

Three Rivers Ferret Council
Mini-Newsletter
December 2010



Next Meeting:

Sunday, December 12, 2010*

- 1:00 Socialize & eat
- 1:30 Store opens
- 2:00 Meeting starts: business & reports
- 3:30 Wrap up and raffle; store closes
- 4:00 Meeting ends

**DECEMBER 12th MEETING:
FERRET GIFT EXCHANGE, SHELTER GIFT
BOXES & HOLIDAY PARTY**

Gift Exchange: Ferrets bring gifts for each other to be distributed by Santa (valued roughly \$10 each). Gifts should be pre-wrapped, but paper will be available for those last minute purchases.

Shelter Gift Boxes: An annual tradition for 10 years now! Bring gifts to be donated to shelters across the country for the holidays. Suggestions on what to bring include: bedding, toys, treats, supplements, syringes, gift cards. Please keep in mind that we are shipping the boxes (no heavy items please). We will then wrap & distribute the gifts donated to send to shelters across the country for the holidays. Shelters will be picked from those listed on the Ferret Giving Tree.

Holiday Party: Food and drink are plentiful as always. The party is a great way to unwind during the stressful Holiday season. Please bring something small to share with the group. Drinks and silverware are provided.

****Please note date change to give ample time for shipping of gift boxes to the shelters.**

As always, the Pampered Fuzzy Store will be set-up, along with a small merchandise raffle.

FERRET CLUB MEETINGS

Now is the time for all good ferret owners to come socialize! One of the big advantages of being involved with the TRFC and coming to meetings is that you get to meet other like-minded ferret owners. These are people who will not look at you like you're crazy if you want to talk about what your fer-

ret did yesterday!

Also, you will have access to the most current information in ferret care, be able to make contact with people who can ferret sit, you can trade advice and stories, buy good ferret stuff, and basically have fun.

Meeting lunches are potluck style; the club provides drinks and tableware, attendees bring something to share. If you need ideas on what to bring, ask Barb at bcarlson@andrew.cmu.edu

TRFC PAMPERED FUZZY STORE
<http://www.3rfc.org/menu.htm>

Our store is always open for shopping on the web and you can stop by the shelter if you need to purchase something between meetings. If you live locally and buy from the web, Chris will do her best to deliver the items to you at no extra charge (instead of having them shipped).

Please continue to support the TRFC by purchasing products through the club rather than at pet stores and other internet sites. Our web store has been updated with new prices and items, and new items are being added as they go on the market. The small profit generated by the Pampered Fuzzy Store is what keeps the TRFC in business with its mailings, postage, meeting space rental fees, educational literature, Holiday Gift Box mailing, etc.

Remember, we are a 501(c)3 nonprofit and none of our volunteers or board members are paid; we do this on our own time for you and your fuzzies!

MAILINGS

If you are no longer interested in receiving mailings from us, please email trfc@3rfc.org or call 412-431-2830 and leave a message on the voice mail.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

12/23 & 12/24 - Shelter Fund Raiser: Book Wrapping at Barnes & Noble, Market District. We have two days of book wrapping to raise money for the Hide-E-Hole Ferret Rescue at the new Market District off Campbells Run Rd. An annual tradition for many years, it's a great way to raise mon-

ey, get into the holiday spirit and have fun, too! The store supplies wrapping paper and tape, we supply laughter and enthusiasm. Available shifts are:

Dec 23: 10am-2pm; 2pm-6pm; 6pm-10pm
Dec 24: 10am-2pm; 2pm-6pm

Contact Barb if you would like to join the fun and help the shelter. Barb plans to be there both days. (bcarlson@andrew.cmu.edu)

January 16th: Craft Workshop - Learn how to make crochet egg toys, ferret jewelry and more.

February 20th: Ferret Bingo and Games; A favorite fun day.. games for the humans based on ferrets and ferret knowledge. Win prizes!

March 27th: Ferret "Duck Soup" 101: Learn different recipes and techniques for making this must have for sick or elderly ferrets. Also, a great treat for healthy ferrets, Bring any recipes you have along to share.

TRFC YAHOO GROUP DISCUSSION LIST

Tap into a wealth of advice and information: join the TRFC Yahoo discussion list! It's easy - just ask Barb (bcarlson@andrew.cmu.edu) for an invitation link, click on the link and you're done!

TRFC MEMBERSHIPS

New Members for November: 0

Renewed Members for November: 2

Need to Renew December/January: 7 (Jackie DeCarlo, Barb Carlson, Jill Giron, Ginger Webb, Darwin Webb, Becky Watson & Flo Malcolm)

Total Paid Members: 24

RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED

The TRFC uses the money from the monthly raffle to pay for the hall rental. If you have (or make) something nice you think someone else might like, consider donating it for the raffle!

