



Washington Ferret Rescue and Shelter

Volume 2 Issue 3

Please Don't Throw Me Away! - A Shelter Story

The call came in as usual. Kristin from Eastgate Humane Society called to say a ferret had been turned in and could we come and pick it up. Liane called and told them she would stop by on her way to work. It was the day after the snow storm in Seattle and when Liane arrived at the Humane Society, she was told the rest of the story. This 2-3 year old dark eyed white had been witnessed being thrown from a moving vehicle into a parking lot near a park. The good Samaritan who witnessed this event attempted to get the license

plate from the car, but was unable to. Fortunately, he picked up the ferret and brought it immediately to the Humane Society. Generally, lost ferrets go to the animal control, but since it was safe to assume that the owner did not want him anymore, the Humane Society called the Shelter. Liane took "Jim-Bob" to work with her that day and quickly discovered that this guy has led a hard life. He was a little thin, but very skittish and scared. Nonetheless, he came to shelter at an opportune time. Cara & Jeff, 2 Shelter volunteers, had stopped by and when told the

story of little Jim-Bob, took him home to work with him. Jeff has reported that Jim-Bob (renamed Spice) is quite the acrobat. He goes "where no ferret has gone before". It was also evident to Cara & Jeff that indeed this little guy had been ignored and abused. The love that they have shown him has helped him immensely. He is settling in with his 4 new brothers, and 3 sisters. At last report, he is learning to trust and will learn that humans are for loving, not fearing.

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One of our Volunteers...

In December 2001, Jeff brought Cara to the Shelter as a surprise. He was supposed to be going to Bellevue to pick up an aquarium. Cara and Jeff had just lost their beloved pet and Jeff suggested fish-or so Cara thought. Was Cara surprised when they arrived at the Shelter! Just learning about ferrets at this point, Jeff felt it would be best to foster a ferret. Well, it all started with James (aka Pepper). He was brought into the shelter with his brother, Rigato. Both fared quite poorly due to shelter shock and soon Rigato died. James was being kept alive by Liane with Ferretvite, injections and lots of love. They offered to foster James

to see if they could put some weight back on him and give him lots of TLC. Needless to say, a short while later, with lots of cuddles and sleep-in time in the morning with Jeff, this great guy was off and running around the house...seeking any Cheerios he could find. They also discovered that James pretends not to hear, except if the Cheerio container is shaking. William (aka Salt) soon followed. Another foster, William, was brought to Liane by Jen at Rabbit Rodent Rescue. Jen had nursed William back to health and it was time to find him a foster home. Well, very soon, he had settled

right in and had made up for the lost time eating. Now, a couple of months later, Salt has another 4 brothers (Jim-Bob, Bandit, Snowman and James), one sister (Little Girl), plus two foster sisters (Skippy & Peanut). One big happy family.

What's New at Washington Ferret Rescue

Donation:

We were very pleased to have received a generous donation. Beth Reprince, who is an avid ferret lover and cherished volunteer, donated, in the memory of Bubbles, a 3 story Quality Cage, www.qualitycage.com to the Shelter. At first thought, Liane wondered where to put the cages—perhaps they would work well as extra cages. Not so! The very next week, the Shelter received a total of 10 rescued ferrets. Thank you again Beth. This was certainly a well-timed and appreciated donation.

A Letter from Dexter:

WFRS received a letter around the 1st of February. The letter was from Dexter, a ferret rescued from the shelter by a very caring family – The Richardsons. Dexter told WFRS how much fun he was having with his new family, how he enjoyed his new playmates, but what brought tears to our eyes was the last line of his letter. Dexter had sent a donation, and with his gift he wrote “I am sending you my allowance – I’ll skip cheweasels for a few weeks so that other ferrets may have what they need.” Dexter and his family were very generous, and their donation bought lots of chew-easels for the shelter ferrets. We want to thank Dexter, and we are glad he went has a great home.

Exciting News:

The Ferret Calendar’s are here! Only available through the Ferret Shelter, this Ferret Company Calendar will not be sold in stores or from The Ferret Store. Order your copy now from WFRS. Only \$14.95!

Events:

The Conifur Northwest 2002 Furrries in Seattle is coming up. Last year, Conifur Northwest raised over \$1600 for WSFR. Conifur will be held October 4-6, at the Best Western Executive Inn in Fife, Washington (a small community south of Seattle and north of Tacoma). If you would like more information, please send an email to liane@ferretlovers.com

Treats!

Ferrets can be fussy eaters when you want them to eat something - especially older ferrets who have had a routine diet. Basically, with exceptions like chocolate and caffeine, you can try them on anything that you can eat; just do so in very small quantities. One favorite treat is Cheerios and Apple Jacks; some love strawberry flavored licorice; some love melon, bananas, cucumbers. No Onions! They may cause serious blood disorders.

Nuts may also cause a blockage. Beware of foods high in fibers such as lettuce and carrots which may also cause intestinal blockage. Even raisins are fairly high in fiber and no more than 2-3 per treat should be given in any one day. Milk and milk products may cause diarrhea in some ferrets, although many seem to do just fine on small portions. Lactose free milk substitutes seem to be better. Many love

yogurt, especially Yogi treats. Chocolate, especially dark chocolate is **not** recommended. Some believe that it can cause serious illness. Caffeine is also **not** recommended (coffee, tea, colas, etc.), since it might over stimulate the heart. All in all, try to keep the sugar quantity to a minimum.

Over the Bridge

-We would like to remember those fuzzies who brought so much joy into our lives and others. The time they spent with us was too short.

Katie— Katie was loved by Kevin Levine. She visited us to pick out new friends and playmates. She had a very special personality.

