



# Spay-Neuter-Now (SNN) 2021 Newsletter

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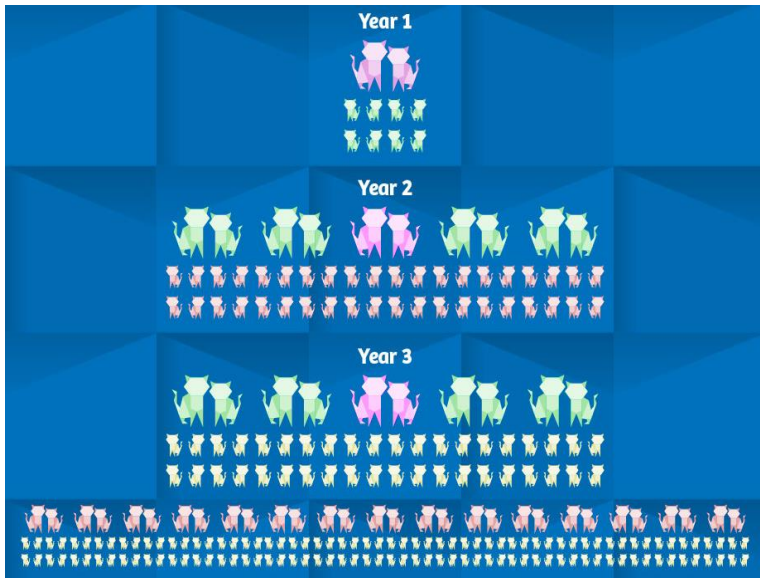


## Approaching 24,000 Spays/Neuters!

Spay-Neuter-Now (SNN) will end 2021 reaching a huge benchmark of **24,000** total program spays & neuters in the past 27 years of operations! We are just within reach at a dangerously close **23,979** total surgeries as of mid-December this year!

Since 2009, we have provided assistance to **11,432** cats and **2,916** dogs, to income-qualified North Country household cats & dogs, and for caretakers of stray & feral cats.

If you take those **11,432** cats and if each cat had two litters of four kittens each year for just three years, then you can see that is quite the dent in overpopulation! That's the potential of over **2,800,000** cats looking for forever homes, trying to survive the North Country winters and draining the resources from our local shelters.



## Spay-Neuter-Now's Mission

*Our mission is to create & maintain a significant reduction in companion animal overpopulation in the North Country by providing help to animals, people and communities through education and prevention.*

**You can help your community by:**

**Give Information:** Share our program with others.

**Give Time:** Volunteer at an event or run a fundraiser.

**Give Resources:** Donate money or supplies.

SNN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.  
Please consider making a  
tax-deductible donation today.



## Program Package & Fees

**SNN Package Includes:** Spay/Neuter surgery, a rabies & a distemper vaccination (DA2PP/FVRCP), a nail trim and a check & treatment for ear mites.

**Cats (Male or Female) \$85.00**

**Dogs <25lbs Males \$140.00 Females \$155.00**

**Dogs 25-50lbs Males \$155.00 Females \$175.00**

**Dogs 50-75lbs Males \$170.00 Females \$195.00**

**Dogs >75lbs Males \$185.00 Females \$215.00**

**Dogs Over 3 Years +\$25.00**

**Cryptorchid (Undescended Testicle) +\$25.00**

**Applications for assistance are available on our website for income-qualified households and for caretakers of stray, feral, barn and colony cats.**

## The Neuter Commuter II Retires

The SNN Mobile Clinic Program began in 2005 with the first Neuter Commuter, a retrofitted surgery suite in a 24' RV. The program was a wild success in its ability to provide services at different towns in the North Country at centralized host locations or in some cases visiting larger feral/barn colonies directly. The original vehicle's surgical limitations led to the 2008 decision to replace it with a custom-built, 27' surgical unit that was dubbed "The Neuter Commuter II."

After 14 years in service, Spay-Neuter-Now has made the difficult & bittersweet decision to retire the mobile clinic program and sell the Neuter Commuter II. Since hitting the road, the Neuter Commuter II saw **9,215** animals (8,014 cats, 1,201 dogs) climb through its doors for their spay/neuter surgeries.

The Neuter Commuter II will still be continuing its original mission in spaying & neutering at its new animal-nonprofit owners' in Franklin County, New York. We are grateful to see it continuing its legacy onwards!



The North Country was suffering a shortage of veterinarians and veterinary technicians prior to COVID, which has led to a critical shortage of veterinary bandwidth in the region. Many private veterinary clinics in our region are still trying to catch up from COVID-related backlogs; many are not even taking new clients and are booking months out for what used to be "see you next week!"

