



News LETTER

SPRING 2013 VOL. 12, NO. 1



Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals

Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is open for business

After 16 months of planning and building, Rude Ranch's Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, a regional High Quality, Low Cost Spay /Neuter Clinic is open for business! While the first surgeries were performed on October 16, 2012, in honor of National Feral Cat Day, the clinic opened its doors to the public on November 5, 2012. The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting was held on February 10, 2013. The official ribbon was cut by Alley Cat Allies co-founder, Becky Robinson, and Acting Anne Arundel County Executive John Hammond.

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook was created with one main goal: to impact and significantly lower the euthanasia of healthy companion animals both locally and statewide. There are many benefits from achieving this goal: communities benefit in the long run as there are fewer stray and unwanted animals that are turned into local animal controls and shelters. Fewer animals means reduced agency operating costs, saving us all money and resources. Additionally, spayed/neutered animals lead longer, healthier lives with fewer incidences of cancer, are less likely to roam, and are less territorial.

In order to have a significant impact of reducing the numbers of homeless and unwanted pets, we plan to perform 6,000 spay/neuter surgeries this year. We're off to a great start! During the month of January, we spayed/neutered 84 dogs, 364 cats and

5 rabbits. We have done a total of 715 surgeries since opening in November 2012.

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is a member of the National Spay/Neuter Response Team, which is a nationwide team of spay/neuter clinics led by the Humane Alliance. The Humane Alliance develops and trains surgical veterinarians on the latest medical protocols and techniques. The surgical staff traveled to the Humane Alliance's headquarters in Asheville, North Carolina, for a week of intensive study to ensure that patients of the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook would have the best of care.

Next year, we plan to expand our services to meet the community's needs. The clinic has the capacity to do more than 10,000 surgeries per year.

Building the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook has been a large project, and we could not have done it alone. It was with the help of many incredibly generous and talented people that the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook exists today.



Becky Robinson, co-founder of Alley Cat Allies, cuts the ribbon at Spay Spa & Neuter Nook's Grand Opening



A Note from our Executive Director

Welcome to our Spring Mewsletter!

We hope everyone had a happy and relaxing holiday season 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 fall and winter!

There's a lot of excitement here as Rude Ranch's spay/neuter clinic, the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is finally open! The clinic is available to anyone who needs to spay or neuter a dog, cat or rabbit. Last year, Maryland shelters and animal control agencies were forced to euthanize more than 45,000 companion animals due to a lack of homes and space in local shelters. We can dramatically reduce this number if everyone pulls together and spays or neuters their pets. Read more about the clinic on page 1!

We had a busy fall fund-raising season, visiting more than 50 federal and state agencies. Bunny, the miniature pinscher, did a great job as Rude Ranch's ambassador this year. We're hoping for another great year from all our Federal and State employees to help us continue our mission to help animals.

Despite some rain, golfers and non golfers all had a great time at the 4th Annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament at Queenstown Harbor! After the round of golf, everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner catered by Annapolis Catering.

We had a great turn out for Photo's with Santa again this year. A big thanks to all our volunteers who helped at the event, all the people who brought their animals to pose with Santa and to Crunchies for allowing us to use their store to host the event. We had more than 200 animals come through for their pictures this year!

Looking ahead, we're excited to participate in our 3rd Annual Longaberger Basket and Vera Bradley Bags event on April 14. We also plan to attend several pet expos and spring fairs over the next few weeks to encourage everyone to have their pets spayed or neutered.

In closing, I want to extend a special thanks to our adoptive families, contributors, supporters and volunteers who are vital to our success saving abandoned and neglected animals and placing them in loving homes. Without you, we could not help the animals.



Moving? Planning on moving across the street, state or country soon? 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 will take care of the rest.

Trying to cut down on paper in your mailbox? Want to receive our Mewsletter online? Just send us an email at rrar@ruderanch.org and we will send you a link to our mewsletter when its available online!

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue www.RudeRanch.org
Combined Federal Campaign # 45379
Maryland Charity Campaign #4650
National Capital United Way # 9664

Saving Lives,
Four Paws At
A Time



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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 ANIMAL RESCUE

Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals

Hopping to a new life

Last Easter, when they were really small and cuddly, the baby rabbits were probably greeted with squeals of joy from excited kids. However, as the rabbits grew and the summer came and went, they became more of a burden. In addition to food and water, the rabbits made messes in their cages, and needed veterinary attention. The newness and novelty wore off. Once school started again in September, caring for the rabbits became too much. The family decided they had to go.

The family decided to "get rid of" the rabbits by setting them free, allowing them to become "one" with nature. One evening the rabbits were taken to a remote area along Patuxent River Road, and left behind on the side of the road. Unfortunately, these were domestic rabbits, and had no idea how to forage and hide to survive. Not knowing what else to do, they huddled together on the side of the road, waiting for someone to take care of them.

