

Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret News



Give the gift of Love this Holiday Season

The animals at BLRRFH and Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary truly appreciate your support!

BLRRFH 10th Anniversary!

Thank you for supporting our lifesaving work!
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Woodland Park Rabbit Rescue

Read about our efforts to save the lives of the
Woodland Park rabbits and what you can do to
help. Page 4



All this and more inside this issue of Rabbit , Rodent & Ferret News.

Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret News is a quarterly newsletter published by the Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House, dba House Rabbit Society. Every reasonable effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information in this newsletter, however the editors and Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House assume no responsibility for unintentional errors, omissions, and especially typos.

Our membership list is kept private. BLRRFH does not share, sell, or rent its membership list with other organizations, persons, or businesses, ever!

Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House, dba House Rabbit Society and Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization. Tax ID #91-1873550.

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Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House

14317 Lake City Way NE

Seattle, WA 98125

(206)365-9105 • www.RabbitRodentFerret.org

Wish List

You can help the animals at BLRRFH by donating much needed supplies. Below, we have listed items that we use every day and a few items we wish we had. Your gift will help us continue to provide the best care possible to the animals that rely on BLRRFH every day.

White Vinegar (*we use it by the gallons for cleaning*)

Bleach (*not Clorox, they test on rabbits*)

Paper Towels

Laundry Soap (*bulk containers*)

Towels (*primarily bath towels, but other sizes as well*)

Black garbage bags (*33 - 36 gallon bags*)

White 13 gal garbage bags

Dish Sponges

Security Cameras

MegaPixel Digital Camera (*that takes print quality photos*)

Adobe Software for Windows:

Adobe Creative Suite CS

InDesign CS

GoLive CS

Adobe Photoshop CS

Walk-in Refrigerator (*to keep veggies fresh for shelter and sanctuary rabbits*)

Baby Blankets

Rugs (*bathroom and throw rugs*)

Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret News Underwriter Needed

You can help us to educate people about small companion animals, recognize our donors and volunteers for their generosity, give the animals in our shelter much needed exposure so they can find permanent loving homes and ensure more of each membership dollar goes to direct care. All of our design work, collating, folding and mail prep is done by volunteers making our publication relatively inexpensive, but we must incur the expense of printing and postage. If you are interested in underwriting our newsletter, please contact Sandi at (206) 365-9105 or Sandi@RabbitRodentFerret.org. Thank you!

You can now subscribe to our newsletter on the web!

Providing our newsletter on-line will save us printing and postage costs and you can read your newsletter the instant it is published.

If you are already a paid member, and would like to receive your newsletter on the web, just send an e-mail message to **Newsletter@RabbitRodentFerret.org** with the subject line "I'd like to receive my newsletter on-line." Be sure to include your name and address. If you're not yet a member, you can join with a \$15 membership fee via Pay Pal on our web site or just send your e-mail address with a note "I'd like to receive my newsletter on-line" and your check in the amount of \$15 to: Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House, 14317 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Your membership and donation dollars help support our rescued rabbits, rodents and ferrets. Please help us help the animals.

BLRRFH's 10th Anniversary!

March 18, 2006 will be our 10th Anniversary as Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House (BLRRFH). We were previously known as the Washington House Rabbit Society, until we began welcoming rodents and ferrets into our shelter family. BLRRFH opened in 1996, with hopes that we'd be able to support a lot of our shelter expenses by selling products, offering boarding services for our customers' animals, and providing grooming services for our furry friends. Thankfully, you, our customers, utilized our services. Most of all, you gave generous donations to help the animals and volunteered valuable time. Without your donations and support, we would not have made it to our 10th anniversary.

It's been an eventful 10 years as you can imagine. Apart from the completed rescues we've been involved with, I'm most amazed—and proud—of the fact that we managed to care for the over 3000 rescued animals that came through our door. The rescues arrived in all conditions: including abused, injured, ill, found feral, or dumped. A large number were released to us by local shelters. It has always been our mission to give each animal a second chance to a safe and loving home.

I like to think of the happy endings and many come to mind. There was the phone call I received from the Seattle Police Department to rescue 86 guinea

pigs—many of them pregnant—running havoc in filthy conditions in a West Seattle home. I was down on my hands and (bad) knees in an inch of guinea feces trying to catch those speedy little guys. Fortunately,

we eventually found good homes for all of them. There was the late

night call from the Lynnwood Police Department asking if we'd take 27 rats who were abandoned by a woman in a Lynnwood parking lot because a pet store wouldn't buy them from her. The policeman had driven around for hours with the caged rats in his car looking for a shelter that would take them. We found homes for most, while the remainder who were ill will live out their lives with us. Then, there was Noah, a very friendly rabbit who was found injured on a golf course after someone had hit him in the face with a golf

club, leaving him blind in both eyes and with a fractured skull. A compassionate person found Noah and took him to a heroic vet in Tacoma. The vet voluntarily cared for Noah for three weeks then she called us to find him a home. I'm proud to say, he's now part of a great family! Today, Noah lives a beautiful life in Yakima with two other rabbit friends. There was the rescue of 650 rabbits who were about to be bulldozed at a site in Redmond. I am happy to say that over 100 of the rabbits were adopted into loving homes, while a large number of them—eight years later—reside in safe living conditions at our Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary. We took-in over 160 rabbits from a large



rescue effort at a site in Wenatchee, WA, that was a popular rabbit dumping area. They now reside in a predator-free environment at the sanctuary.

