



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue

mewsletter

FALL 2016, VOL. 16, NO.1



Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals



Surprise!

Lucy, Tina, Sandy and Buffy were a family. Lucy and Buffy were sisters and had lived at the farm for a couple of years. They were working cats. They lived in a barn in Lothian, MD. Their job was to keep the mice, rats and other rodents away from the hay and straw in the barn. They also patrolled the yard to keep it free of moles and voles. The cats were good at their jobs. The humans living on the property made sure the cats had plenty of food and water. The cats were semi-feral, and didn't let the property owners touch them. Despite the lack of contact, the relationship worked out well for both the property owners and the cats.



Fish and Oswald are ready to find their forever homes!

Although everything with the cats was working out, last spring the property owners knew they soon would have a problem: all four of the cats were female, and none of them were spayed. Sandy and Buffy were Lucy's kittens from last year, and without intervention the property owners knew that all four cats were likely to have at least one litter of kittens in the spring. While the people liked the cats, they didn't want to create more, and the cost to spay and vaccinate all four cats through their regular vet was more than they could afford. The property owners started looking for another solution. Fortunately, they happened upon a sign advertising free spay & neuter for outdoor cats.

Thanks to PetSmart Charities, the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook had funding to spay and neuter 468 barn, stray and community cats last April. As soon as they

saw the offer, they made appointments for all four cats. They planned to catch the cats in a large dog crate. On the morning of the surgery, Lucy and Sandy saw the delicious tuna fish in the back of the dog crate and went in for it. (Buffy and Tina were leery of the change in routine and decided to see what happened. Figuring two were better than none. Lucy and Sandy were loaded up and transported to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook.

What no one knew at the time was that Lucy had a secret: she was not only pregnant again, but her kittens were ready to be born. Lucy settled into the soft bedding in the crate and let nature take over.

In an effort to keep cats calm while they wait for surgery, we turn the lights off and close the doors in our cat area. This is so they are not exposed to barking dogs, and the commotion in the prep and surgical areas. The cat is brought into prep area when it's time for his or her surgery. When it was time for Lucy and Sandy's surgeries, the entire dog crate was brought into the prep area.

Continued on page 7



A Note from our Executive Director

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter!

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 6,000 cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs and even a sugar glider! The demand for our services has been incredible! To accommodate the demand, we expanded the clinic to increase our surgical capacity. We're 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 to form new partnerships!

We are getting ready to start our eleventh 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 sixth 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 19th 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 10th.

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 Newsletter 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

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Email: info@ruderanch.org

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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






Saving Lives at the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook

The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch's high quality, low cost spay & neuter clinic is a large part of fulfilling our mission to end the euthanasia of healthy animals because of overpopulation. Every day the clinic spays and neuters animals from many areas within Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and Washington DC. The clinic opened in October, 2012 and is quickly approaching our 20,000th surgery. (As July 1, 2016, we've done 19,297 spay and neuters!) We've even neutered a couple of unusual species: an opossum for a wildlife sanctuary and Wocket, the sugar glider!

We always enjoy meeting and interacting with the animals that come into our clinic, and especially like to see the trends in animal names. Maggie, Chloe, and Daisy are still very popular names for female dogs while different versions of Samson, Sammy and Sam are very popular for male dogs, both big and small. Diesel is also popular for a lot of the bigger dogs, and Denali is the most common name for Siberian Huskies. Whiskers, Kitty and Pumpkin still reign as popular names for cats. We did have a Lover Boy that totally lived up to his name and wanted to be carried around. As always current TV shows and movie characters are very popular. Although we don't see too many "Ziva"s any more we still see several Leroy's and Jethro's from NCIS. There are a lot of Game of Thrones fans as we've had a lot of Khaleesi's, Cersei's and Gregor's. DC Comic's Batman and friends is still popular as we've had Two Face, Batman, Robin and several characters from "Gotham". Some people must have been hungry when they named their pets: Oreo, Cookie, Nacho, Waffle, Sushi, Bacon and Bubble Gum visited us this year!



Bob Rude greets SSNN guest, Diesel

Thanks to the services provided by SSNN with support from PetSmart Charities, Alley Cat Allies, Putts Fore Mutts, Paul & Kim Intlekofer and the Maryland Spay/Neuter Fund, these animals will live happier, healthier lives and won't contribute to the pet overpopulation problem. 


Hit the Links! Putts Fore Mutts Returns!

