



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue newsletter

FALL 2014 VOL. 13, NO. 2



Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals



DUMPED

The big silver tabby thought things were going pretty well. He had a family, a house, a nice place to sleep and plenty of food. His claws had mysteriously disappeared a couple of years ago when he was at the vet clinic, but he dealt with it. He was even happy when the new baby came into the house. The baby's crying in the middle of the night woke him up, but his family was happy, so the cat was happy. Then things took a turn for the worse. The baby started sneezing and wheezing a little. The parents and the baby made several trips to the doctor. The baby had developed "allergies." The doctor concluded that the cat must be the cause of the baby's problems so poor kitty suddenly found himself banished to the basement.



Handsome and affectionate, Olaff has a lot of love to give.

Unfortunately, the baby's allergies did not improve. Despite recent research showing that exposure to animals during the first year of life lowers allergy and asthma risk, the parents decided that the cat would have to go.

At first the parents were going to put the cat outside to fend for himself, but since he had been declawed, he would have no way to protect himself. They then called a couple of shelters and animal control and were told that, although he was a nice cat, at the age of 5 years old he would almost certainly be euthanized. The parents came up with another plan: they'd "leave him" with a note and just hope for the best.

Late one Friday night, the cat, his food and litter were packed up, and driven to Rude Ranch Animal Rescue. Once there, the cat and his belongings were unceremoniously deposited under a bush at the entrance.

A note was taped to his carrier saying the baby was allergic. Unfortunately for the cat, it rained most of that night and the temperatures the next day were predicted to go into the 90's.

The next morning, several Rude Ranch volunteers arrived and noticed something strange at the entrance: a cat carrier and container of food. Upon closer inspection they found a very wet cat in the carrier with a soggy note. Despite being soaking wet, the handsome tabby started purring as soon as we opened

his carrier. Although technically he should have been turned over to animal control (and a police report filed for felony animal abandonment) we knew all the local facilities were filled to capacity. We decided to try to help this guy.

Once inside and dry, the handsome cat quickly tried to make friends with everyone! Even though he did look healthy, he was examined, treated for parasites and given vaccines. He soon settled comfortably into

Rude Ranch's quarantine area to make sure he was eating, drinking and nothing contagious was incubating. Our next dilemma was a name. He was a big handsome tabby, so there were a lot of choices. However, a quick vote amongst the

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A Note from our Executive Director

Welcome to our Fall Mewsletter!

We hope everyone had a happy and relaxing summer with your families and pets! At Rude Ranch the time flies by! It seems like just last week I was writing about our plans for the spring and summer!

Things at The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch's high quality spay/neuter clinic, are going great. So far this year we've spayed and neutered over 4,000 cats, dogs and rabbits. We've formed partnerships with several humane societies, rescues and animal controls to provide spay and neuter services to all who need them. We are always looking for new rescues and shelters to form new partnerships.

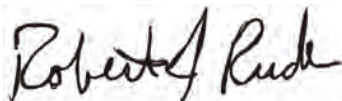
We are getting ready to start our ninth year participating in the Combined Federal Campaign and the Maryland Charity Campaign. We are also participating in the National Capital Area United Way for our fourth year. These programs enable federal, state, county and corporate employees to donate to their favorite charities through payroll deduction - an easy way to get a tax deduction and help Rude Ranch at the same time. If you have a friend or family member who participates in any of these campaigns, let them know about us! Our designation numbers are CFC: 45379, MCC: 4650 and United Way: 9664.

In addition to the CFC events this fall, we are planning our annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament on September 15th at Queenstown Harbor. Come join us for a great day of golf and food. Last but not least is our annual Photos with Santa Claws Event at Crunchies Pet Foods in Crofton, Saturday, December 13th. I'm always very happy to recreate my role as Santa Claws for all the furballs. The more unusual the pet, the better!

I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that Rude Ranch's book, *The Best Little Cat House in Maryland*, is still getting great reviews and is now available in Kindle format. If you haven't read it yet, you can still get it online at Amazon.com. Don't forget: It also makes a great holiday gift for the animal lover in your life!

As always, I want to extend a special thanks to our adoptive families, contributors, supporters and volunteers who are vital to our success in our goal to save abandoned and neglected animals and place them in new loving homes. Without you, we could not help the animals.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Rude
Executive Director

Planning on moving across the street, state or country? Don't forget to let us know so we can update our mailing list. Just send an email to rrar@ruderanch.org with your new address and we'll take care of the rest.