Among some more memorable adoptions:

Lola, a rabbit who was found with a bullet in one front leg, and the other leg that was in such bad shape

it had to be amputated. The bullet was removed. Today, Lola runs around her newly adopted home moving as if she had all four legs. Ollie is a deaf ferret who came to us with minimal vision and internal injuries. His disabilities didn't stop him. He's doing great with his new foster mom and dad. Muffin, a



*Noah (right) and his friend Lucy
enjoy the sun their play-yard*

very small rabbit came to us after being swung by her front legs by a child. Both legs were broken and after many vet visits and months of healing, Muffin went to her new home which she shares with another rabbit.

And, Madeline,

an opinionated rabbit who came to us with a broken back rendering her to be immobile and unable to urinate on her own. We thought she'd be a permanent resident of the shelter because of her condition. We were wrong! She was adopted into a great home! I can go on and on with these stories...

We know that each animal who comes through our doors has potential to be the most adoptable and loving companions as many have proven to be. Our job is to give each one a chance to go to a good home with a loving family, or reside in a safe environment such as the Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary. Unfortunately, there are so many animals and still so much more to do.

Among all of the events that we continue to be involved in, we still do our best to maintain our shelter full of animals, publish the shelter newsletter, answer questions and advise people with animal problems, and maintain BLRRFH's website (www.RabbitRodentFerret.org). To date, Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary has over 300 rabbits who are cared for by an incredibly dedicated crew of volunteers who show up each weekend. We are

Cont'd on page 11



Woodland Park Project

By Sandi

I was first introduced to the rabbits of Woodland Park in 1990, when Dr. Barbara Deeb took me to the area of the park known as "The Rocks."

It was a beautiful Seattle day with many park goers also there. We watched some of the rabbits jump around on the boulders and vanish into the warrens dug into the dirt between them. Others were at the base of the rocks, being fed a poor and even dangerous diet of bread along with a few high sugar carrots. Some rabbits had torn ears from fights. There were obvious abscesses. Some were limping. There were rabbits jumping over one another and kicking with their back legs as they did so. The people watching them jump & kick, thought the rabbits were playing with each other and they were laughing and enjoying watching. In reality the rabbits were attempting to injure each other with kicks from their powerful back legs. I felt like crying.

As Dr. Deeb and I watched, we saw one rabbit who couldn't keep his balance, he would try to jump from one rock to another, but would stumble and fall over. He'd get up and try again and eventually made it to another rock. Dr. Deeb was curious and wondered what was causing this neurological problem in his brain. While I had silently decided to come back later

when there weren't so many people around and try to catch him. Knowing now, what we both learned a lot about over the years, this rabbit probably had *Baylissascaris* sp, a parasite that around 90% of all raccoons carry. The goal of this parasite is to get into any animals brain, where it feeds and grows, until the host dies. When I went back to the park the next morning, I found the rabbit. He was dead. Unable to run he had been mauled by an off leash dog.

For the past 15 years, I've been trying at various times, to talk the Parks Dept. into letting us trap and relocate these rabbits. At other times I simply avoided the Park so I could keep this sad situation out of my mind.

Earlier, this year the Parks Dept. contacted our organization to help them to relocate the rabbits. Because Seattle had an unusually warm winter last year, and because many more people are coming with

food to feed the rabbits, the rabbit population exploded into numbers estimated to be close to 1,000 rabbits. There has been so much damage to the trees. Rabbits dig warrens then off-leash dogs chase and try to dig the rabbits out of their warrens. These huge holes cause hazards to park goers and damage to tree roots.

It has taken months of meetings and the forming of the Woodland Park Rabbit Coalition (Seattle City Parks Dept., Seattle Animal Shelter, King County Dept. of Health and Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House) to finally establish a date of January 2006 to begin the relocation of the Woodland Park and Greenlake rabbits to Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary.

Of course, even this large committee can not accomplish this program without your help.

We need volunteers for up to 3 months beginning in January 2006. Send an e-mail to Volunteer@WoodlandParkRabbits.org or phone 425-220-2320 if you can help with any of the following:

- Contact grocery stores and pick up veggies.
- Volunteer to train shift supervisors.
- Volunteer shift cleaning/feeding supervisors.
- Coordinate surgeries with veterinarians and schedule transportation.
- Volunteers to care for the rabbits each day.

