



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue newsletter

FALL 2015 VOL. 15, NO. 1



Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals



Bottled

The handsome tuxedo kitty trusted people at one time in his young life. Then he got bigger and his family started putting him outside all the time. One day he left his yard and didn't go back. He moved on to live with a bunch of other cats. They were in a tiny scrap of trees (and poison ivy vines that were bigger than the trees) in an area in Annapolis. This area was bordered by a bank on one side, an abandoned bank on another, a bar, a pizza joint and an office building on the other sides. He and the other cats were neutered, vaccinated and returned to the area. There were only three cats living in this little square. However, there were enough restaurants with food scraps, water, and a few business owners looking out for them. The cats were managing well.

Then one day the tuxedo kitty ran into a problem: someone threw away a broken water bottle with something really tempting in it. The tuxedo kitty couldn't resist what was in the bottle. He pushed and pushed his head into the bottle to get the remains. At some point he pushed his head in until the bottle was stuck on his head. As smart as cats usually are at getting in and out of stuff, this bottle wasn't coming off. The cat started aimlessly wandering the area with the bottle stuck on his head.

Eventually one of the business owners saw the cat's predicament. She spoke to one of

her clients who worked for Alley Cat Allies. They quickly went into action, trying to catch him using a standard humane trap. Unfortunately, the cat didn't cooperate and go into the trap. Concern for the



Life is much happier without a bottle stuck on his head

cat mounted: was he able to eat and drink with the bottle stuck on his head? How long had the bottle been there? More equipment and human power was needed to catch this elusive guy. Rude Ranch Animal Rescue was called. We called one of our go-to people: Marian. She brought an arsenal of equipment: traps, infrared cameras, nets, and night vision equipment. As word spread, volunteers and employees from the SPCA, Cats R Us, and Laurel Cats came to help. There was only one thing missing: the cat. Despite the cameras, and vigilance, no one saw the cat for days. Eventually there was a sighting. The bottle was still stuck on his head. He ran into a pile of broken concrete and construction debris in the middle of the wooded area. The

entire patch of woods and debris was covered with poison ivy. An infrared camera with an 8 ft extender was used to explore the nooks and crannies in the pile of concrete, and a set of paws was spotted. We figured it was him. Towels, blankets and anything else available were used to stuff all available openings. A two trap system was

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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. 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 5,000 cats, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs. The demand for our services has been incredible! To accommodate the demand, we are expanding the clinic to increase our surgical capacity. We're also still forming partnerships with several humane societies, rescues and animal controls to provide spay and neuter services to all that need them. We are always looking for new rescues and shelters that need help!

We are getting ready to start our tenth 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 fifth 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 14th 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 12th. I'm always very happy to recreate my role as Santa Claws for all the furballs! The more unusual the pet, the better! (Last year a red tailed hawk stopped by!)

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 available in Kindle format. If you haven't read it yet, you can still get it at the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, The Sanctuary or 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

Moving? Trying to Cut Down on the Paper in Your Mail Box?

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 info@ruderanch.org with your new address and we will take care of the rest.

Want to receive our Mewsletter online? Just send us an email at info@ruderanch.org and we will send you a link to our newsletter 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



10,000 Surgeries!

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch's High Quality, Low Cost spay/neuter clinic hit a milestone in performing our 10,000th surgery in March. That works out to 7,009 cats, 2,935 dogs, 53 rabbits, 2 guinea pigs and an opossum! We hit the magic number the morning of March 26. A then 9 month old long haired kitty named Kitana was number 10,000.



A 9-month old kitty named Kitana was our 10,000th surgery patient.

Although we treat every animal at the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook as if it was our own, Kitana got extra attention and went home with a few extra treats, toys and certificates. Kitana's family went home knowing that she would live out her life without going into heat cycles, and, most importantly, would not make any kittens!



Mark Your Calendars . . . Santa Claws is Coming to Town December 12th!

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 13 years, Bob has played Santa to countless dogs, cats, puppies, kittens, ferrets and even a monkey 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 tailed hawk!) 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 at Crunchies Pet Foods, 2421 Crofton Lane on Dec. 12th. Check our online events calendar for more details at www.RudeRanch.org



The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook: Expanding Its Mission

Rude Ranch built the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook in 2012. The clinic was designed as a regional, high quality, low cost spay/neuter clinic. To date, the clinic has spayed and neutered over 14,000 animals. We've created several new initiatives and programs, including a state funded program to assist senior citizens and low income families and formed partnerships with Humane Societies and SPCA's from Hagerstown, MD to Crisfield on the Eastern Shore. Our surgery schedules are full up to 10 days in advance. In order to better serve the community the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is expanding! We are adding an additional 1,500 square feet of space to the clinic. This space will consist of 5 surgery suites, additional area to prepare animals for surgery and a bigger recovery area. We've also added a second surgical veterinarian, Dr. Kip Imperato. Dr. Imperato recently received a "Best Veterinarian" award by readers choice from Baltimore Magazine.

