

October 7, 2008

FRIENDS OF RABBITS



Address: P.O. Box 1112 | Alexandria, VA 22313 |
E-mail: info@friendsofrabbits.org

Phone: 703-627-7892
Web Site: <http://www.friendsofrabbits.org>



Susan and Christine at the Animal Rights 2008 Conference
Photo by Doris Lin

Calendar of Events

Please RSVP at events@friendsofrabbits.org and ask for directions or details

Open houses to help you with your rabbits—free nail trims and grooming. All Open Houses will be from 1 to 4 PM. Details explaining our events are on page 6.

Saturday, October 11, 2008 - 1-4pm

OPEN HOUSE at Susan Wong's house in Columbia

Marcus will be on hand to help you REPAIR you chewed electronics. We already have a chewed vacuum in waiting!!!

Saturday, October 18, 2008 (Raindate—Sunday, October 19)

[BARCStoberfest in Baltimore](#)

Friends of Rabbits will be there! Hosted by [BARCS—the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter](#)

Saturday, November 1, 2008

SPA DAY at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

Since this is a fund raiser to help the animal shelter, we recommend a \$25 donation per rabbit participating.

Saturday, November 1, 2008 7pm

The Annual Bunnacula Ball and Bash at Lana's house - Friends of Rabbits have loads of rabbit goodies there for sale. Please visit www.rabbitwise.org for details.

Saturday, November 15, 2008

Annual Fall Party - Location to be announced

Saturday, December 13, 2008 1-4pm

OPEN HOUSE at Beth Rosenfeld and Van Johnson's house in Alexandria

Sunday, February 15, 2009 1-4pm

OPEN HOUSE at Vanessa's house

Other events with groups that have helped rabbits that might interest you:

Sunday, October 12, 2008 1-5pm

[Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary](http://www.poplarspringanimalshelter.com) 11th Annual Open House and Fundraiser

Saturday, October 18, 2008 6-9pm

Farm Sanctuary Fundraiser at the Human Rights Campaign

Equality Center, 1640 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington DC

To help the pigs rescued from the Midwest flooding. More info at www.farmsanctuary.org



Adopted!
Angelo and Macy



Adopted!
Duncan and Daphne

Friends of Rabbits Update

August 9 (Saturday) Open House at Vanessa Hartman's house in Silver Spring

On August 9, we celebrated the life of Vanessa's dog that died at the age of 17 years and had our first Open House at Vanessa's new home in Silver Spring, MD. We had a wonderful day remembering Audrey and grooming many rabbits. Click [here](#) to see a YouTube video with Lana and Bubba.

Our farewell gathering for Lori Sundberg on **August 30th** brought people from all around to wish her well. We had guests from as far away as Pennsylvania and Connecticut! Lori graduated from U-Penn and is now in Germany fulfilling her Fulbright scholarship. She still had time to volunteer remotely and has been keeping up almost as if she was still here. It's amazing how the Internet brings us together.

SPA DAY at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington on **September 13** brought in crowds of rabbits as usual. Our SPA days benefit the rabbits at the respective shelters, so we're happy so many of you support this invaluable event. The Arlington Shelter spays/neuters their rabbits ahead of time making them more adoptable and "bondable" when introduced to other rabbits.

BARK in the PARK: Monica with the help of Phyllis, Ted, & Mindy were at the Bark in the Park in Southern Maryland on **Sunday, September 28**.

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BEST FRIENDS—THE Bundle of BOYS
Lucky, Fred and Buddy

House Rabbit Sanctuary Update

Fred is doing great. Dr. Godwin at Laytonsville Veterinary Practice did a great job suturing his eye after he had lacerated it. Unfortunately, Susan was over at the Emergency Clinic at Fair Oaks last week ([Pender/Eastern Exotics](#)) for a rabbit emergency, but was able to update Dr. Laur who initially treated Fred and told her of his amazing progress.

You can read his story by clicking [here](#).

Archie is being seen weekly at [SEAVS \(Stahl Exotic and Avian Animal Services\)](#). With Pam's daily nurturing and his weekly visits to SEAVS, Archie is progressing very well with his jaw abscess treatment.

Previous stories about Fred and Archie are in our last e-Newsletters and are accessible by clicking [here](#). It's amazing what "we" can do to help our rabbits.

Lucky who is seen in the photo above with Buddy and Fred was spotted with a slightly bulging eye several weeks back. Apparently, bulging eyes can be associated with a number of problems. Dr. Engels at Brookeville Animal Hospital suspected a possible tumor in his chest and sure enough, an x-ray revealed a chest tumor. We preceded with a consultation with Dr. Kalo, an oncologist at VCA Vet Referrals in Gaithersburg who consulted with Dr. Crum at SEAVS. An ultrasound guided biopsy was performed and it was determined that Lucky was very lucky not to have cancer, but the mass is composed of fat and cellular excretions. We are in the process of determining our next course of action.

And There Was Help When You Needed It!

