

5th Annual

# CAT'S MEOW

&

# BEAUTY BOW WOW

Presented by:

Hecker Dermatology Group, P.A.

along with Cat's Exclusive



A Purrfect Evening  
For a Pawsitively  
Meowvelous Cause

When:

**THURSDAY**

NOVEMBER 8

5-8PM



RSVP - 954-783-2323

Where:

3500 NE 5th Avenue

Pompano Beach, FL 33064



Donations of pet food (cat food esp.) is requested.

**Why We Host the Annual Cat's Meow & Beauty Bow-Wow**  
**By Melanie S. Hecker, MD, MBA**

**Giving Back to the Community**

You don't just say you would like to give back, you do it. And you don't have to give back in your chosen profession or field. Pick something that is close to your heart and just do something and give back to the community.

At Hecker Dermatology Group, many of us have pets and no one has more pets than the doctors Hecker. From a dog, to cats (both feral and owned), to three kinds of birds, animals are close to our hearts.

So when an animal is in need, it's no surprise that the staff of Hecker Dermatology are happy to help.

**The Statistics**

The feral cat population of Broward County is huge. A feral cat is a cat that was born outside and is not used to interacting with humans. Feral cats live in groups called "colonies." They live in backyards, wooded areas or just about any space where there is a source of food and shelter from bad weather. Feral cats live off of food scraps found in the garbage, small prey, or handouts from their human neighbors.

Every neighborhood in Broward County has feral cats and there are more than 300,000 feral cats living among us. A female feral cat can give birth to hundreds of kittens in her lifetime. To maintain a healthy animal community, it is important that the population of feral cats be controlled and sterilization is an excellent option available to control the feral cat population.

Through a responsible sterilization program, the number of feral cats in our community can thrive and age naturally.

But the Cats Need to Eat! So once spayed or neutered, often times the feral cat is returned to its colony to live out the rest of its natural life. And the good news is that the cat will no longer be adding to the cat population. However, these returned animals still need to eat. There are many wonderful volunteers in our community who take care of and feed these feral cat colonies so they do not starve.

When we learned that many of these volunteers were our elderly neighbors who were using their own limited, fixed incomes to care for these animals, we thought we found an area where we could help.

We came up with the idea of combining an evening of beauty with a 'foodraiser' for the feral cat colonies that have been sterilized, but still needed to eat. Thus, the Cat's Meow & Beauty Bow-Wow was born.

We combine a night of beauty and refreshments with raising awareness and food for this local problem. All we ask is that guests bring a bag of dry cat (or dog) food as admission to the event. Or guests can make a cash donation at the event that goes 100% to the animals.

Hecker Dermatology not only hosts the event, but offers discounts on most cosmetic procedures to those who are interested.

In addition, Hecker Dermatology and its corporate partners donate raffle items throughout the evening including free aesthetic products and cosmetic services such as HydraFacials, injectable facial fillers and Dysport.

Also at the event, Cat's Exclusive is available to speak with guests.

**Cat's Exclusive**

There are many local organizations that do excellent work with the feral cat population. One is Cat's Exclusive who last year we partnered with in order to raise awareness and animal food. Their mission is to stop pet overpopulation by providing affordable, high volume, quality care; spaying/neutering services; promoting adoption of pets from shelters & rescue groups; and educating the community about responsible pet ownership.

They are committed to providing the highest quality care for your pets with focus on client education. You will receive excellent service with a personal touch. Their highly trained, compassionate veterinarians and technicians are dedicated to their pet patients and clients. Their friendly staff will make you and your pet feel right at home as each pet is considered a part of their family, and is treated as such. They feel strongly that pets make our lives better, and that we have an obligation to give them the best care possible. At Hecker Dermatology Group, we agree with Cat's Exclusive that it is important to spay/neuter your pet. It saves lives and it ends suffering. To find out more about the 5th Annual Cat's Meow & Beauty Bow-Wow hosted by Hecker Dermatology Group and Cat's Exclusive, contact us at Hecker Dermatology Group, P.A.

The event is planned for **Thursday, November 8, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at our Pompano Beach office**. Please contact us to RSVP or find out more about this exciting event: **954-783-2323** or visit us on-line at: [www.HeckerDerm.com](http://www.HeckerDerm.com).

**ALL FOOD COLLECTED WILL BE SENT TO NORTH FLORIDA TO HELP THE ANIMALS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE MICHAEL!**