Many people noticed something unusual on the side of the road as they passed by. Fortunately for the rabbits, Rude Ranch Animal Rescue Executive Director Bob Rude and several of the caretakers at Rude Ranch also noticed them. Over



These former Easter bunnies are now safe, healthy, and happy in their new homes

three days one week, we managed to catch the rabbits, two females and one male. By the time they were caught, they were covered in fleas and slightly anemic and underweight. Fortunately, all the bunnies are recovering well and are happy to be warm, dry, fed and not scared.

Flopsey, Mopsey and Claudia were the first rabbits spayed/neutered at the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook last October. Flopsey and Mopsey were adopted together by a family in Edgewater. Claudia was adopted to be a companion to LeStat, who was the first bunny rescued and adopted by Rude Ranch.

Back by popular demand . . . Rude Ranch's Basket & Bags Bingo!

Back and Upgraded this year! Get your bingo daubers out! Back by popular demand, Rude Ranch will hold a Spring Basket and Bag Bingo on April 14!

If you've never "bingoed" at a Basket and Bags Bingo before, here's how it works: For the low admission price of \$15 you play 20



rounds of bingo, and are eligible

for many door prizes.



There are extra "special games" featuring additional prizes that you can choose to upgrade to during the bingo. The winner of each round of bingo will receive a beautiful Longaberger Basket, or a Vera Bradley, Coach or Longaberger bag filled with all

kinds of useful gadgets! The doors open at noon on April 14 and games begin at 1 pm. Food and Bake Sale to benefit Rude Ranch!

The Basket and Bags Bingo will be held at the Roland Terrace Democratic Club, 619 Matthews Ave, Brooklyn Park, MD 21225. For more info or to purchase tickets go to Rude Ranch's website, www.RudeRanch.org or email Rude Ranch at rrar@ruderanch.org.

Rude Ranch T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

Show your support for Rude Ranch by wearing one of our T-shirts or sweatshirts, now in new colors! The proceeds go right back to the care of our residents! T-shirts S - XL \$12 + \$5 shipping/handling. Sweatshirts S - XL \$20 + \$5 shipping/handling. Order online:



<http://www.ruderanch.org/polkat/furniture.html>



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A Grand Grand Opening!

Even though the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook was already open for business, a Grand Opening and Open House for the community was held on Sunday, February 10, 2013.



Kathy and Bob Rude of Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, Dr. Alison Mocko, Spay Spa & Neuter Nook veterinarian, and Becky Robinson of Alley Cat Allies

Visitors were able to play several games, including rolling a dog toy to "Knock the Vet" down, Lasso the dog catcher with a dog leash, and the bacteria and germ battles were on in the laundry area where tin cans painted with mean looking germs were waiting to be eradicated with a bean bag. Spay Spa & Neuter Nook's own surgical vet, Dr. Alison Mocko, held a teddy bear surgery clinic, where she was able to suture and treat many injured teddy bears that had suffered too many cuddles.

There were many varieties of food generously donated by many people. However, the hit of the opening was a cake featuring several current and former Rude Ranch residents made and donated by Yvette Dietrich of Tiffany's Bakery.



Tiffany's Bakery celebrated the Grand Opening in a very sweet way!

A Spay Spa & Neuter Nook Reunion

Over the years Rude Ranch Animal Rescue has facilitated many happy reunions between pets and their owners. Thinking that most people would arrive with their pets, we were surprised and happy to reunite an entire Summer Camp with their missing barn cat!

Miss Kitty was adopted by the staff of YMCA's Camp Letts last spring to be a companion to the horses residing there and help with rodent control. Miss Kitty was a former feral colony cat that was used to living outside and was quite happy to have a big barn with plenty of warm horses to snuggle with. She settled in well and made friends with many young campers last summer.

One day last fall, Miss Kitty went on an adventure of her own! She might have chased a mouse across a field and lost her way, or maybe fell asleep in the back of a pick up truck. Eventually she found a church parking lot in Edgewater. Rude Ranch caretaker, Andrea, lives nearby and noticed the new cat hanging out by the dumpster and wanted to help her. Miss Kitty cooperated and was whisked to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook.

We were surprised to find that not only was the kitty already spayed, but had a microchip that was registered to Camp Letts! The Barn director was thrilled to find out that their missing kitty was safe and sound and waiting for a ride home!

Miss Kitty went back to her barn and horses that same day. However, rather than hang with the horses at night, Miss Kitty now comes to the director's office to help with paperwork at night.