Mark your calendars! The Eighth Annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament, hosted by the Putts Fore Mutts Foundation, to benefit Rude Ranch Animal Rescue and The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook will be held September 19 at The Queenstown Harbor! Major sponsors for the tournament include Annapolis Catering, Howard Bank, and WRNR FM.




Last year's tournament was a huge success raising over \$40,000 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 with a shot gun start at 11! You can also participate in the putting contest, million dollar hole in 1, long drive and others.

For more info, sponsorship opportunities, and to sign up go to www.PuttsForeMutts.org! 

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.

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. 



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 20 he's now "writing" this column to pass his wisdom on to the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

I've got an embarrassing problem!!!! It's my litterbox.... it's scary!!!! I'm afraid to use it!!!! I know my people bought it just for me, but it's a big closed in box and when I'm in it I hear all kinds of noises and can't see what's happening. It feels like everything is closing in. Sometimes the dog sticks his head in while I'm using it and traps me. It smells too! I know if I don't use it I will be in REAL trouble! What do I do?

Boxed In

Dear Boxed In,

I can understand your problem with the litterbox, especially having a dog stick his head in while you are doing your "business". While it is tempting to not use a scary or unpleasant litterbox, not using it will get you in a lot more trouble. "Not using the litterbox" is the reason most people surrender a cat. You need to get your humans to work with you quickly.

As you stated there are many things that can make you or any cat not want to use your litterbox. First off, do go to a veterinarian for a thorough check up to make sure you don't have any physical issues. Then start looking at the litterbox itself. Cats are a lot like people: one size does not fit all! Like people some cats are claustrophobic and an enclosed litter box freaks him or her out. Other cats prefer an enclosed box for more privacy. Have your humans check the location of your litterbox. Is it out in the open where there is lots of noise and commotion with people and other pets going through? We cats like our privacy too! Have your humans move the box to a quieter area that is away from main traffic areas in your house. (And definitely the dog!) Do you live with other cats? If so, make sure your humans have at



least one litter box per cat. There's nothing worse than having to wait in line or jumping in a litter box that has just been used! You also might want to have your humans buy you unscented kitty litter. Even though the humans don't notice it, we cats are a lot closer to the litter and the scent can be overpowering.

If you've already had an accident, make sure your humans clean it properly. Use an enzyme based cleaner and let it soak into the surface. Definitely don't use anything with ammonia! That will just make you want to mark on top of it!

Try these suggestions at your house to make you and your humans happy!

Sincerely,



Getting A Little Extra Help

Samson is a big friendly guy, and we mean big! He is a big teddy bear English Mastiff, weighing in at just over 100 pounds! Samson and his family are happy, although his humans recently lost their jobs. Although money was tight his people wanted to make sure he got neutered and vaccinated. Fortunately for Samson, his family qualified for special funding from the Maryland State Spay/Neuter Fund. Samson's surgery went well, and a very tired Samson went home to his family, including two small children and his best friend, yorkie Jane Erye.

Unfortunately, Samson did not follow his discharge instructions and take it easy for the next few days. In addition to pulling out internal sutures, he opened his incision and it got infected. His family was very worried about him for several reasons: in addition to the medical problems, they just could not afford the antibiotics he needed or the additional surgery to fix the damage to the incision.

Thanks to donations from Rude Ranch's caring supporters we were able to take care of Samson and provide both his needed medications and additional surgery at no cost to his family. Samson was sent home with strict orders to take it easy. This time he listened and was back to his happy self in a few days! Samson, his family and everyone here at Rude Ranch is grateful to everyone that has supported us and animals like Samson.



Unbottled!

Last year Sneakers, aka Bottlehead, was a cat living in a poison ivy infested plot of land filled with construction debris in Annapolis. This little plot of land was surrounded by restaurants and businesses that fed and generally cared for Sneakers and two other cats that lived there. Then one day Sneakers showed up with a big problem: he had a plastic bottle stuck on his head, and it wouldn't come off. To make matters worse, no one could catch him to get the bottle off his head.

Over the next 10 days volunteers and employees from many groups including Rude Ranch, Cats R Us, New Chances, Alley Cat Allies, and the Anne Arundel County SPCA desperately tried to catch the elusive cat. We finally caught him one night in the middle of a parking lot: he was sitting on a rock watching all the humans searching through the woods and construction debris looking for him!

Once the bottle came off, he got a thorough check up and came to Rude

Ranch to recuperate. A few weeks later, Sneakers was adopted into his forever home. He promptly staked out the area behind the computer desk (with all the cords and cables) as his new territory.