By Claudine Stone

I feel I am very lucky to have gotten help from Friends of Rabbits. I sent out an email asking for help. I have always been able to take care of my animals. I am a healthy, young woman, but I got into a bad accident 5 months ago which left me with serious injuries. Not only that, but I had to get insurance to cover the medical costs. So I went 7 weeks without medical help. I then found out I had a severe comminuted fracture of my radial bone in my right arm, the worst of my injuries. I had major surgery immediately where they broke the bone since it healed onto the other bone. After the surgery, there was an inch missing in my radial bone with 6 screws, plates and grafts in my arm. I had a cast from my fingers to shoulder for the last 3 months, so I haven't been able to use my right arm. I was instructed to do no lifting and was terrified if I tried to groom him with my left arm, I could break his back. He is a small bunny but I am a very small human and didn't feel safe to attempt this. I am also right handed. I assumed it would heal quickly. But after 3 months post op my bunny Oliver was all in knots and my arm was still a non union. He is my little boy and we have been through a lot. He was declared unadoptable when I adopted him but my heart went out to him. He went from being a malnourished, frightened and a reclusive bunny when I took him home to a playful, athletic and extremely loving bunny. These are my only children and they bring me a lot of happiness and humor. Just he is not so cooperative with grooming. Also I was laid off my job shortly after surgery so I am financially limited. I couldn't even take him to get groomed.

Susan contacted me and came to my apartment, she was wonderful with him. She shaved him down so there were no knots left, no nicks, a fantastic job. There were more knots than I expected. Plus some urine got stuck in the fur on his back end and was scolding his skin. I had no idea! So I cannot be thankful enough that she got it in time before it got bad. He doesn't like being "naked," so he usually hides for a few hours after grooming. Mostly because Oliver is the king here (at least he thinks so anyway lol) and he feels more like the boss with his coat on. But by the next morning, he was extremely joyful to be free of his coat so he could run and jump freely again! He is incredibly happy right now. Oliver cleaned his backside and his girlfriend Sandy helped out too so that's doing well. I slept better that night knowing he was taken care of. I will have another surgery soon since the first surgery wasn't successful. I am glad that at least I have one less worry. My bunnies mean a lot to me.



Oliver before he was knotted-up



Oliver and his pal - knot-free and groomed

Community Service: Helping Rabbits in Our Community

At Friends of Rabbits, we are all volunteers and work in cooperation with you and the community.

Purpose:

To help the rabbits in our community--Primarily the rabbits endangered at the animal shelters of being euthanized. We try to help the people in our community keep and retain their rabbits. This helps to avoid burdening the community with more rabbits turned into the shelter or abandoned outside and the expense imposed to our tax-payers.

Because this is our volunteer work and not our professions, we are very busy and may need reminders to reply to your emails or to call you back, but if you have an emergency, please call or email and indicate that you are having an emergency. Wildlife and rehoming your rabbit are not emergencies that we handle. For these problems, contact your local wildlife center or animal shelter. Our interest is to help you keep your rabbit and to live a long, happy, and healthy life with him/her.

We offer various forms of support to you and your rabbit. Some examples include:

- providing free nail trimming
- finding reasonably priced bunny-sitting services
- providing mutual support and fellowship among people with rabbits with our gatherings, celebrations, open houses, SPA DAYS and special events

Here is a detailed list of our community services:

Open Houses - Bring your rabbit over for a FREE nail trim and grooming. We have some fantastic grooming tools to help you get off your stubborn mats and areas that might need special attention and cleaning. We'll get those scent glands cleaned out as well. Open Houses are held every other month on the second Saturday or Sunday. Check our web site for details.

Spa Days - Bring your rabbit in for an extra special treat. Your rabbit will be pampered with a manicure, pedicure, full service grooming and a massage by our rabbit massage therapist Aileen Hudspeth-Kennamore. For this event we have a suggested donation of \$25.

All your donations from our SPA DAYS help to support the rabbits at the animal shelters. If the shelter intends to segregate a fund specifically for the rabbits, then the shelter receives all the proceeds from the SPA DAY. This help ALL the rabbit rescue groups in the area when they rescue rabbits because the rabbit would have been spayed/neutered through these donations. Please look for SPA DAYS under the calendar of events.

Outreach - We have adoption days and education booths set up at local pet supply stores. These events bring exposure to the rabbits for adoption as well as educate many people who already have rabbits.

Special events organized by local animal shelters and humane organization open their events to rescue groups to do their outreach.

Rabbit Supplies for Sale

We offer rabbit supplies at a substantial saving compared to stores/internet and the profits all go back to helping the rabbits directly.

See our list of goodies for the rabbits by clicking [here](#).

We offer supplies for sale already at the following locations:

Susan Wong - Columbia, MD

susan@friendsofrabbits.org

Kevin Anderson - Bethesda, MD

Kevin.Anderson@marriott.com

Mikki Staab - Falls Church VA

Joe Monaco - Centreville, VA

bunrescue@juno.com

And our newest location will be open August 9, 2008 at

Vanessa Hartman - Silver Spring, MD

vanessahartman@yahoo.com

HAY!

We have lots of varieties of HAY! Not only do we carry Oxbow and American Pet Diner hay, we have lots of fresh local hay -- Timothy Hay (100%), brome, orchard grass, alfalfa and clover. Keep your bunny's diet diverse. Reserve the high calorie hays like alfalfa and clover as treat hays, but the other hays that we have opened up new interest in hay for those fussy rabbits who don't want to eat the same old same old.

Unfortunately we will no longer have the Harlan products available to us.

Wish List from Fosters and Volunteers

We are always in need of the following items:

- Storage Bins (leak-proof, not cracked)
- Cloth Towels - all sizes, condition -absorbent and a few holes or tears acceptable
- Not Too Old Computer/Laptops (please 3 years or newer)

Notes and Bunny Hugs

Again thank you all for your generosity and support.

Visit us online at www.friendsofrabbits.org.