



July 16, 2022

All times listed are Eastern Time.

10:00–10:15 a.m.

Stacy LeBaron, Community Cats Podcast

Opening Remarks

10:15–11:30 a.m.

Heather Kennedy, Director of Feline Operations, KC Pet Project

Caring for FeLV+ Cats

Our approach to treating and talking about the FeLV cats in our care can have a huge impact on their overall outcomes and quality of life. We know FeLV is transmissible, but not easily so. And while FeLV+ kitties may live a shorter life, they can still have a good quality of life. Through this presentation, we will overcome our own fear of the disease and learn to talk frankly with adopters about adopting a cat with a shorter life span.

About Dr. Heather Kennedy

Heather is the Director of Feline Operations at KC Pet Project. Her role encompasses all aspects of feline operations, including animal care, health and enrichment, behavior, and feline fostering. Her career helping cats started as an experienced cat trapper, colony caregiver, and foster caregiver. She went on to attend U.C. Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, where her singular commitment to cats earned her numerous scholarships, as well as the AAFP Outstanding Scholar Award. In 2017, after four years in feline-only private practice, Heather decided to focus on the welfare of shelter cats. She is recognized as an expert on the humane care of feral cats and currently sits on the AAFP Committee on Free-Roaming Cats and speaks at national conferences on her work in sheltering. She was mentored by Dr. Niels Pedersen, a nationally recognized expert on feline infectious peritonitis, and she often provides consults to other veterinarians on the diagnosis of the disease. She managed the Alley Cat Allies emergency shelter after Hurricane Katrina and was instrumental in helping Santa Barbara County (CA) become no-kill through TNR and RTF (Return to Field). She started and managed a feral cat clinic in Yolo County (CA) where she mentored students on TNR and the humane care of feral cats.

11:30–12:00 p.m.

Shani Campbell, Certified Cat Behaviorist & Social Media Manager, Humane Society Of Sedona

Destigmatizing FeLV Cats in Shelters!

Your shelter or rescue can absolutely save the lives of FeLV cats! Learn how our shelter began an FIV & FeLV adoption program, the challenges, the wins, the losses but most importantly the chance at life these cats deserved and received. Intake to placement; from housing, daily care, marketing tips and adoption counseling, how to get these cats into loving homes. All cats deserve the opportunity for a wonderful life. We cannot save them all but we owe it to them to try.

About Shani Campbell

Shani is a Certified Cat Behaviorist for the Humane Society of Sedona, as well as their Social Media Manager. Her business, Wild At Heart - Cat Behavior Solutions, creates free cat behavior videos for YouTube. She started her career in behavior working for children with autism for over 15 years. Several years ago, Shani decided to focus her career on cats, specifically cats in shelters. She has created numerous behavior protocols for cats as well as detailed cat behavior videos that have been shared all over the United States & Puerto Rico. Shani's goal is to prevent cats from ever entering the shelter system by providing vital advice for some of the most common cat behavior issues. She lives in Sedona, Arizona with her husband Keegan Kuhn & their sassy, loyal, and perfect calico, Sweet Pea.

12:00–12:30 p.m.

Danielle Faford, Shelter Manager, Tree House Humane Society

FeLV Cat Cafe

Tree House Humane Society's cat cafe is not just a place to grab a cup of coffee and hang out with cats. Each guest who visits the cat cafe has the opportunity to learn just how great (and adoptable) FeLV+ cats are. Tree House Humane Society aims to demystify FeLV for our cafe guests through education and memorable interactions with our sweet FeLV+ kitties. In this presentation, we will discuss Tree House's Cat Cafe, the FeLV+ program, and our approach to providing FeLV education for our guests and adopters.

About Danielle Faford

Danielle graduated from Columbia College Chicago with a bachelor's in fine arts though she quickly realized working with animals was where she found the most fulfillment. With over a decade of experience in pet care services, Danielle decided to shift her focus to helping animals in need, which is what brought her to her current position as the Shelter Manager at Tree House Humane Society. Danielle has two dogs and a senior cat who rules the house. She enjoys hiking with her dogs, crocheting, and gardening in her free time.

12:30–1:15 p.m.

Lunch break

1:15–1:30 p.m.

Cat Trivia, Polls, Announcements

1:30-2:45 p.m.

Monica Frendan-Tarant, Moderator

Panelists

- **Dr. Clarissa Funke, Michigan Humane**
- **Brett Kruger- Cincinnati Animal CARE**
- **Sarah Schulte, Ohio Alleycat Resource Center**
- **Devon Smith, League for Animal Welfare**

Real World FeLV Success

From municipal shelters to private rescues, more organizations are embracing progressive approaches in feline leukemia programming. This panel featuring open admission city shelters and private rescues, moderated by Monica Frenden-Tarant, takes a look at how different organizations changed testing policies and implemented lifesaving solutions. We'll discuss the challenges they faced, hard-won

successes, and they'll share lessons learned to help guide you in practical, real-world decision-making to save more FeLV cats than ever before!

About Monica Frenden-Tarant

Monica is the Chief Innovation Officer: Feline Lifesaving at Cincinnati Animal CARE with The Joanie Bernard Foundation, and is helping organizations create the most humane city in the country for cats. A decade before anyone had heard of such a thing, she cut her teeth founding a trap-neuter-return organization in rural Illinois and pioneered one of the nation's first, and largest, working cat programs. In 2012, she joined Austin Pets Alive! where she led her team to an 88 percent growth in cat adoptions and helped Austin achieve a citywide 98 percent live release rate for cats. Monica then spent years as an instructor for the Maddie's Fund Lifesaving Academy teaching shelters best practices and innovative lifesaving programs, advancing research in feline retroviruses, and progressing public policy as a City of Austin Animal Advisory Commissioner. Monica is a frequent speaker and advisor on innovative ways to save every cat, including cats with feline leukemia, community cats, and shelter cats in need of medical care.

About Dr. Clarissa Funke

Dr. Funke is a facility veterinary medical director with Michigan Humane. She completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 2012 from Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She has worked with Michigan Humane for the past 10 years, and has spent several years working in a community clinic setting and exclusively in shelter medicine before graduating into a leadership role. Her special interests include neonatal kitten care, capacity for care and proactive population management and infectious disease control.

About Brett Kruger

Brett has worked in animal welfare for 9 years, and volunteered for 3 years prior to that. Currently, Brett is the Cat Program Manager at Cincinnati Animal CARE, a no-kill animal shelter providing municipal animal services and community resources for Hamilton County, Ohio. CARE adopts out FeLV+ cats and works with other rescues to place FeLV+ cats. Before joining CARE, Brett was with IndyHumane in Indianapolis, Indiana as their feline team manager where they transferred in FeLV+ cats from other central Indiana shelters. She has 6 cats (including Donatella, the reformed community cat in her speaker photo) and a 100-lb dog.

About Sarah Schulte

Sarah Schulte has been the Volunteer Coordinator at Ohio Alleycat Resource & Spay/Neuter Clinic (OAR) since early 2019. She started as an adopter, quickly became a volunteer and then was volunteering so much she was offered a staff position. She lives with her husband and 2 OAR alums - Sadie Smalls and Squawks Louise.

About Devon Smith

Devon Smith is the Executive Director of the League for Animal Welfare, a limited-admission shelter that takes in 1600 cats and dogs a year. Smith has been in animal welfare for two decades, and has had the good fortune to work, volunteer, and learn in organizations in the northeast, southeast, and Midwest. Smith has led both open- (Saint Frances Animal Center; Georgetown, SC) and limited-admission (League for Animal Welfare; Batavia, OH) shelters; a high-volume spay/neuter clinic (Ohio Alleycat Resource; Cincinnati, OH); and a trap/neuter/return group (Michiana Feral Cat Initiative; South Bend, IN). She gets particularly jazzed by projects that are collaborative, and focused on systemic issues in sheltering that affect the most vulnerable populations. Smith's current focus is on expanding access to care and adoption for cats with FIP and Feline Leukemia; and improving enrichment and behavior modification programs for large dogs.

2:45–3:30 p.m.

Margaret Tompkins, President, Tompkins Foundation for FeLV Advocacy

Felvie Adoptions – Dos & Don'ts – How To Get It Done

Take a deep breath! Others have done this before, and you may find that adopting out that FeLV+ cat is a lot easier than you think. We will look at tips and tricks, best practices and proven methods. There's no need to reinvent the wheel, so let's benefit from those who have done it before. Use your computer to link to materials and information that you can use to become confident and successful in adopting out FeLV+ cats! Social media and networking are your friends!

Helping rescues with their FeLV+ cats has become a post-retirement passion. We've moved from euthanasia to sanctuaries and now have found that the best place for a Felvie cat is in a good home – just like other cats enjoy. You can now get that done and it's not that hard.

About Margaret Tompkins

Margaret Tompkins, President of the Tompkins Foundation for FeLV Advocacy, has been networking and advocating for FeLV+ cats since 2011. She firmly believes that no cat should die just because it has a virus. It is her pleasure as a donor, networker, and educator to support individuals and organizations who are leaders in the health and welfare of FeLV+ cats.

3:30–3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45–4:45 p.m.

Jae Kennedy and Adreinne Lefebvre, Two Crazy Cat Ladies

Helping Cats With FeLV

Cats with Feline Leukemia can live long and healthy lives just like any other cat if given the right support.

About Jae Kennedy and Adrienne Lefebvre

The Two Crazy Cat Ladies™ are cat advocates, social media influencers, bloggers, and content creators. They offer a full line of natural supplements (Feline Essential™) made to help treat and prevent many common health issues in cats. In 2015, motivated by the lack of available resources for natural feline health, Jae & Adrienne dedicated their lives to learning and sharing all they can to help cats live the longest, healthiest and happiest lives possible. They host regular live shows on social media to connect with cat parents and answer questions they have about their kitties as well as sharing tips about cat health and happiness via blogs and videos.

4:45 p.m.

Closing remarks

A special thanks to our sponsors who made today possible:

Humane Network