We are asking for a volunteer commitment of 1 day a week for a minimum of 4 weeks.



We also need donations: (We are estimating that it will cost close to \$100 per rabbit to complete this relocation, if there are only 100 rabbits in January, that will be \$10,000; 200 rabbits would require \$20,000 and then there's the cost to support these rabbits for the rest of their lives at Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary) Spay/neuter surgeries (Generous veterinarians* are charging only 1/2 their usual spay/neuter fee and are donating a few surgeries, to help us accomplish this relocation.) Medications to eliminate the many parasites

the rabbits have (a 3 week treatment is required.)

Stacking cages will need to be purchased. Cages need to be identical for safe stacking, so used cages will not work. We can purchase cages for 1/2 price from Quality Cage in Portland. Pellets & hay and other

supplies will be needed for their 3 week minimum stay.

The Woodland Park Rabbit Coalition has decided to have our organization collect donations and distribute funds required for this project. You can go to www.WoodlandParkRabbits.org to donate via Pay Pal.

You can phone us (206-365-9105) with a MasterCard or Visa donation. Or you can mail a check to: Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House (BLRRFH) PO Box 27308, Seattle, WA 98165.

Please specify that your donation is for the Woodland Park Rabbits Fund.



Give Your Companions a Gift of Veterinary Care (Old age is not a disease.)

We are surprised at how many times we hear that a companion animal has died due to "old age," when in fact, the animal had not nearly reached his full lifespan. Most often what this translates into is that the person did not take their companion to the vet, but instead decided to do nothing, and then their companion died from lack of veterinary care. We frequently discover that "old age" for their pet may have been only a fraction of their potential lifespan. No one says, "She died of middle age."

Animals, of course, do die of age related diseases. For example, hearts may begin to fail, which might cause fluid to build up in the abdominal cavity. But when the diseases are discovered early enough, there are medications your vet

can prescribe that may help to maintain your companion's quality of life for a long time. If left untreated the chance of death is very high as it may be too late for medications to work. You and your veterinarian can discuss euthanasia* at that time, but doing nothing would mean your long time companion will suffer while dying from "old age."

Your pet should be taken to a veterinarian, regardless of their age if any of the following occur: Lack of appetite; seizure; stroke (a stroke can be seen as one side of the face appearing to be drawn up or one side very slack); lethargy (sitting in one position and not wanting to move; and of course any limping could be due to broken bones.

Rabbits, rodents and guinea pigs who stop eating, do so primarily (but not only) as a result of pain**. As prey animals they are exceptional at hiding their symptoms of illness—even to humans, so by the time you notice a problem it may have been going on for some

time. Ferrets who stop eating, will lose weight rapidly and their situation can become dire within a short time.

The important thing to keep in mind is that rabbits, rodents and ferrets are not the same as a cat, dog, or a human being. When a problem occurs, you cannot wait to see if it goes away on its own. You must react immediately as the gift of veterinary attention may mean reversing a death sentence for your companion.

** Euthanasia is a humane death done by a veterinarian. There is a mistaken belief established by animal breeders, that you can provide a "humane" death at home. Nothing could be further from the truth. All of these "home remedies" are cruel and a terrible way to end your companions life.*

*** Pain can be from any number of problems. To name just a few: gas, molar spurs, GI stasis (gut stops moving), kidney failure, heart failure, broken bones & abscesses.*



Dr.
Barbara
Deeb

Memorial Veterinary Fund

After a conversation with Dr. Deeb's husband we had announced, at her memorial service, the formation of a Veterinary Scholarship fund in her memory. However after further consideration, her husband, who is in the research field, felt he preferred to support something in veterinary research and so we have had to stop and change direction.

Instead what we have established is the Barbara Deeb Veterinary Fund. Dr. Deeb was a compassionate person and doctor and wanted all creatures to be able to obtain necessary veterinary care. She knew that the prices her practice charged were much lower than other clinics in our area. She had a wide client base, from

people who would have paid much higher prices, to those who had trouble paying even her lower prices to care for their companion. Clients came from as far away as Eastern Washington, some as far south as Olympia and north to Bellingham. They didn't come for her prices, but because of her expertise and her compassion.

I hope Dr. Deeb won't mind me saying now, that she was a major contributor to our shelter animals, both in volunteering her time and also in monthly donations. Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House will be celebrating our 10th Anniversary in 2006 and without Dr. Deeb's help we would have found it much more difficult to continue to be here to help thousands of rabbits, rodents & ferrets who have been through our shelter.

We have established is a fund to be used only for veterinary care. Initially this will be used for the shelter animals, but as the fund grows, we hope that we will be able to open a spay/neuter clinic. Often being spayed or neutered means the difference between someone keeping their pet or turning them into a shelter.