Want to receive our Mewsletter online? Just send us an email at rrar@ruderanch.org and we'll send you the link when its available online!

Saving Lives,

Four Paws At

A Time

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, Inc.
3200 Ivy Way
Harwood, MD 20776
Phone: 410.798.9559
Email: info@ruderanch.org
www.ruderanch.org

Please contact us if you would like to be added to or deleted from our mailing list or know others who would like to receive our mailings. Also, let us know if you are moving so we can update our mailing list. Email your new address to info@ruderanch.org.

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue is a volunteer based, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the rescue, care and adoption of homeless animals in the Maryland and DC area. Our goals are to find permanent loving homes for adoptable animals placed in our care; to provide a safe haven and rehabilitation to feral and neglected cats rescued from abusive situations; and to put an end to needless euthanasia because of pet overpopulation.

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, Inc. Board of Directors

Katherine Evans Rude
President

Robert J. Rude
Executive Director

Dr. Robert L. Harrison, DVM
Director of Animal Care

Diane VonSeggern, RD
Director of Shelter Nutrition



Rude Ranch Furballs Ready To Invade Government Agencies

While most dogs have been taking it easy this summer, snoozing in the sun, playing with their families and plotting to steal hot dogs off the grill, Bunny, Rude Ranch's fund-raising miniature pinscher, has been busy getting ready for the Fall CFC and MCC season! She even helped make

a Rude Ranch CFC video!

The Rude Ranch CFC video is available on the Rude Ranch website (www.rude-ranch.org/ruderanchcfc-2010.mp4)

Once again Rude Ranch is

participating in the Combined Federal Campaign, Maryland Charity Campaign, the Baltimore Charity Campaign, and the National Capital Area United Way! If you've never heard of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the Maryland Charity Campaign (MCC) or the United Way, here's how it works: If you work for the Federal government, Maryland State government, or a Maryland County government, you can pick one (Rude Ranch) or several charities to donate to through payroll deduction. Once you designate Rude Ranch, your agency will withhold your tax-deductible specified amount from your paycheck and send it to Rude Ranch. Your generous donations through CFC, MCC and the United Way help us to provide the day to day care, medicine, food and litter to our residents (and don't forget plenty of Pupparoni's and chew toys for our working dogs!)

Not a government employee but have a friend or family member who is? Let them know about Rude Ranch. We love to come to the agency events to see everyone, so if your agency is having a charity event, let us human employees know about it at info@ruderanch.org!



Bunny is ready to meet-and-greet at all of her favorite government agencies

Mark Your Calendars . . . Santa Claws is Coming to Town December 13th!



Don't miss Photos with Santa Claws at Crunchies in Crofton on December 13th!

Even though the first Holiday Decorations aren't in the local mall yet, Rude Ranch Executive Director, Bob Rude, is already letting his beard and hair grow for his upcoming role as Santa Claws. For the past 12 years, Bob has played Santa to countless dogs, cats, puppies, kittens, ferrets and even a monkey! Why? To help raise money for the furry residents here at Rude Ranch!

What will be the most unusual animal to pose this year? (Last year it was a red spike tailed lizard.) Who will set the record for the most animals in one photo? (Still the 10 Greyhounds!) To find out, come to Rude Ranch's Photos with Santa on December 13th at Crunchies Pet Foods, 2421 Crofton Lane. Check our online events calendar for more details at www.RudeRanch.org.



Bruno poses with Santa!



CFC #45379



MCC #4650



United Way #9664



A Wedding at Rude Ranch

Over the years, many happy things have happened here at Rude Ranch but never has there been a wedding . . . until now! On August 29th, Rude Ranch proudly hosted our first wedding, and the bride and groom traveled half way around the world to get here!

Cristina Solomes and Calin Stefan came from Romania to fulfill their dreams of attending college to become a veterinarian and a computer expert. Along the way, Cristina became a vet technician at The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook and weekend caretaker to the furry residents at Rude Ranch. When they decided to get married, Rude Ranch was their first choice.



In true Rude Ranch fashion, the furry residents were part of the big day. Cristina and Calin's dog Maxie was a ring bearer, assisted by Scruffy the terrier. Tommy our sanctuary spokescat escorted flower dogs Bunny and Sweetie down the aisle. The ceremony was performed at the Rude Ranch fish pond in front of 40 friends and their Rude Ranch family followed by a reception. Cristina and Calin, we wish you "*multi ani fericit,*" which means "many happy years" in Romanian.

