

October 25, 2008


FRIENDS OF RABBITS



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Annual Holiday Party



Please join us for our annual holiday party at the home of Regina Spallone and Tom Hartmann. Help us celebrate another successful year of rabbit rescue and advocacy.

Saturday, November 15, 2008
6 PM to 9 PM

To RSVP and to obtain directions, please contact Susan Wong at events@friendsofrabbits.org

As usual we'll be serving a delicious vegetarian meal. We'll have rabbit supplies for sale as well as gift items.

Please consider renewing your \$20 membership for 2009 or making an end of the year donation to help us continue our work on behalf of the rabbits.

Calendar of Events

Please leave your rabbit at home for this celebration, but please bring lots of pictures and stories to tell.

Please RSVP at events@friendsofrabbits.org and ask for directions or details. See page 6 for a more detailed description.

Saturday, November 1, 2008

SPA DAY at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

Since this is a fundraiser to help the animal shelter, we suggest a \$25 donation per rabbit participating.

Saturday, November 1, 2008 7pm

The Annual Bunnacula Ball and Bash at Lana's house

Friends of Rabbits will have loads of rabbit goodies there for sale. Please visit www.rabbitwise.org for details.

Saturday, November 15, 2008 6-9pm

Annual Holiday Party – Regina & Tom's house in Silver Spring

This is our annual party celebrating our successes and accomplishments. Please join us for our fabulous vegetarian fare and fun social time with other members. We'll have a silent auction and rabbit themed jewelry. Keep your bunnies at home, but surprise your rabbits with chew toys or other goodies we'll have for sale.

Saturday, December 13, 2008 1-4pm

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

Bring your rabbit over for a free nail trim and grooming.

Sunday, February 15, 2009 1-4pm

OPEN HOUSE at Vanessa's house

Bring your rabbit over for a free nail trim and grooming.

Other events that help rabbits:

Saturday, November 15, 2008 5-9 PM

Second Annual Pins for Pets Bowling Bash at Luna's house

<http://lunashouse.org/bowlingtix.htm>

Past Events

Saturday, October 11, 2008

OPEN HOUSE at Susan Wong's house in Columbia

Thanks to Marcus for repairing the chewed cord on the vacuum. Remember to save your chewed electronic/small appliances for our next repair day. We'll keep you posted on the next time we'll repair electronics. We had numerous rabbits needing nail trims, grooming and shaves. We have some great tools to help you keep your rabbit well groomed. A number of rabbits needed some of our special shaving and grooming skills and now look marvelous. Our open houses are typically very well attended (about 35-50 rabbits needing our attention), so we recommend that if you need special attention, please contact us to make a special appointment.

Saturday, October 18, 2008

Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter --BARCStoberfest in Baltimore

We had a beautiful day and had the opportunity to share lots of information with visitors to our booth. We also had a wonderful opportunity to meet the operators of Luna's House located in Abingdon Maryland! We listed their events below in case you are interested in participating at their events.



The Friends of Rabbits booth
Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter's BARCStoberfest

Latest News

Since Friends of Rabbits has been adopting rabbits to the area over 11 years ago, we've been able to follow the rabbits as they live out their lives with their families. We've noticed that more of our older rabbits develop health problems and these special rabbits could use the support of our rabbit community.

Here's how we can be helpful to you and your rabbit:

Nebulizers and chambers are available for a small rental fee.

Pam, Karen and Susan spent an afternoon making nebulizing chambers for the rabbits a few weeks ago and we now have 4 available for all sizes of rabbits.

Shave and a hair cut!

We have some great tools to help you keep your rabbit well groomed. If your bunny is having problems with urine or stools sticking to their bottoms, we can help you keep them clean.

Special House calls

Sometimes you need an extra bit of help with your rabbit. For example, if your rabbit needs subcutaneous fluids, we can help you get through the rough times. Many of us have plenty of experience giving subcutaneous fluids and can work with you to build the confidence that you need.



Bun having fun on top of the new Oxbow Bungalow.

House Rabbit Sanctuary Update

Fred is continuing to do well and since he's adopted Lucky and Buddy as his friends, Fred will be adopted into Susan and John's clan and this will be his forever home.

We have good news and bad news about Archie. After months of intense care given by Pam Hurley and many hours each week going to the vets, Archie is on his way to recovery from his jaw abscess. Unfortunately, Archie has a suspected lump that might be cancerous.

Special Announcement

Volunteers are needed for Animal Disaster Planning in Baltimore. Baltimore City is looking for volunteers to assist with the formation of a Baltimore City Animal Response Team (BCART). For more information, contact Alexis Mitchell at BaltimoreCART@gmail.com.

Community Service: Helping Rabbits in Our Community

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

Our Mission: Rescue, Educate and Advocate

Rescue: One of our main goals is to directly 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.

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. If you have an urgent situation, please call or email and indicate that it is urgent. If you are having a medical emergency, please check our website for emergency hospitals. Wildlife and rehoming your rabbit are not emergencies that we handle. For these problems, contact your local wildlife center or animal shelter, respectively.



Our 13 year old house guest, Christopher, snuggling with his hosts Lucky and Buddy.

We do not generally take owner surrenders. Instead we take rabbits from animal shelters when they might be euthanized. We offer rabbits more time to find a permanent home. We get contacted daily from someone needing to find their rabbit a home.

Most common reason that people give up their animals:

- 1) Moving—plan ahead. Put your best effort forward as if you were planning to move with your kids.
- 2) Allergies—make sure everyone in your home is not allergic to rabbits and even hay. Hay is the major part of any rabbit's diet.
- 3) The kids aren't interested or have moved off to college. Be aware that expecting a child to care for a rabbit may be unrealistic. If your child loses interest in their toys quickly, they might lose interest in an animal that is not incorporated as part of family life. Also, once your child is a teenager, will they be more interested in the rabbit or social life.

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 for each rabbit. 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.

Education

Friends of Rabbits approaches education in many ways. We provide free care booklets and even coloring books to help educate people about rabbits. We reach out to veterinarians and keep them updated on our programs and services. We have a wonderful website as well. If you have suggestions or ideas to help us expand on our education programs, please let us know.

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.

Advocacy

Speaking up for the rabbits when they need us.

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)

Interested in Holiday Shopping?

Check out www.thebunnystore.com where they'll make donations to rescue groups when you purchase their special holiday ornaments.

Notes and Bunny Hugs

Again thank you all for your generosity and support.

Visit us online at www.friendsofrabbits.org.



Satine and Barney yawn and stretch as they start their day and exit their bunny castle.