Are you someone who's pet Dr. Deeb helped throughout the years; or you are a veterinarian who helped your own client's pets by the papers that she published or

the books she helped write or who were helped by consulting with her on the phone? Or do you just want to feel good about providing veterinary care for a needy animal. If so, will you contribute to this fund in her memory? In addition to money, we will need to furnish a small clinic. If you have a veterinary clinic, are you upgrading your equipment for a newer model? Please consider donating your unused medical equipment to us.

You can go to her web page to contribute to this fund and to obtain further details about her life.
www.BarbaraDeeb.org

November 9th was the 6 month anniversary of Dr. Deeb's passing. Although many of her clients came to the shelter to talk about her, tell stories and commiserate over her loss, only a few submitted memories to share for the newsletter:

What we'll do instead is to set up a page on her web site, letting you know how to submit brief examples of how she helped your companion so that others can learn about her compassion and expertise.

Spotlight on Tolstoy

Tolstoy was originally purchased from a PETCO on an impulse. But his family quickly lost interest in him once the excitement of his newness had worn off, and they realized the responsibility of caring for a ferret.

Tolstoy was all but forgotten - locked away in a tiny, dirty cage with no space to move, and no toys or love. When he was rescued in the heat of July, he had been left alone in his cage for days without food and little water. Thanks to the special people at BLRRFH, he was given a second chance.

Despite his tragic beginnings Tolstoy is full of joy. He is sweet and gentle with people. He LOVES to play - with people, toys, and cardboard paper rolls. He is also very curious and playful with cats. When Tolstoy is not playing or exploring his surroundings, he enjoys cuddling in warm laps or snuggling in soft blankets.

He is currently waiting at BLRRFH for a new family to spend the rest of his life with.



Adoption Spotlights



Dozer

Dozer was born approximately Feb 2005. She's a large girl at 13 pounds. She loves attention, but hates being in a cage. She would need a 4' high exercise pen to house her comfortably and keep her contained. If you have enough time to give her the attention she craves, Dozer could just be the bunny companion of your dreams.



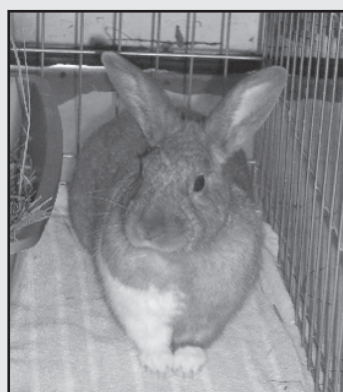
Dexter

Dexter is a gorgeous silver coated ferret, born around June of 2003. He is very sweet and can get quite excited when he gets a little human affection. This shelter is Dexter's fourth home. Can you please give Dexter the permanent, loving home he deserves?



Monk and Captain

Monk and Captain are degus who are around 2 years old. They traveled to us from the Wenatchee Humane Valley Society. Monk and Captain are very inquisitive and friendly. If you sit with them in an enclosed area, they will climb all over you as part of their daily exercise. They will make very entertaining companions to their adoptive family.



Fiver

Fiver has been with us since he was born - May 2, 2004. His mom and all of his litter mates were adopted. Fiver is a shy rabbit who loves to be petted when you sit with him, do you have a girl bunny who is looking for a nice guy?



Mr. Fantastic.

Mr. Fantastic was born in early 2004. He is one of the last two of the 55 guinea pigs we rescued from a California collector. He's been here a long time and is ready to find a girl friend to spend time with. His name says it all, he is truly fantastic.



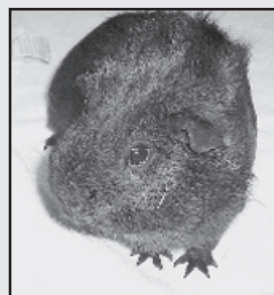
Violet

Violet, who was born around June of '04 is a playful little dark sable who likes to give the guys in a cage a run for their money! Violet is very energetic and loves playing in water and rolling around in the puzzle box with ferret friends.



Sno and Ball

Sno and Ball were born July 2005. They are very energetic youngsters who will require constant supervision. Sno and Ball love to run and do bunny dances to entertain both you and themselves.



Hawkeye

Haykeye, who was born in September '03, was used to living next to other guinea pigs, but he'd now like to find a girl friend of his own.

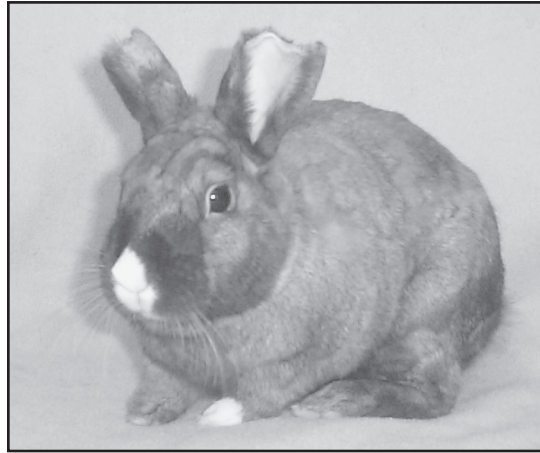
THE NEW MAN IN MY LIFE: MY BELOVED RABBIT "FOOTNOTE"

By Mary Lawson

Many Best Little Rabbit Rodent & Ferret House customers know me as "the woman with the mouse on her shoulder." Until recently, our household did not include rabbits, but that has now changed thanks to BLRRFH's continuing rescue efforts.

In October, I took a call about a rabbit at the King County shelter whose ears had been chewed, and could BLRRFH take him. After checking to see if we could house another rabbit, I arranged to pick him up and bring him to the shelter. He seemed like a nice rabbit, but then I've seen

many wonderful rabbits at BLRRFH. His intake examination concluded that he was neutered, and that his ears had not been chewed but had been deliberately cut off! I didn't pay too much attention to him after that, knowing that, like all the animals at BLRRFH, he would be well-cared for and put up for adoption. I did, however, name him. As I looked at him, I seemed to focus on his one white foot and the white on his nose. Somehow "foot" and "nose" became "Footnote."



A few weeks passed when one night as I was closing up the shop for the night I looked at Footnote and we "connected." He ran around his cage a few times, hopped into his litter box, and looked at me as if to say, "take me home with you." I applied to adopt him, and there began my love story with rabbits. (Somehow one rabbit became two. And now Footnote, and his gorgeous lady rabbit friend "Honey" have become an extremely happy couple!)

Having the Best Little Rabbit Rodent & Ferret House in the Seattle area is a true blessing. Hundreds of small animals are taken in every year from situations where they would otherwise have no chance for a good life. These little ones are cared for, both medically and physically, but adoption fees do not begin to cover expenses. If you want to make a positive difference this year, become a monthly sponsor; volunteer your time to help at the Seattle shelter or at the Redmond Sanctuary, or both!

How You Can Help

Become a Member

When you become a member of BLRRFH or HRS, you are helping to support our rescue efforts. You are helping to provide spay/neuter, vaccinations, surgery, lab costs, medication, food, shelter, toys, litter and everything else that is needed to ensure quality care of the animals at BLRRFH and at Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary. You are also helping the rabbits, rodents and ferrets find permanent loving homes.

Your membership will include:

- **Our quarterly newsletter:**
Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret News
- **Membership card**
- **5% discount on merchandise**
when you visit our shelter

Become a BLRRFH

Constant Companion

Become a constant companion to the animals with an automatic monthly credit card donation. Your monthly donation will provide a dependable source of income so we can continue to do our lifesaving work.

Sponsor an Animal

Sponsoring a rabbit, rodent or ferret in our shelter will help us pay for the much needed supplies, medical care and food that is required to care for them. You can choose to sponsor an individual animal in the shelter or a particular species. Your sponsorship will include a color photo

of your sponsored animal, a photo frame magnet and a short biography. The minimum sponsorship is \$40 a year. You can pay for your sponsorship with a 1 time donation or with a monthly automatic credit card donation.

We rely entirely on donations and could not provide the high quality care for the animals at our shelter and sanctuary without the generosity of people like you. Thank you for your support!



SPOTLIGHT ON BUCKEROO

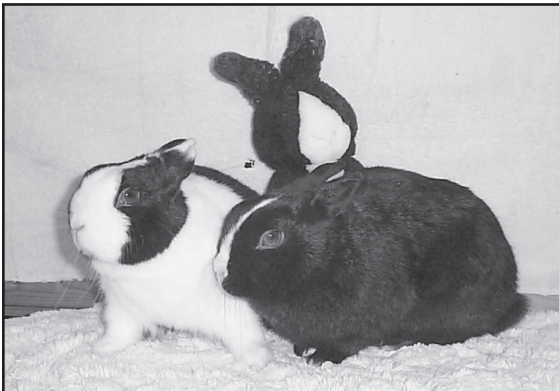
Meet this handsome, awfully sweet, neutered guinea pig boy! Buckeroo came to the Best Little Rabbit Rodent & Ferret House from California in October 2004 along with 55 other guinea pigs. His story is one of the many small animals who get the chance for a great life because of

BLRRFH's help. Buckeroo is still under 2 years old, and he has lived with spayed girls. Though he's alone now, he would be ecstatic to share life with a lonesome guinea pig girl who is spayed. Buckeroo's hairstyle is Abyssinian mix with just a touch of Peruvian, and his eyes are a dashing red. He has lots of personality and can be quite vocal when it comes to fresh greens headed his way! The adoption fee for this wonderful fellow is \$45.00, which includes the cost of neuter surgery.

SPOTLIGHT ON TOM and DICK

Say hello to gerbils Tom and Dick! They are a terrific two-some who are about 1½ years old. The boys like their dust bath, a private and cozy place to sleep during the day, and things to chew on. Gerbils like Tom and Dick can be wonderful companions for people who understand and respect their nocturnal lifestyle. The boys are intelligent and curious, and they must wear watches because they know exactly what time to expect meals! The adoption fee for this super pair of gerbils is \$20.00.

