

Three Rivers Ferret Council, Inc. November 2015 Newsletter

TRFC Meeting November 15, 2015

Special Guest:

**Dr. Robert Wagner, VMD,
Dipl. ABVP - ECM**



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The picnic was a lot of fun, and the October Halloween party was too.

Sorry we missed a couple months of the newsletter. Barb could use some help.

This month, Dr. Wagner is coming to talk to us! Have your questions ready! Send to Jess at:

unforgettable_wanderer@yahoo.com

or Kay at:

passionatelykay@gmail.com

Dr. Wagner is an expert in the care of exotic animals and one of our favorite ferret vets!

Big raffle this month!





Photos from the TRFC
Halloween Party



Photos from the TRFC
Halloween Party



Photos from the TRFC Picnic
Costume Contest



Photos from the TRFC Picnic
Costume Contest



Shrimpie and Fleur Fleur waiting for a treat



Shrimpie says hello

Terrie Wall's ferrets



Shrimpie and Fleur Fleur



Shrimpie looking regal



**More TRFC
picnic photos**



**More TRFC
picnic photos**

Ferret Pain and Distress

Part of an article by Bob Church from Ferrets.com website.

“Like pain, causes of distress are innumerable, but most relate to a ferret’s inability to perform instinctual behaviors. A lack of basic comforts, such as warm bedding, clean water and nutritious food are easily recognized as distressful. Overcrowding, noise and light pollution, aggressive pets, rough handling and confinement can all be significant stressors. Play biting, exploration, corner pooping, or carpet and plant digging — strong instinctual behaviors — can cause chronic distress if punished or prevented. A ferret may want to live alone, or a group might not want a new member. A lack of a dark sleeping den and boredom are distressing to most ferrets. Until routine tests for elevated stress hormones are done, the only safe bet is to presume that ferrets are stressed when forced to live in ways inconsistent with their natural history. In short, if you don’t treat a ferret like a ferret, it is usually distressed.”

Read more: <http://tinyurl.com/o6t7awt>

Signs of Pain in a Ferret

List by Barb Carlson

- Squinty eyes
- Head bobbing
- Shivering
- Biting
- Excessive licking their body
- Fast breathing
- Limping
- Holding very still
- Heart pounding
- Twitching
- Hiding
- Screeching
- Moaning or groaning
- Refusing to eat
- Chewing on odd things
- Teeth Grinding



Squinty eyes

Above photo from: <http://www.smallanimalchannel.com/critter-columns/exotic-mammal-veterinary-cases-and-info/two-ferret-coronaviruses-1502.aspx>

Read Bob’s article ... I think many people will realize their ferrets were in pain and they didn’t realize it. If you ferret is showing ANY sign of pain, you need to assume it’s severe. They normally don’t show pain at all, so if they are moaning, grunting or whimpering, it’s severe. If a ferret falls and lies still, it’s in pain.