Construction started in July. So far there have been no surprises or unexpected delays. We plan to start using the new space in December. Please join us in our effort to help more animals by becoming



The Spay Spa and Neuter Nook in Davidsonville, MD

a clinic expansion sponsor. You can sponsor the clinic in general or choose to help purchase a specific piece of equipment, like an anesthesia machine (\$5500) or a spay pack (\$300). Your donation is tax deductible and will help us help the many needy animals in our community.

Check out our clinic expansion page at www.SpaySpa.org/Expansion for more details. Check out the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook's Facebook page for expansion updates!





BuBu Tiger, An Update

BuBu Tiger, a sweet orange tiger cat with a huge purr and an even bigger personality was featured in our Spring Mewsletter. He was brought to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook from a farm in rural Somerset County, MD. Unfortunately, he arrived with a badly broken leg and a massive infection. The only way to help him was to amputate the leg. Despite being in a lot of pain, BuBu still purred and rubbed on the side of the carrier.



After a life of neglect, BuBu Tiger is ready for a loving home of his own!

BuBu came to Rude Ranch to recover. He was so exhausted from his ordeal that he slept through the first few days with us. (He did purr and head butt us when he woke up.) We are happy to report that BuBu

has totally recovered from his surgery and has adapted to life on three legs with no problems. He can climb to the top of a cat tree as fast or faster than most other cats (especially if treats are involved). He loves people, food and other cats and is grateful for his new life. He and his best buddy, Tarzan often try to figure out how to get into the food storage bin together.

He did test positive for FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus) meaning he should be an only cat or live with another FIV cat. He would love to have a home where he can run and play, with easy access to his food dish!



A Little Extra Help



The United Methodist Church's West River Ministry Camp did a community service day at Rude Ranch in July. They tackled our weeds then spent the afternoon visiting our furballs.

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.ruderanch.org/ruderanchcfc2010.mp4)



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

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 or 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 deduct your tax deductible amount from your paycheck and send it to Rude Ranch. Your generous donations help us provide the day to day care, medicine, food and litter to our residents, spay/neuter veterinary care for low income families, spay/neuter surgeries for homeless animals and don't forget plenty of Pupparoni's and pig ears 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!



Caring for a Loved One's Pets

There is always much to do after a loved one dies...in addition to feelings of shock and grief, there are arrangements to make, friends and relatives to be notified, legal steps to follow. Sometimes there are more immediate needs to deal with: pets that are left behind. In addition to caring for pets in the days immediately following a loved one's passing, decisions regarding the pet's future(s) must also be made. Likewise, if something happens to you, what will happen to your pets? With proper planning you can ensure your pets (and your loved one's pets) will be cared for after your passing. You can create an enforceable trust for the benefit of your animals as part of your estate planning. Pet Trusts are now recognized in Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, and most other states. To set up a Pet Trust you will need to consider many things: who to name as a caregiver, how to fund the trust, how you want the funds spent, and end of life care for the animals. In order to properly set up a pet trust, contact your personal estate planner or lawyer. Likewise, let your loved ones know (or make sure you know your loved one's) instructions for the care of any pets that might be left behind. Doing so, will save your loved one's several difficult decisions later.

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 cents 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 looking for a sponsor.

When you sponsor one of these cats, we will send you an adoption certificate with pictures and the history of the cat you choose. 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 about our sponsorship program, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on "Sponsor A Resident". Or email info@ruderanch.org

Hit the links . . .

Putts Fore Mutts returns!

Mark your calendars! The Seventh 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 14 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, competitions, prizes, a silent auction and more!

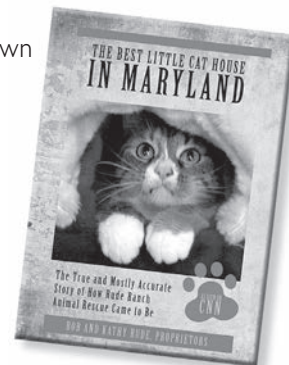


The tournament will be a 4 person scramble. Registration starts at 9 with a shot gun start at 11! You can also participate in the putting contest, long drive and others. For more info, sponsorship opportunities, and to sign up goto www.PuttsForeMutts.org!

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 where your four-footed and feathered friends can ask Tommy for advice on how to handle humans. Tommy's life experiences include a brief career as a kitty condo model, food taster, and shelter spokescat. At the ripe old age of 18, he's now "writing" this column to pass his wisdom on to the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

The holidays are almost here! I'm so excited!!!! All the different food and people and all the extra stuff my humans put around the house!!! They even bring a tree in and put all kinds of shiny stuff and toys on it!!! Then one day my family tears up all this paper and ribbon and puts it all in the middle of the floor! I always want to jump in the middle of the paper and play with the ribbon, then climb the tree! It all looks like so much fun! But sometimes my humans get upset with me when I do this. It ruins all my fun. Why????