Thanks to being rescued and cared for by Best Little Rabbit Rodent & Ferret House, Tom and Dick are among the small animals who are available for adoption there. BLRRFH is a one-of-a-kind shelter in that it takes in animals who otherwise wouldn't have much of a future. You can join BLRRFH's efforts by becoming a monthly sponsor, volunteering your time at the Seattle shelter at the Redmond Sanctuary, or both!



Happy Ending, New Beginning

Nancy loved her stuffed bunny during her time at BLRRFH. She would carry it around and have her way with it. Now that she is adopted, she has the best of two worlds. Her new friend is Mocha and her stuffed bunny friend is taking a back seat.

Help the animals, become a Volunteer!



We could not do our lifesaving work without dedicated volunteers who donate their time and expertise. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please stop by our shelter, e-mail us at Info@RabbitRodentFerret.org, or call us at (206) 365-9105. Thank you!

We currently need volunteers for:

Data Entry, *bookkeeping, incoming animals, etc.*

Shelter Cleaning, *help is always needed (we need someone who can clean and mop floors once a week)*

Fold/Staple Newsletters

E-Bay, *manage an E-bay auction for us*

Window, Parking Lot Cleaning

Trim Rabbit Nails

Trim Guinea Pig Nails

Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary, *cleaning every 2 months*

Distribute Brochures, *to veterinary clinics*

Prepare and Hand Out Veggies, *2 1/2 hour a week commitment*

Clean Rodent Cages, *once a week*

Thank You!

Your generosity enables us to save and improve the lives of countless rabbits, rodents and ferrets. We would also like to thank our volunteers and supporters who have contributed much needed funds, time for a variety of tasks and projects and the items we use every day. Thank you for being there!

All of our wonderful and dedicated volunteers and supporters

Bryan Alford, *in honor of Rebecca Donley*

Matt Andrews

Anonymous Donor, *to help guinea pigs*

Anonymous Donor(s)

Pat and Tim Bailey, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Alisa and Edward Brooks, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Mary Busam, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Candice Bush

Claudia Cammers

Myra Carson

Alan and Janan Carter, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Barbara Chateaubriand

Lorna Chin, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Edward Clark, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Linda Cuneo, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Jan Davidson

Karen Elkin

Jennifer Gilman

Lynne Greenup, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Paula Grieb

Brian and Lorie Groth

David and Pat Gustafson

Peggy Hanson, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Rick and Leanne Hawkins

Onee Hedeon

Ellen Hein

Brandy Ian

David Johnson, *in memory of Sundae*

Anna Kasikova

Susan Kobashigawa, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Shawn Larsen

Robbin Lawson

Arthur Lofton and

Gregory Perez, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Katherine Lowrey

Mary MacDonald, *in memory of Dr. Deeb to help ratties*

Dean and Gerri Margell, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Joan Marsh

Chris and Teresa

McGilvery, *in honor of Michayla Hemen's birthday*

Tania Means

Misletoe, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Di Morgan, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Megan Odegard, *for the ferrets*

Jon Orion

Judy Philippi, *in honor of Michayla Hemen's birthday*

Rattie Rascals Rattery, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

John Riess, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Regina Rittinger

Laura Rivendell

Alice Ruby

Stacey and Tony Ryder

Terry and Jennie Savery, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

James and Pamela Seaver

David and Sarah Scoringe, *in honor of Michayla Hemen's birthday*

Kimberly Scott

Isis Shah, *collected donations for us for Thanksgiving*

Sara Shepherd and Amer Hassan, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Veronica Skeels

Devin and Shellie Stockfish, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Kathy Swingle

Emiko Tajima

Roseann Taylor

Paul Terry Donna Timmerman, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Dana and Maia

Tomlinson

Di Tran

Kathy West, *in memory of Dr. Deeb*

Kathy West

Randy and Harriett Wheeler, *in memory of Thump Wheeler*

Animal Sponsors

Brandy Ian

Lisa Marsh

Alice Ruby

Veronica Skeels

Roseann Taylor

Randy and Harriett Wheeler

Mitzy Willbanks

Woodland Park Rabbit Rescue

Molly Aasten

Margaret Barham

Vidette Buchman

Sharon Dolan

Bonnie Douglas

Janice and Stephen Gale

Harriet Gruhn

Phyllis Harper

Karen Langlois

Nancy and Paul Norling

Karen Omahen

Kathryn Sansone

Scott and Lisqa Schalon

Megan Spielbusch

Carol Widrig

In-Kind Gifts and Special Thanks

Dean Margell, *for donating a USB Zip Drive*; Jill Tamane, *for donating a copy of Adobe Go Live CS*; Allison Brown, *for donating a copy of Adobe In Design CS*; Jeff Klima, *for procuring a vehicle donation for BLRRFH and fixing it up so it runs in perfect condition*; Richard Martin, *for donating a '92 Ford Explorer*; Gayle Schneider, *for Sunday veggies and supplies*.