Sadly, the compounding factors of veterinary staff availability, overextension of the geographic area covered, the ever-increasing costs of the program and COVID-related changes to operations have led SNN to decide to shut down the mobile clinic program. We understand far too well the worry that shutting down such a staple in the community will cause and we are working on future plans and programs to eventually cover the gap in services.

Spay-Neuter-Now is still here and we are continuing to operate through our partnering veterinary clinics with Town & Country Vet Clinic in Ogdensburg, Potsdam and Massena, as well as Little Friends Vet Services in Lyons Falls. Applications are always available for download at our website ([www.spayneuternow.org](http://www.spayneuternow.org)) or people can contact us at the phone and email at the top of this newsletter.

We would like to thank the over 75 locations, private and municipal, that have hosted SNN mobile clinics over the years! Your generosity in hosting us, talking & laughing with us and sometimes also feeding our clinic staff will always bring back fond memories!

## From Our Founder



Unfortunately, Spay-Neuter-Now's founder, Bea Schermerhorn, is not available to give you her two-cents in this year's From Our Founder article, so I am hoping that my words will suffice.

I would like to share, with permission from Bea's family, that earlier this year my good friend Bea's fight with dementia and other health issues took a turn for the worse. This ended up with a long-term stay in the hospital this summer and in the fall she had transitioned to a local nursing home in the North Country.

Bea is doing okay and was in good spirits when I visited her last. She has a large, stuffed dog that travels along with her on her walker and you can still see her love and drive to help animals when you talk to her!

Bea would want me to remind readers to continue to support SNN even as she is no longer able to participate directly anymore.

She would also want you to support projects and organizations that help fight against animal cruelty in the North Country. SNN maintains the Rainey Fund – named after one of Bea's dogs rescued from a horrible local abuse case – which can receive donations that put resources into helping animal cruelty cases in our region. We are hoping to have a Rainey Fund related event once COVID concerns calm back down.

**Bea's 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday is approaching at the end of December.**

**I would like to ask our readers to consider mailing a card, note or letter to Bea with your best wishes and maybe something about your pets. Please mail by January 1<sup>st</sup>:**

**Bea Schermerhorn  
c/o Spay Neuter Now  
PO Box 802  
Canton NY, 13617**

Sincerely,  
-Kevin Mace LVT, General Manager

## Spay-ghetti & Silent Auction Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> 2022



**RIVEREDGE  
RESORT**



After two years of hiatus due to COVID concerns, we are hopeful that our tentative date of May 21<sup>st</sup> will be a great success and without complication. Please watch our Facebook and website posts for more information about upcoming events or potential changes to adhere to COVID safety regulations.

This will be the 8<sup>th</sup> time the Riveredge Resort in Alexandria Bay has hosted our annual spaghetti dinner & silent auction as a combined fundraiser with Alley Cat Rescue of Alexandria Bay. We are still determining the timing of the lunch/dinner and silent auction and COVID concerns may turn the meal into take-out only.

## Donation Jars

You may notice some Spay-Neuter-Now donation jars that are appearing at businesses around St. Lawrence County.

This is thanks to a volunteer who contacted us asking how she could help SNN and our mission. She was generous enough to have purchased many jars and contacted the businesses to ask permission to place the jars.

SNN is a small organization of staff, volunteers and board members. All funds raised go into programs that provide assistance in spaying & neutering local cats & dogs. People taking the time to help fundraise is a huge help!

If you are interested in holding or running a fundraising event for SNN, please contact us and ask for Kevin. We will be happy to coordinate with you and provide you with information and materials for the project!

## Spay-Neuter-Now's Gift of Spay Fund



SNN's ongoing Gift of Spay fundraiser asks our donors to help further subsidize our package fees to clients where the decrease in cost might make the difference between getting their cat spayed and still having dinner on the table during these difficult times.

For our 2021-2022 Gift of Spay season, the price of the spay/neuter through our programs for the client will be reduced up to \$50.00 per animal as long as funds remain. You can donate any amount and we will combine donations to help reach the full discount amount.

With the sun-setting of the SNN mobile clinic program, it may be more difficult to obtain photos of animals helped to send back to Gift of Spay donors. We will be trying our best to obtain photos when possible, but all donors will receive a special thank-you card and info about the animal(s) they have helped.



**Please have my donations help:**

**Cats [ ]      Dogs [ ]      Any Animals [ ]**

**Donor Name & Address**



**We are proud of the services that we have been able to provide our community the past 27 years and look forward to many years to come!**

**Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to SNN today!**

**Your support helps to keep our programs running!**