Special Thanks To:

- Drs. Harrison, Roller, Quinn and staff at Belair Animal Hospital
- Dr. Amy Carney
- Jennifer Elder of The Sustainable CFO
- Our adoptive families
- Our volunteers
- Our many contributors
- Barb M. & Crofton MinuteMan Press for printing services
- The Putts Fore Mutts Foundation



The “Big Fix”

If you’ve ever driven around the back of a shopping center or restaurant, chances are you’ve seen one or more cats “dumpster diving” for food. Usually the cats will come out at night, after the trash cans with food scraps have been emptied and everyone has left for the night. During the day the cats will hide in the drainage systems, nearby woods or in remote areas of the parking lot. Sometimes a caring employee or patron of the business will put food out for the cats and even make little shelters or houses for them. Unfortunately, every spring several litters of kittens are born, increasing the number of cats in the colony. Eventually the colony of cats becomes so large that it is considered a nuisance

and animal control agencies are brought in to “dispose” of the cats. However, if the original cats can be trapped, fixed and released back to the area, usually a mutually beneficial “agreement” is made where the cats are allowed to live in the area and are fed. The business benefits from the cats rodent control expertise. This concept is known as “TNR,” or Trap/Neuter/Release.



Spay Spa & Neuter Nook helps to control the overpopulation of feral cats

Rude Ranch and The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is assisting one business and a local community with TNR projects. In December, a colony of 18 cats living behind the Eaglewolf Sports Lounge in Upper Marlboro, MD was successfully spayed/neutered, vaccinated and returned. Both humans and felines are very happy with the arrangement.

We are currently working with the Community of South River Colony in the town of Edgewater, MD to spay/neuter up to 200 cats that are currently living in and around several restaurants, shopping centers and an abandoned warehouse. So far residents, business owners and visitors to the area have been supportive. Volunteers have been able to catch and transport over 60 cats to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook for surgery, preventing the births of many homeless kittens this spring.

Putts Fore Mutts Scores For Animals!

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue was proud to be chosen as a beneficiary of the 4th Annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament, which was held at Queenstown Harbor Golf on October 15, 2012.

The Putts Fore Mutts Foundation is a non-profit organization that focuses on raising money to help Maryland Animal Shelters and Low Cost Spay Neuter programs. The annual golf tournament is their signature event.

In addition to playing 18 holes of golf on a beautiful golf course, the attendees had a long drive contest, a putting contest, and million dollar shoot out. After the tournament, there was a silent auction and dinner.



Overall, the Putts Fore Mutts tournament raised over \$21,000 which was split between Rude Ranch and other animal charities. The 5th Annual Putts Fore Mutts Tournament is scheduled for October 2013.

Stay tuned for details!

Can’t Adopt a Pet 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 a lot of the feral and abused cats are still in need. When you sponsor a cat, you’ll receive an adoption certificate with pictures of your chosen cat and its history. We will proudly display a picture of your cat with your name as the cat’s sponsor on our website. You can even make an appointment to come visit your “virtual adoptee” anytime. For more information, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on “Sponsor A Resident”. Or email rrar@ruderanch.org.



Oliver has a sponsor. Thanks, Monica!



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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. As many know, Tommy led a life of questionable repute before he became a resident here at Rude Ranch. Since then he's had a brief career as a kitty condo model, food taster, and shelter spokescat. At the ripe old age of 15, he's now "writing" this column to pass his wisdom on to the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

Spring is almost here and I'm so excited! Not only is it getting warmer and the days are getting longer, everything is getting green and growing outside! I can't wait for my humans to start bringing some of those tasty greens inside! Which brings me to my problem: why do my humans keep taking all those pretty flowers with the tasty green leaves away from me and putting them where I can't reach them?

Plant Lover

Dear Plant Lover,

All those pretty flowers and lilies are certainly tempting this time of the year! However, by keeping them away from you, your humans are doing their best to protect you from accidentally poisoning yourself. All kinds of Easter lilies, Daylilies, Tiger lilies and even onions and garlic (which are also in the lily family) have something called toxins which are very bad for you. If you even lick one of the leaves or drink a little of the water from these plants this toxin can make your kidneys shut down and kill you.

If you do eat part of this plant, your humans need to rush you to your vet right away, because this stuff starts to attack your body really fast. Once you get to the vet, you will have to eat something called charcoal (no, its not what your humans use to cook outside) and get hooked up to all kinds



of needles and tubes to try to pump the poison out of your body. Once you can get past this phase, you will have to have daily fluids until your kidneys recover.

That's a lot to go through just to chew on a couple of leaves! If you can, convince your humans to get you your own cat grass or catnip plants to graze on. That way you will be happy and your humans won't have to worry about you getting hurt. Also, don't forget, as annoying as your canine siblings can be, these plants are also really bad for them too, so don't try to get the dogs to eat this stuff either!