In Loving Memory of our animal friends...

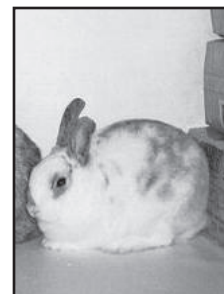
Rabbits: Abby, Callie, Chinbunny, Kramer, Lippy, Pippin, Slice and Zatoichi Ferrets: Crystal, Mandy, Pip, Slick and Tiburon
Rats: Burt



Burt



Callie (right) with her friend Lola



Pippin

BLRRFH's 10th Anniversary! Cont'd from page 3

currently involved in a rescue of rabbits at Seattle's Woodland Park and Green Lake area. There is an estimated 200 – 600 domestic rabbits living at that site and causing major damage to the city's plants and trees. BLRRFH is working with the Seattle Parks Department and Seattle Animal Shelter to relocate these rabbits to the Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary by early next year.

As for our future plans aside from staying alive for another 10 years, we would like to open a thrift store in the rear of our building run by volunteers. The funds made there would go directly to the animals. If you're interested in helping with this project, please contact Mary Lawson at cavycompanions@aol.com. We also need help with grant writing, fundraising and distributing flyers at vet offices to promote our adoption services. As I mentioned, humans are a great value to our shelter, and we need as much help as we can get because our job is far from being finished.

The Best Little Rabbit, Rodent, & Ferret House is a small organization helping small animals. We are not subsidized by any government agencies. Our funds come solely from your donations and the income received from sales of our products and services. BLRRFH relies very heavily on your donations, since the majority go to vet bills it could mean a surgical procedure for an animal, or not.

Before I go on, one thing people are curious about is my salary from BLRRFH, so please indulge me for a sentence or two. I started BLRRFH with my "retirement fund" which I closed out (taking a 10% penalty) in order to start and run the shelter for a couple of years. I'm now ancient enough to be on Social Security which is currently supporting me. So, I'm one of the unpaid volunteers here. (Our books are always open to show where

our money came from and where it went, please ask if you wish to inquire.)

Our paid staff is small in number (1 full-time, and 6 part-time), who have a lot of work to accomplish. We rely constantly on the energy and compassion of caring volunteers to help our staff with tasks from cleaning cages to fostering animals. Over the years our volunteers have been more valuable than we can even express.



Tiki and her adopted human, CB.

While we're on that topic, I wish to thank all of you who have helped us at the shelter and at the sanctuary over the years! Each person made a huge difference for us and the animals we care for.

We don't just help animals here at the shelter. The BLRRFH staff also takes care of our human clients and shares our knowledge of rabbits,

rodents and ferrets. As you can imagine, after 10 years our shelter residents have taught us a lot and we're more than willing to share what we've learned.

Despite our small size, we have big ambition. One important thing that keeps us going is our mission to find homes for our shelter residents. Look over the list of rescues we've done over the 10 years. It's quite impressive, thanks to all of you who have opened your homes to an adopted friend. Our animal shelter cannot run without human help—your help. Rescues:

Following a couple of computer disasters, the following is a pretty accurate count of the rescues we've done in the past.

- 1 duprasie
- 2 cats
- 2 degus
- 2 sugar gliders
- 19 prairie dogs
- 21 chinchillas
- 31 mice
- 58 gerbils

- 56 hedgehogs
- 68 hamsters
- 378 ferrets
- 494 guinea pigs
- 546 rabbits
- 410 rats
- 1050 feral rabbits
- 3138 Total 1996-2005

Now comes the hard part. We truly need your help to stay afloat. There have been several disasters since 9/11 that many, many people have responded to. Money has gone to charities supporting humans in dire need of help and that was both necessary and a great thing to support. But, as a result, there has been very few dollars directed towards animals and it's hitting us smaller rescuers quite hard and the animals are affected the most. We've also suffered a major loss of our own, the passing of our beloved Dr. Deeb. We know many of you were her clients and feel the same loss. She contributed immensely to the daily health care of BLRRFH's residents. Her loss was devastating to us. She saved the lives of many of our shelter residents.

We need your continued support. As a small organization, the impact is huge when donations subside especially since it affects the animals' health care. If you can't make a donation, please volunteer a few hours of your time at the shelter or the sanctuary. How about volunteering to foster an animal? The rewards will last a long time. Any help

you can offer is twice as helpful to us. Help us celebrate another 10 years. Come by and visit BLRRFH and see what we're about. Tell us how you can help.

Thank you!





Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House

14317 Lake City Way NE
Seattle, WA 98125

Whether you are looking for the perfect gift for an animal lover or creating a lasting memory to a companion animal in your life, BLRRFH has two exciting and unique opportunities for you.

