

June 11, 2008

# FRIENDS OF RABBITS



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## Fight for Fred: An Unbelievable Act of Cruelty

Unable to move, and covered in fur mites and maggots, left in a cardboard box on the porch suffering from emaciation and dehydration, Fred was hanging on, just barely, fighting for his life.

**"HUNDREDS of MATURE AND YOUNG BABY MAGGOTS"** quoted from Fred's medical record the night he was taken to the emergency room.

Fred came to us after a urgent call late at night from a young teenager who knew her rabbit was in serious distress and her family wasn't willing to take him to a veterinarian even though it was obvious that the rabbits was suffering for a LONG time from what was the worse case of neglect and callousness I have seen in my 14.5 years in rabbit rescue. Friends of Rabbits typically does not take in owner surrenders of rabbits, but in this case, Fred could not be left on the porch of this family to die. The family even in Fred's mortifying condition would not even pay to have him euthanized. But they clearly had funds for other niceties.

Our directors rushed to get Fred stabilized and then brought him to The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Fair Oaks at Pender Veterinary Centre at Fair Oaks about 3 AM to be told by the veterinarians that he should be euthanized. This was such a hard choice to make, as our volunteers noticed Fred's will to live and because he touched their nurturing hearts, they made the decision to try to save him. An important clue to Fred's will to live was his appetite, he ate voraciously whenever food was presented to him. After a week of veterinary care, Fred was left with a gaping hole the size of a small fist in his abdomen caused by the nest of maggots eating away at his flesh, and he suffered from and was treated for kidney failure, dehydration, ear infections, OPEN SORES, No FUR from his waist down to his feet, and a chewed ear.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Without regard to the cost of Fred's veterinary care, our directors risked paying for the veterinary bill out of their own pockets. Fred's bills have amounted so far to nearly \$2500 and we would like to raise funds to help reimburse some of the cost to these board members who already have given so much.

Click the link below to help raise funds for the future care of Fred.

<http://www.friendsofrabbits.org/donations.htm>

### HOW ARE WE HELPING:

We will fight for Fred and make sure he gets his just rights addressed. No animal should ever suffer this kind of neglect. See Fred's full story on our website by clicking the link below.

<http://www.friendsofrabbits.org/fred.htm>

## Friends of Rabbits Rescue Update

**Our organization, Friends of Rabbits, has been actively rescuing and adopting rabbits!**

Highlighting a few our of recent rescue activities:

Thanks to our fostering director Lori Sundberg, we've been rescuing rabbits from all around the area. In a mere week's time, Lori managed to find homes or find fosters to rescue 26 rabbits from the Prince George's County Animal Shelter. In addition, we have pulled about 14 rabbits from the Animal Welfare League of Arlington. Vanessa Hartman has pulled many rabbits from the Montgomery County (MoCo) Shelter and is fostering for Friends of Rabbits as well as MoCo.

To see our Rabbit Hall of Fame, click the link below.

<http://www.friendsofrabbits.org/hof.htm>

## Event Update

### PAST EVENTS

**February 17:** Successful Spa Day hosted by Friends of Rabbits held at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. The Spa Day featured many relaxed rabbits and also sparked one adoption from this shelter. Oreo, a friendly neutered male, was chosen by Dot, an adorable girl bunny, to be his friend. Click the link below to view photos from the event.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/68584033@N00/sets/72157603960792954>

**March 8:** Monkeysee.com video taping on March 8, 2008. See the final product by clicking the following link: <http://www.monkeysee.com/play/9693-how-to-care-for-your-rabbit>

### Easter Program

We got together with RabbitWise to collect rabbit supplies through our "Help a Shelter Rabbit" donation program that was featured at local veterinarians.

**Misc:** Susan just unearthed this video clip of her rabbit Speckles and herself taken several years ago: Rabbits on HSUS - Click the following link to view the video:

[http://www.hsus.org/video\\_clips/page.jsp?itemID=27259608](http://www.hsus.org/video_clips/page.jsp?itemID=27259608)

HSUS article on Rabbits at Easter: Friends of Rabbits interviewed and mentioned. Click the link below to read the article.

[http://www.hsus.org/pets/pets\\_related\\_news\\_and\\_events/think\\_adoption\\_this\\_easter\\_030708.html](http://www.hsus.org/pets/pets_related_news_and_events/think_adoption_this_easter_030708.html)

**May 4:** Earth Day Celebration at the Christ Congregational Church in Silver Spring

**May 17:** RabbitWise White Rabbit Tea Party

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Summer Party

Sunday, June 29, 2008, 4 PM to 7 PM at Connie's House

We missed our Spring Party since Susan was away much of March and all of April. So we'll have a Summer party at Connie Tjoumas' house in Ellicott City. This is a people party, so please leave your rabbits cool at home. Also Susan requests that you RSVP to her at [susan@friendsofrabbits.org](mailto:susan@friendsofrabbits.org) by **Thursday, June 26, 2008** and request directions to Connie's.

### Taking Action For Animal Conference (TAFAC)

July 19-21, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia

<http://www.takingactionforanimals.org/>

Friends of Rabbits will be exhibiting and Susan will be attending and will be available on site, but we do need extra help to staff the tables. We need 2 volunteers for each time slot:

Saturday, July 19, 2008

11 AM - 2 PM, 5 PM - 7 PM

Sunday, July 20, 2008

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM, 12 noon - 2:30 PM

### AR2008 - Animal Rights Conference 2008

Aug 14-18 at the Hilton Mark Center, in Alexandria, Virginia

<http://www.arconference.org>

Friends of Rabbits will be exhibiting at this conference. Susan will be available during the conference.

Friday, August 15, 2008

9 AM - 12 noon, 12 noon - 3 PM, 3 PM - 6 PM

Saturday, August 16, 2008

9 AM - 12 noon, 12 noon - 3 PM, 3 PM - 6 PM

Sunday, August 17, 2008

9 AM - 12 noon, 12 noon - 3 PM, 3 PM - 6 PM



## Wish List

### Wish List from our fosters and volunteers:

Cloth Towels – all sizes, condition – should be absorbent and a few holes or tears acceptable

## Notes and Bunny Hugs

**Thanks to everyone for your support.** We'll have another Spa Day and Open house soon.  
Thanks to all the donations made in memory of your loved ones-- rabbits and humans.

Visit us online at [www.friendsofrabbits.org](http://www.friendsofrabbits.org).