Your friend, Tommy



The Best Little Cat House In Maryland is available for purchase

The reviews are still coming in! *The Best Little Cat House in Maryland* is still one of the funniest, most touching books you will ever read! It is the official story of Rude Ranch Animal Rescue and is now available in hard cover, soft cover and kindle editions!

The book explains many little known facts, such as how Rude Ranch got its name, what the Rude Ranch building 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 run-away goat in the middle of a thunderstorm.



Available through the publisher, Authorhouse.com and Amazon.com, it makes a great gift for any animal lover. The proceeds of each purchase will go right back to the furry residents of Rude Ranch.



CFC #45379

MCC #4650

United Way #9664



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SPRING 2013

VOL.12, NO.1



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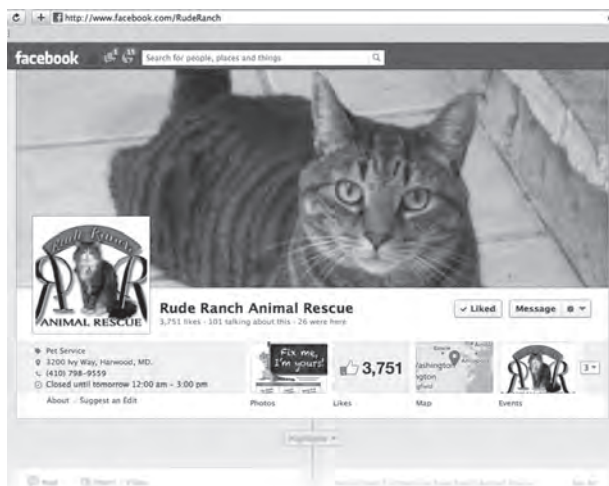
Want to find out what is happening? Rude Ranch and Spay Spa & Neuter Nook are on Facebook! Want to find out what the furballs here at Rude Ranch really think? Check out Miniature Pinscher Bunny and our infamous Tommytomcat's pages!

www.Facebook.com/RudeRanch

www.Facebook.com/SpaySpaandNeuterNook

www.Facebook.com/Ceasarrude

www.Facebook.com/TommyTomcat



Help save lives and leave a legacy

It's not too late to help Rude Ranch and the Spay Spa and Neuter Nook save the lives of thousands of animals! The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook still needs caring people that share the dream to end needless euthanasia of companion animals. You can do this by becoming a sponsor of the clinic. Sponsorships start at \$500. When you become a sponsor, you get a great tax deduction and your donation will be used to spay/neuter homeless animals, strays and companion pets to senior citizens and those that cannot afford veterinary care. To show our appreciation, your name will be prominently displayed in our clinic lobby and included in our newsletter.

Become a Silver Sponsor (\$1,000 or more) and Bob and Kathy Rude will send you a personally autographed copy of Rude Ranch's Book, *The Best Little Cat House in Maryland* and a Rude Ranch t-shirt!



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: () \$100 () \$50 () \$25 () \$15 () 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.

“I’m looking for a family of my own . . .”

“Hi! I’m One Eyed Jack! (You can guess how I got my name!)

I was one of several cats that showed up at Rude Ranch recently just after my nearby house burned down. In addition to being neutered (at Rude Ranch’s own Spay Spa & Neuter Nook), My left eye was misformed and badly infected and it needed to be removed. During my recovery they found out that if you scratch my right ear, I fall over and purr!



One-Eyed Jack is looking for a loving home of his own

I like to play with toy mousies, then feed them by depositing them in a food bowl. I would love to bring my toys to your place and play with you! Would you like to come and meet me? Just email me at info@RudeRanch.org.”

Like to shop at Food Lion? Join “Lion Shop And Share”!



When you shop at Food Lion and use your MVP savings card, a portion of your bill will be donated to Rude Ranch! All you have to do is sign up for an MVP bonus card and register with the Community Rewards program. Call 1.877.614.6877 or go to www.foodlionmvp-rewards.com. Click on “Register Your MVP Card”, and enter your MVP card number on the next screen. From there you can either enter Rude Ranch’s Organization number - 252332, or enter “Rude Ranch Animal Rescue”. Rude Ranch’s information will be displayed on the next screen. Don’t forget, you have to “re-up” your card every year for Rude Ranch to remain your designated charity. If you signed up more than 12 months ago, please go back and sign up again. Thank you!

Immediate Needs/Wish List

- Jumbo size litter boxes
- Canned cat food
- Canned dog food
- Toner cartridges for Dell 3115CN printer
- Volunteers
- Used Veterinary Equipment
- Volunteers for spay/neuter clinic

United Way #9664



MCC #4650



CFC #45379



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