Sincerely, Grinched

Dear Grinched,

You're right, the Holidays at the end of the year are a fun and exciting time! However, there are a lot of things that can get a kitty (or a dog) in trouble, so you need to be careful. I'll start with the Christmas Tree. As you already know, our families love to decorate them with all kinds of round shiny stuff that look like toys. However, many of those decorations are made of glass, so if you knock one down and it breaks you could end up with glass slivers in your paw. They will hurt a lot and you will have to go to the vet to have them removed. (Your family will get upset with you for breaking them. If this does happen, try to make it look like the dog did it...just kidding) If your family puts something called tinsel on the tree, make sure you stay away from it. If you accidentally ingest it, it can twist and bind in your intestines. If this happens you will need an emergency surgery. This can also happen with ribbon, so as tempting as it is, be careful playing with the ribbon from gifts. Lastly, even though its fun to sink your claws into a real tree and climb, remember that what goes up, may come down and the tree could fall over with you in it!

I know all the new foods and goodies are also really tempting. However you want to make sure to stay away from

chocolate, nuts and alcohol. All of these foods can make you sick. Its great to have a little of the Christmas meal, but make sure to stay away from the bones. They can splinter and cause damage to your intestines.

Go ahead and have fun with your family over the holidays! Just make sure to stay away from the breakable stuff, and maybe Santa will leave a package or two under the tree for you!

Sincerely,



No Where To Go

As a no-kill organization, specializing in special needs animals, Rude Ranch is almost always full with resident cats and dogs. Unfortunately, there are many animals we do not have the resources to take in. Every now and then a cat or dog comes along and we have to make an exception. Aries is a cute little orange tabby. She had a home, but her family could not afford veterinary care. For the most part she was fine without vet care for many years. Then one day she started to get sick. She had a fever and she didn't want to move. Over the next several days she kept getting sicker. Knowing there was no money to take her to a veterinary clinic, the family reluctantly took her to animal control. Although she was very sick, the staff could tell she was a sweet cat and wanted to give her a chance to find a home. She was diagnosed with Pyometra, an infection of the reproductive organs. She was rushed to emergency surgery to treat the infection. Unfortunately, while she was on the table, her blood tests revealed that she had FELV (feline leukemia). Now the staff had a tough decision to make: find an immediate placement for her, or stop the surgery and not let her wake up.

A hurried call was placed to Rude Ranch: could we take her? Could they have a decision now? After hearing her story, we felt we could make room in our FELV area. Aries spent several days recovering from her surgery at animal control, then made the journey down to Rude Ranch. She settled in quickly. It didn't take long for her to figure out not to try to steal food from Piper, the blind matriarch of the area!





Rude Ranch Animal Rescue



3200 Ivy Way, Harwood, MD 20776 • 410-798-9559 • www.RudeRanch.org

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set up at what we thought was the only opening. The night vision camera was set up. In the morning we all hoped there would be a cat in there. Unfortunately, he knew his way through the slabs of concrete and found another way out. Now we were getting worried: by most estimates the bottle had been stuck on the cat's head for at least 9 days. Even if he could eat, the cat wouldn't be able to get enough food and water to survive. It was Memorial Day Weekend. It was now or never. We coordinated with Alley Cat Allies, Cats R Us and Laurel TNR to converge on the cat. Everyone formed a plan: we would fan out around the circumference of the woods and work our way towards the concrete pile. No sightings. At one point a cat was spotted running into a crack between two buildings. We blocked the front of the buildings while the infrared camera was threaded through from the back. False alarm – it was one of the other cats.

By now we were running out of daylight and options. We decided to set all the traps, set up the night camera and hope for the best. Half an hour and two falls into the poison ivy later, the traps were set. Schedules were compared, times and people were assigned to check the traps during the night. Everyone was frustrated and ready to leave. Turns out we were not alone while we were setting up the traps: the cat in question had been sitting on a rock in the parking

lot behind us, watching the entire time. We did a quick re-evaluation of the situation. The cat was surrounded on all sides. Several people got his attention while others belly crawled behind him and threw a net over him. The net was followed by another net, then blankets were thrown over the nets. Just to be safe, more blankets were added. After all this, no one wanted to take a chance he would squirt out.

Eventually the cat, the bottle and everyone else were loaded up and off to the emergency vet for a "bottlectomy". Despite having a bottle stuck on his head for at least 9 days, the cat was in remarkably good shape. He was dubbed "Sneakers" because of his white feet.

Although he was deemed healthy, Sneakers needed a place to recover from his ordeal. Rude Ranch was asked to hold him long enough to make sure he had no lasting long term effects from having the bottle on his head, and to be re-vaccinated.

Sneakers is doing well after his ordeal. He did explain rather loudly to Bunny, Rude Ranch's miniature pinscher, that he would not share his food when she tried to steal the plate from his cage. He was adopted by two of the people that helped catch him and has decided that he is totally happy living in a home office rather than a pile of concrete.



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.





Show your support for animals by wearing a Rude Ranch or Spay Spa & Neuter Nook T-Shirt or Sweatshirt

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

Show your support for Rude Ranch and Spay Spa & Neuter Nook 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/shop/>

Special Thanks to:

Drs. Harrison, Roller, Hershey and staff at Belair Animal Hospital	Our many contributors PetSmart Charities The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Dr. Amy Carney Our adoptive families Our volunteers	The Snyder Foundation Pet Valu Stores

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



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www.spayspa.org