"My Baby's Allergic to Our Pet!"

A few years ago, the conventional recommendation for a child (especially under 1 year) with allergies was to remove the cause of the allergies from the home. This meant that many loving pets lost their homes. While this is still the case if the child has severe life threatening reactions to any allergen (food, smoke, pet dander, etc), newer research is showing that it will benefit your child in the long run if he or she is exposed to the allergens.

New research from Johns Hopkins Medicine and The American Academy of Allergy Asthma & Immunology have found that "newborns exposed to household germs, pet and rodent dander and allergens during their first year of life appear to have lower risk of developing asthma and allergies" (Johns Hopkins Medicine, June 6, 2014). The findings

indicate that many of our bodies' immune responses are shaped during the first year of life and allergens play an important role in stimulating and training the immune system.

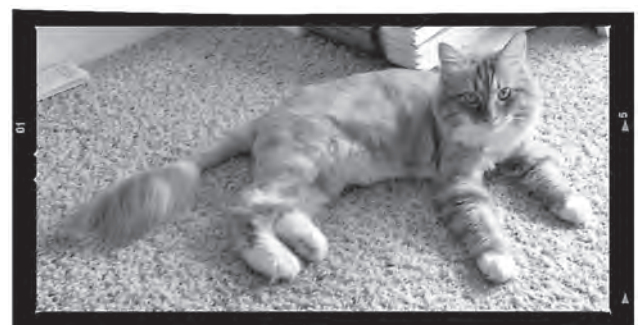
If your child is allergic to your pet, there are many steps you can take to lessen the effects of the allergies:

- Air Purifiers, especially those made to remove airborne pet dander.
- HEPA filters: Use HEPA filters in your heating and air conditioning systems.
- Keep pets outside of the your child's sleeping areas.
- Vacuum and dust regularly.
- Bath and Brush your pet weekly.
- Wash your child's hands after playing with or handling your pet; many reactions are caused by touching the eyes and mouth after handling an animal.

These are just a few things you can do to ensure both your child and your pets will have a long happy life in your home!

Xena One Year Later

Xena was a pretty little stray kitty who had been shot with a deer hunting arrow. It took 3 days to catch the scared kitty. Once captured, the arrow still through her body, she was rushed to Belair Veterinary Hospital for emergency surgery and then came to Rude Ranch to recover. She was soon adopted and moved to Towson to live in a high rise condo.



Shot with a deer hunting arrow, Xena has recovered nicely and is enjoying life as a pampered kitty.

We are happy to report that Xena and her humans are doing well. They recently sent us a picture of her relaxing in her home on the 1 year anniversary of her adoption. She has learned many things over the past year: how to wake her humans with her turbo scratcher at 3 am, the joys of toy mice and the comfort of having a soft bed in a warm home. We think Xena has many happy years ahead as a spoiled kitty!

Thawed: An Update on the Ice Cat

Last winter a handsome brown tabby came to Rude Ranch by way of an icy drainage ditch. He had the misfortune of walking across a semi frozen ditch in search of clean water and fell through into the freezing water. His body temperature was below 90 degrees and he was almost comatose when he was found. It took several days of careful monitoring as we slowly raised his body temperature back to normal. He did suffer several neurological complications as a result of the severe cold: he was almost completely blind, he had problems with balance and walking, and was severely anemic. Fortunately, over time his body started to recover and these issues improved.

Many cold related names were suggested: Popsicle, Dude, Ice Cube and Olaff. In the end Executive Director Bob Rude won out with his standard cat name: Bubba Boy. Bubba Boy's body eventually regained enough strength and his anemia dissipated enough for him to be neutered and tested for FIV and FELV. Unfortunately, he tested positive for both. He moved into Rude Ranch's FELV area shortly after being neutered.



Bubba survived the worst and is now enjoying the warmth at Rude Ranch

We are happy to report that Bubba Boy is doing well in our FELV area. Although he doesn't climb onto our ramps, he loves to sleep in the lower cubbies of the cat trees and is always front and center for his breakfast and dinner. He gets along well with the other cats in that area (and is sometimes mistaken for his look alike Clooney). Two FELV kittens moved in a few weeks ago and enjoy chasing and "capturing" Bubba Boy's tail. We think Bubba Boy is enjoying his new life as a pampered Rude Ranch resident!

Hit the links . . . Putts Fore Mutts returns!

Mark your calendars: the Sixth Annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Putts Fore Mutts Foundation, to benefit Rude Ranch Animal Rescue and The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook will be held September 15th at Queenstown Harbor!

Last year's tournament was a huge success, raising over \$30,000 for Rude Ranch and other local animal charities. This year's tournament will be even bigger with fantastic food, a silent auction and more!

The tournament will be a 4 person scramble. Registration starts at 9 AM with a shot gun start at 11 AM. You can also participate in the putting contest, long drive, and many other competitions.

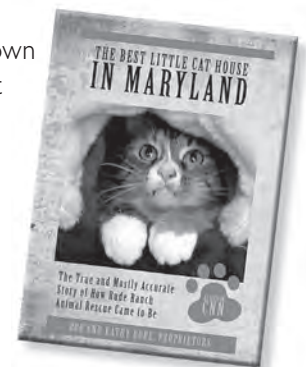
For more info, sponsorship opportunities, and to sign up for the tournament, go to www.PuttsForeMutts.org.



The Best Little Cat House In Maryland: The Purrfect Gift for the Animal Lover in Your Life!

It's Official! *The Best Little Cat House in Maryland* is one of the funniest, most touching books you will ever read! It's the official story of Rude Ranch Animal Rescue. It is now available in hardcover, softcover, ebook and Kindle editions!

The book explains many little known facts such as how Rude Ranch got its name, what the sanctuary was originally used for and even explains what to do in unusual situations such as floating down a river in a Chevrolet Suburban or what to do with a runaway goat in a thunderstorm.



Available at www.RudeRanch.org/wordpress/shop/ and Amazon.com. The proceeds of each purchase go right back to the furry residents of Rude Ranch.



Ask Tommy: Advice from Our Feline to Yours

Welcome to the latest edition of *Ask Tommy*. This is where your four-footed and feathered friends can ask Tommy for advice on how to handle humans. At the ripe old age of 16, he enjoys sharing his wisdom with the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

My humans are really nice. They took me in and gave me a nice bed and toys. They snuggle with me every night. I'm part of the family, right? Then why won't they share their food with me? They eat all kinds of great smelling stuff while I have to eat brown pellets from a bowl! Just last night I stole a meatball from a plate and you would've thought the world was ending. They took it away from me! Why? I was happy to share the mouse I caught last winter! What gives?

Sincerely, Deprived

Dear Deprived,

I understand how frustrating it is for you to eat that same kibble day in and day out but your humans are keeping their food away from you because it can make you very sick. Here's some stuff you should never eat: Onions, Garlic and Chives will affect the way your body makes red blood cells and make you anemic. Grapes and Raisins are fun to play with but they will make your kidneys stop working. Most hard candy and gum have an ingredient called Xylitol in them. Xylitol will make your liver stop working. Don't forget chocolate, especially really pure dark chocolate or baker's chocolate. It contains a substance called theobromine which will make you have seizures that you may not recover from. Make sure you don't try to drink your human's coffee in the morning! There is no antidote for caffeine poisoning in cats! Likewise do not "help" your humans with their alcoholic beverages. Did you know that just 2 teaspoons of whiskey is enough to cause alcohol poisoning and put a 5 pound cat into a coma? Also make sure you don't steal and play with any of your human's medicines. Many of those can cause liver and kidney failure in a matter of hours.

Human tuna is delicious but if you eat it all the time you will not get proper nutrition. Likewise, all felines love a bowl of cream or even 2% milk. (Not to mention yogurt, ice cream,

butter, sour cream and cream cheese) Your body can't process lactose, so if you "sample" too much you will end up with a tummy ache and diarrhea. You should also not eat raw meat or eggs very often. Just like humans, you could get salmonella or food poisoning from them. (Plus, raw egg whites can interfere with B vitamin absorption) Lastly, liver is good for you but if you eat too much you could end up with too much Vitamin A that can cause weird bone growths.

So next time your humans don't want to share with you, just remember that it is because they want you to be healthy for a long time!

Your Pal,
Tommy



The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook Turns 2

Two years ago Rude Ranch Animal Rescue realized a long term goal of building and opening a high quality, low cost spay and neuter clinic: The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook. The goal of this clinic is to reduce the area's over population problem by providing spay/neuter services to anyone that wants to spay or neuter an animal, regardless of income or geographical location. The clinic opened to the public on October 16, 2012. We are happy to report that since then we have spayed or neutered over 7,000 dogs, cats and rabbits!

We've formed partnerships with several rescue groups and humane societies such as The Humane Society of Washington County, Tip Me Frederick, Cats R Us, Mutts Matter, Dogs XL, Toy Breeds in Need, Road Runner Rescue, and The Humane Society of Somerset County.



Raven helps at the clinic.

Some fun facts: the biggest dog we've spayed/neutered: 189 pound Italian mastiff. The smallest: a 1 pound 14 ounce teacup yorkie. The average weight/size of our canine patients: 18 pounds. Most cats spayed or neutered in one day: 56 (A Community Cats/Barn cat spay/neuter day) The biggest cat so far: Possum, a 21 pound brown tabby that came in with the Humane Society of Somerset County.

Can't Adopt A Cat Right Now? Sponsor a Rude Ranch Cat!

Want to help a homeless animal, but can't take one more in? Sponsor a Rude Ranch long-term resident instead! Your tax-deductible sponsorship of a Rude Ranch long-term resident for just \$20 a month (67¢ a day) will provide food, kitty litter and toys for one of our special needs cats. The cats in this program include feral and abused cats, FIV positive and FELV positive cats. Right now, most of our FIV cats have sponsors, but many of the feral and abused cats are still hoping for a sponsor.

When you sponsor, we'll send you an adoption certificate, with pictures and history of the cat you choose. We will proudly display a picture of your cat with your name as the the cat's sponsor



Lionel, an FELV cutie, is hoping for a sponsor. He's almost too pretty to be a boy!

on our website. You can even make an appointment to come visit your "virtual adoptee" anytime. For more information about our sponsorship program, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on "Sponsor A Resident". Or email rrar@ruderanch.org.

Dumped Continued from page 1

volunteers yielded Olaff, from the movie Frozen. Olaff quickly settled into the Rude Ranch routine and before long was busy exploring our General Population room. Olaff even went to an adoption event and although he didn't get adopted he quickly endeared himself to everyone that stopped to see him!



Although Olaff is content here at Rude Ranch he would love to have his own family again. He is 5 years old, neutered, front declawed and negative for FIV and FELV. He is a happy guy that likes to cuddle and hang out on the couch with you. If you would like to adopt Olaff, give us a call!

YES, I would like to help the animals . . .

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue relies on donations and volunteers to carry out our mission to save the animals. We receive no federal funding. Your donation of a few dollars* or a few hours of your time can go a long way toward helping our cause.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email** _____

Please check one: () \$250 () \$100 () \$50 () \$25 () Other \$ _____ () I would like to volunteer

Our Mailing address is: Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, 3200 Ivy Way, Harwood, MD 20776

New! Donate online with your Mastercard, Visa, or American Express! Go to www.RudeRanch.org and click on the Visa logo. Donate online with Paypal.com. Our account name is "donate@ruderanch.org"

Does your employer have a matching donation program? If so, your donation will be doubled! Please send any matching donation documentation requirements to Rude Ranch and we will gladly process them. Thank you!

*All donations are tax deductible. ** Help us devote more of your donation toward the animals by receiving your receipt by email.





Rude Ranch and Spay Spa T-Shirts and Sweatshirts make the purrr-fect holiday gifts. (Sorry, Stewie not included!)

New! Rude Ranch and Spay Spa T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

Show your support for Rude Ranch by wearing one of our new T-shirts or sweatshirts! In new colors! The proceeds go right back to the care of our residents.

T-shirts

Sizes S - XL: \$15 plus \$5 shipping and handling

Sweatshirts

Sizes S - XL: \$20 plus \$5 shipping and handling

You can place your order on our website at:
<http://www.ruderanch.org/wordpress/shop>

Special Thanks to:

Drs. Harrison, Roller, Hershey and staff at Belair Animal Hospital	Our volunteers
Dr. Amy Carney	Our many contributors
Our adoptive families	Barb M. and the gang at Crofton MinuteMan Press
PetSmart Charities	The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Pet Valu Stores	The Bernice Barbour Foundation

Immediate Needs/Wish List

- Copy/Xerox paper
- Canned cat food
- Canned dog food
- Bleach & liquid laundry detergent
- Paper towels & plates

United Way #9664



MCC #4650



CFC #45379



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue
 3200 Ivy Way
 Harwood, MD 20776
www.ruderanch.org
www.spayspa.org



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