FERRET SHOW LISTINGS FOR 2011

3/19: AFA Spring Nationals - York, PA

4/16: New Castle Ferret Show - New Castle, PA

5/14: Spring Fandango - Gilbertsville, PA

5/15: Three Rivers Spring Fling - North Park - Pittsburgh, PA (specialty show & fun matches)

IN MEMORIAM



We are remembering the ferrets that have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge; our condolences to their owners. If you would like your ferret to be remembered, send the appropriate information to: trfc@3rfc.org

Hide-E-Hole - Noah

KEEPING PETS SAFE DURING HOLIDAYS

We are entering a time of year when poisonings are more likely to happen, some directly, some indirectly. When a person drinks too much there is an increased chance of placing dangerous things where they should not be so if you plan on a blow-out this holiday season work yourself first into strict habits about when things like medications, some plants, macadamia nuts (which not only can cause blockages but also are poisonous for your critters, cigarette butts, and other poisonous items live in your house.

More direct poisonings can happen when people intentionally give a ferret, dog, or cat something toxic to them, often due to not knowing those things can be toxic. These can range from people trying to get a ferret stoned or drunk, to a ferret lapping cocoa, eating avocado, or getting currants, raisins, or grapes (which can cause acute kidney failure).

Many of the things that poison dogs or cats also poison ferrets which are fellow members of Order Carnivora.

This piece includes both some common cold weather hazards and some common holiday hazards: <http://tinyurl.com/bl669v>

Common causes of poisoning: <http://tinyurl.com/ycw328s>

Notice that some plants given during holidays are poisonous: <http://tinyurl.com/ceeg39>, <http://tinyurl.com/dar6a8>

Some foods to not let your pets get due to poisoning risks: <http://tinyurl.com/acroww>

One of these drugs, Vitamin D in too high levels, recently came up in discussion here: <http://tinyurl.com/df3etn>

What to do if your pet is poisoned, a good page to print out and keep handy in case your power fails but you need the phone number, (888) 426-4435: <http://tinyurl.com/knulch>

Besides the ASPCA Animal Poison Control site and number there is also the MSPCA one of Angell Memorial to keep handy, 1-877-2ANGELL and that also offers information to keep your animals safe: <http://tinyurl.com/2bccoyl>

Here is their holiday safety page: <http://tinyurl.com/26vcmph>

One thing that you will notice is that Poinsettia is not as dangerous for pets as people thought long ago but it can still cause GI upset so keep it out of reach; then notice the plants that you didn't realize are hazardous and take precautions, please.

Good for you and your vet to have, as are a number of others: <http://tinyurl.com/2g7hklx>, <http://tinyurl.com/3ydw7g>, <http://tinyurl.com/39moqkb>

Sukie Crandall (not a vet) - printed with permission

FERRET FRIENDS OF PITTSBURGH

www.ferretfriendsofpg.com

FFP has placed all of the kits born in 2010. Contact me if interested. I will probably have 1 or 2 of these possible pairings in 2011.

*FFP's Tsunami (sable point) & SHD's Revenge of Jack Daniels (black roan mitt)

*FFP's Lola (sable) & SHD's Revenge of Jack Daniels (black roan mitt)

*SF's Victoria Falls of FFP (sable) & FFP's Ozzie's Black Powder (black sable)

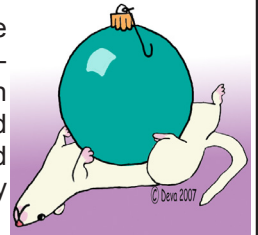
HIDE-E-HOLE FERRET RESCUE SHELTER STORIES:

Last month, I told you about Havoc, who had been thrown out a car window. Havoc is doing very well, and is a sweet, loving little guy. He gets along

with other ferrets, doesn't bite, gives kisses and doesn't mind being held. He's a dark-eyed white and available for adoption.

This month, we have **another** case of "flung ferret"! This incident is under investigation by the Humane Officer at Animal Friends. Two young adults witnessed a woman toss a ferret into traffic on a 4-lane highway. They managed to save him before he was injured and he's safe now. He was starved and obviously neglected when he was found, but he's filling out nicely. The people who saved him will be keeping him.

Like Havoc, Lucky Charlie is a sweetheart of a ferret. Stefan, the young man who saved the ferret, said he came right to him and kissed him the whole way home!



Even better, Stefan got the license number and description of the car. We're hoping this case might actually have some closure to it. We'll keep you posted on developments.

Hide-E-Hole News - November 2010

Ferrets In: **3**; Deaths: **1**; Ferrets Returned to Shelter: **1**; Ferrets Adopted: **5**; Ferrets in Foster Homes: **10**; Ferrets in Shelter Building: **24**.

Supplies Needed: Wood pellet litter, paper towels, EVO Dog Little Bites. Since the TRFC is a 501(c)3, if you keep your receipts you can write them off on your taxes!

Volunteer Opportunities: Cage cleaning; days available: Wednesday, Friday, Sunday. FADs.

Go to www.ferret-hide-e-hole.org for news on shelter and ferret highlights.

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A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization