon’s fur was too matted to brush out so he had to have a “lion cut” to get rid of the tangles. Foster mom Margery discovered that he’s a bossy boy who wants to be in charge and might need to be the “one and only” pet. He seemed to be adjusting well to being inside where it’s safe and warm and getting used to food/water dishes that are always full.

FFN is thrilled to announce that Solomon had a “meet-and-greet” on Friday and is now making a trial visit. Fingers crossed this will be his “fur-ever” home.

*When a cat chooses to be friendly,
it's a big deal, because a cat is picky.*

– Mike Deupree





World Spay Day 2017

by Paul Simpson

World Spay Day is an annual event, always timed for the last Tuesday in February. Over the years, it has

grown to be a truly international phenomenon on an issue that is near and dear to FFN's heart.

For the past several years, FFN has invited Perth County veterinary clinics to celebrate World Spay Day by offering discounted pricing for spay/neuter surgeries. In 2015, two clinics participated, performing approximately 22 surgeries during the week of World Spay Day. This year, a total of seven clinics came aboard and performed 63 surgeries – mostly on cats but with a few dogs as well.

A heartfelt thank you – and a batch of FFN's signature Grand Marnier Truffles – to the management and staff of **Avon Pet Hospital, Coventry Animal Hospital, Perth Veterinary Services, and Romeo Pet Hospital** in Stratford; **Kirton Veterinary Clinic** in Kirkton; **St. Marys Veterinary Clinic** in St. Marys; and **Mitchell Veterinary Services** in Mitchell.

FFN will be back for World Spay Day in 2017 with plans to enhance our publicity schedule.

SO MANY THANKS TO

Global Pet Foods Stratford and their customers for raising approximately \$1,200 for FFN in their February "Show Us Your Heart" Campaign. As always, every penny of that will go to help end cat homelessness in Perth County.

Pet Valu, Global Pet Foods, and Feed-All Pet Centre for always being willing to provide donated food when available!

Final Upscale Book & Bake Sale raises over \$1,000 for FFN

by Pat Burnell

Another successful night and a mighty thanks to all who made FFN's LAST upscale an enjoyable event.

Although attendance was down, the 2017 Upscale Book & Bake Sale raised over \$1,000 for FFN – more than half of the total coming from food sales.

The best of the "leftovers" will be held for future FFN auctions – silent or otherwise – while a great many books were donated to the Salvation Army and Knox Church charity shops.

As noted, this will be FFN's last upscale sale and we've got our thinking caps on to come up with a fresh idea for 2018. Stay tuned!



Pet Valu's Pet Appreciation Month in April supports FFN

To celebrate **Pet Appreciation Month** in April, Pet Valu's Huron Street location is holding a month-long series of "pet-related" events and fundraising activities that will benefit FFN. On Saturday, 15 April, FFN will bake up a storm at the bake sale from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. On Saturday, 22 April, FFN founder and past president Cheryl Simpson will be on deck from 2:00 to 3:30 pm to field questions on coping with feline "behaviour" issues. For more information on April's activities, visit the FFN web site (www.felinefriends.ca) or Facebook page. And please drop by Pet Valu in April to show your support. They truly treat FFN well.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
garet markvoort