Lahua (aka Hoon)- This little girl came to us from her previous owner who had been told to "put her down". She arrived at the shelter with a big belly full of fluid from liver disease and could barely walk. On her vet visit, she won the heart of our veterinarian, Dr. Elizabeth Kamaka, who would bring her in weekly for belly taps. She fought a valiant fight, and provided lots of love and joy.

Squiggles-Squiggles arrived with Wyatt in February. Wyatt has cataracts in both eyes and depended on Squiggles for direction. Little "Squig" had shown signs of advanced adrenal disease and crossed the bridge one month later (Wyatt went to a very loving foster home)

Buffy-Little Buffy arrived at the Shelter with advanced adrenal disease.

....New Arrivals!

Mina & Max— Mina and Max arrived at the Shelter in the fall. Both are older ferrets and can be a little nippy (that comes with age and a tough life.) They do, however, love attention and play hard.

Lawanda & Jay— Lawanda is older than Jay-she is 5 and Jay is 4. Both are dark sables and are very loving. They get along with other ferrets as long as the other ferrets aren't too pushy. They can be adopted together or by themselves.

Boris & Natasha-These 2 characters have been with us for about a year, making them almost 2. They came to us because they were very nippy. However, with lots of love & attention, they are very sweet. They will go to an experienced ferret owner only because of their past history.

Moose & Martini-Moose is a 1 yr old sable male with Martini who is a wisp of a 3 year old sable female. Both are very sweet, but because of Martini's frail stature, it is important that their new owners are experienced. Both are very playful and very sweet.

Hazard & Danger-These two guys are 3

Tyson-Tyson was one of the first ferrets to arrive at the shelter 3 years ago, all for behavior training. His companions left for the bridge one by one. Tyson spent his third Christmas with us, and our hope was for him to eventually find a home. He passed away quietly in his sleep.

Stumpy- Stumpy was named such, since he was missing a lower foot, and moved along on his stump. He was a very sweet ferret, who could not stop kissing you when allowed close to your face.

Jon Claude-Jon Claude arrived at the shelter with his cagemate, Fifi. Both had been left to die in a locked cage found outside in the elements. They survived on rain water and some food thrown out by a neighbor, who eventually rescued these ferrets and brought them to us. Fifi bounced back quickly, gaining weight and playing. It was not so easy for Jon-Jon. He was loved dearly by Lorayne, having his own special place in both her home and

yr old males who are just as their name suggests! They are big and fun and very active. Hazard is a dark eyed white and Danger is a silver.

Ling Ling & Panda -These little girls are in need of some TLC. A 6 yr old and 4 yr old silver, they are full of fun and looking for someone to give them lots of hugs and kisses.

Bandit, Brock, Stripe, Socks— New to the Shelter, these fun loving young ferrets (all under 1 yr of age) love to play. They are full of energy and need someone who will spend lots of play time with them.

Bandit & Shadow-These two ferrets, a 3 yr old sable and 1 yr old silver ferret, are very tame and loving ferrets.

Nikki & Cinnamon— Both fun active ferrets. Nikki, a 1 yr old silver mitt and Cinnamon, a 1 yr old sable are great ferrets, but Nikki needs an experienced ferret owner due to the fact she is a bit nippy.

Eva & Dolly—Again, two great ferrets, both about 1 yr old, but also need an experienced ferret owner as they can be

heart.

Conan— Conan was fighting a battle with an enlarged heart. Many times he had been brought back from crossing over, but this last time was too much for his little heart to bear. He again was dearly loved and cared for by Lorayne.

It should be noted that Lorayne takes ferrets from the shelter that need lots of medical care and lots of love. Lorayne and Liane have been trained to give medications and fluids by injection to ferrets, and both have spent many sleepless nights caring for these special needs ferrets. Needless to say, it was a very difficult month for Lorayne. Thank you for all you do.

a bit nippy at times..

Peggy & Nibbles— Both 2 yr old sables, they are active ferrets, who love to play and hide things. Their owner moved to a no-pet apartment so we are looking for a new home for them.

Gabby & Hercules-This 5 yr old dark sable and 3 yr old black eyed white are in need of some love. Their owners turned them in due to the lack of time for them. They are great ferrets who just need some love and attention!

Bear & Shadow & Jack— All 3 ferrets, aged 1 yr old, are full of energy. Bear, the dark sable, loves to play. Jack loves kittens, cats and children, and Shadow is very loving and tame.

Ruthie —This 2 yr old cinnamon sable loves cats and kids. Unfortunately, her mom could not afford to buy her food, so she is now looking for a new home.

Frick & Manuel— These 4 year old albinos are in need of a Foster home. Frick has had surgery for adrenal disease and they are both in need of someone who will spend some quality time with them.

Washington Ferret Rescue and Shelter
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We're on the Web!
www.washingtonferret.org

A 501 (3) C non profit organization

Yes, I want to help Washington Ferret Rescue!

Enclosed is my donation of:

- \$5.00 ()
- \$10.00 ()
- \$15.00 ()
- \$20.00 ()
- Other ()

Please make your donation payable to
Washington Ferret Rescue and mail to:

965 148th Dr. SE
Bellevue WA 98007

Contributions are tax-deductible under
501©(3) regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Appropriate receipts will be mailed for your records.

Our Wish List:

1. Blankets, sheets, anything that the ferrets might use to cuddle up in.
2. Wood pellets (i.e. those found at The Grange in Issaquah for example)
3. Any cages or carriers
4. Volunteers to wash laundry
5. Walking and playing with the ferrets during the sunny, warm months
6. Ferret Food (Totally Ferret & The Ferret Store food)

() I am moving! Please see below:

() Yes, I know of someone else who would like to receive the newsletters. Please send one to the following:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

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