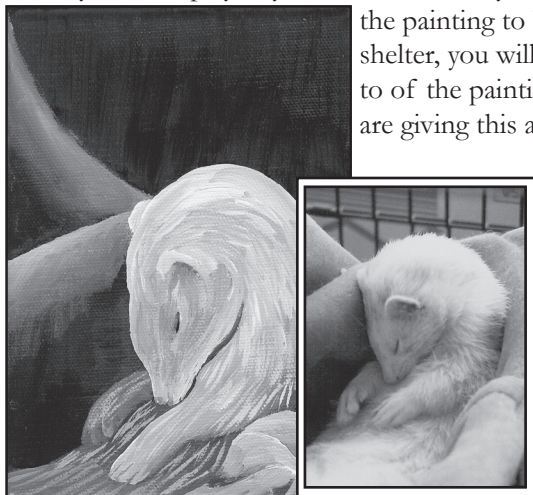
We have partnered with Marnie Tyson of Windgypsy Designs to offer hand painted portraits and portrait quilts of your companion animals.

A Lasting Tribute Portraits

Windgypsy Designs will paint a 5" x 7" portrait on canvas of a companion animal from one of your photos. The portraits can either be hung in our shelter as a lasting tribute to your animal while bringing our shelter walls alive with a testament to all that our small companions bring to our lives or for you to display in your own home. If you choose for

the painting to be hung in our shelter, you will receive a photo of the painting or if you are giving this as a gift, we will

send a card and photo to the recipient. Portraits are \$50.00 and proceeds benefit the animals at BLRRFH.



Portrait of Goldie the ferret napping

A Lasting Tribute Portrait Quilts

Windgypsy Designs will create a beautiful hand sewn quilt from a photo of an animal who is special to you. A portion of the proceeds from each quilt will benefit the animals at BLRRFH. Kathy Smith who commissioned the quilt below wrote "Marnie Tyson's fabric art has made a wonderful addition to 'The Murray Gallery.'" The exquisite detail of King Murray's quilt makes it a fitting tribute to the memory of His Royal Highness." Please contact Marnie at Marnie@WindGypsyDesigns.com for more information on ordering a quilt.



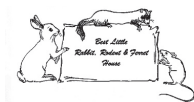
Quilt of King Murray

The Best Little Rabbit, Rodent and Ferret House and Rabbit Meadows Sanctuary depend on the generosity of people like you.

Your gift will help ensure the continued high quality care and shelter we provide to the small companion animals who rely on us every day. You are also enabling us to do the important work of educating the public about the needs of rabbits, rodents and ferrets - making the world a happier and safer place for them to live.

Your support is crucial to animals like Noah, a rabbit who was found on a golf course after being hit with a club. His injuries were so severe that they required he have both of his eyes removed - fortunately, BLRRFH was able to provide him with veterinary care, shelter and a lot of attention. After becoming quite the star at our shelter, due to his very loving personality, Noah was eventually able to be adopted into a loving and permanent home and enjoying his new life. Without the expertise and compassion of BLRRFH, Noah would have had very few options and likely been euthanized.

On behalf of all the animals and people at BLRRFH, thank you for your support!



Yes, I want to help the animals at the
Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House!



- ___ Yes, I would like to become a member of
 ___ BLRRFH \$15 (1 year membership)
 ___ National HRS \$18 (1 year membership)
 ___ Both \$31 (a \$2 savings for a 1 year membership)

___ I would like to give a BLRRFH membership to a friend/family member. Please enclose the name and address of the gift recipient separately.

___ I would like to order 'A Lasting Tribute' portrait for \$50, I have filled out the form on the top of this page and enclosed a photo.

___ I have enclosed my company's matching gift form.

___ Yes, I would like to Sponsor an Animal (\$40 a year minimum for sponsorship)

___ Rabbit ___ Ferret ___ Guinea Pig
 ___ Rodent (_____)

___ Yes, I would like to contribute to the Dr. Barbara Deeb Memorial Veterinary Fund with my gift of \$_____

___ Yes, I would like to help the Woodland Park Rabbits with my gift of \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I would like to receive my newsletter ___ on-line ___ in the mail.

Please mail form to: **Best Little Rabbit, Rodent & Ferret House**
 14317 Lake City Way NE
 Seattle, WA 98125

A Lasting Tribute Portrait Order Form



☐ Photo is enclosed

Name of Animal _____

Inscription for under portrait (if any, 15 words or less please)

☐ This is a gift, please send acknowledgment card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

** If ordering more than 1 portrait, please include details on a separate piece of paper*

** Please fill out your information on the bottom of this page.*

I have enclosed my gift of \$_____ to help the animals.

___ I have enclosed my check payable to BLRRFH or HRS

___ M/C ___ Visa

Gift Amount \$_____

Please enroll me as a BLRRFH Constant Companion and charge my credit card \$_____ monthly.

Expires ____/____ Signature _____

Thank You!