In the year since his ordeal, Sneakers has come out of his hiding area and now loves to hang with his new human and animal family. He even made a trip to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook for an exam and to make sure his vaccines are up to date. He is quite happy to get rid of the bottle and to be in a home!



Sneakers enjoyed a recent visit with Bob Rude and the staff at Spay Spa & Neuter Nook

Mark Your Calendars . . . Santa Claws is Coming to Town December 10th!

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 14 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! Come to Rude Ranch's Photos with Santa at Crunchies Pet Foods, 2421 Crofton Lane on Dec. 10th. Check our online events calendar for more details at www.RudeRanch.org



Community Cat Outreach Project Gets Liftoff

We are excited to announce that the Anne Arundel County Administration is publically supporting its first Community Cat Outreach Project. The Project will be led by Rude Ranch and the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook in partnership with Sunshine's Friends, Cats R Us and the SPCA of Anne Arundel County. The goal is to demonstrate how the county and its citizens will be better served with the addition of a Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) program to control the county's population of stray and community cats. We expect to start the project in September in Hillsmere Shores, a neighborhood within Annapolis. Project volunteers (this could be you; let us know!) will work with the community to address concerns, fix cats, and educate citizens about spay/neuter and keeping cats inside. The project gives the Anne Arundel County Police, Animal Control and Dept. of Health an opportunity to build relations and expand its environmental health programs at no cost to the county (Rude Ranch, through its' charitable grants, will fund the project). The project will enable citizens to solve a (cat) community issue with the support (but not funds) of local government. It does not take away other solutions but rather provides a preventative tool.

Our end goal is to get the Animal Control county code updated so it differentiates community cats from owned cats and reduces needless euthanasia. Please join us in helping the animals that cannot help themselves. Call the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook at 443.607.6496 for more information.





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!



CFC #45379



MCC #4650



United Way #9664

Happy Endings

Mylo was a tiny kitten in a lot of trouble. He was the runt of his litter and he was sick. Very sick. At 6 weeks old, he barely weighed a pound... his lungs were filled with mucus and fluid making it difficult to breathe. His eyes were sealed closed. Although the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook usually doesn't do walk in appointments for sick animals, the gentleman that found him took a chance and brought him in.

Fortunately for Mylo, vet tech Elizabeth was there that day and felt an instant connection to him.

She took him home with her and cared for him throughout the night. The next day, when Elizabeth brought him back to the clinic, Mylo's breathing was a little better. Every day, Mylo got a little stronger. (He also



After a sickly start, Mylo is now happy and healthy with a family of his own.

developed into an experienced traveler going back and forth to the clinic everyday!) Soon Mylo was healthy enough that he didn't have to travel to the clinic everyday for a check up. (He still came in, but only to supervise us humans!) Now that he's healthy, Mylo has found a home and family of his own. He loves to run and play, and unlike most cats, is totally ok with car rides!



Do You Shop at Amazon.com?

Did you know you can shop Amazon.com and help Rude Ranch at the same time? Amazon.com's new program, AmazonSmile will donate .5% of your purchases to Rude Ranch (or another registered charity) at no cost to you! It's simple to sign up and everything from your existing Amazon.com account will still be there! To get started just go to Smile.Amazon.com, sign up and start shopping!



You shop. Amazon gives.

Surprised! Continued from page 1

Imagine our surprise when we lifted the blanket off the crate and saw Lucy and two kittens snuggled up to her belly!


Although the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook is not set up to care for neonatal kittens, we were able to move Lucy and her kittens to another large dog crate away from the noise and other animals for the rest of the day.

Lucy's family didn't know what to do. If they put Lucy and her kittens back in the barn, there was a good chance the kittens would be attacked and killed by wildlife. They could try to care for the small family in their house, but Lucy would not let them touch her and even at a few hours old, she was fiercely protecting her kittens. She bit and clawed anyone who tried to touch them.

Fortunately for Lucy, Spay Spa veterinary technician Stephanie Rye was in that day. Stephanie is the Spay Spa's head anesthesia tech and has a soft spot for sick, injured, and neonatal kittens. Stephanie offered to take Lucy and her kittens home and care for them until the kittens could be adopted and Lucy could go back to working in the barn. The first few days were not easy for Lucy or Stephanie. Lucy did not trust anyone and certainly did not want anyone to touch her precious babies. Even though she was grateful for the food, every time

the door to her crate opened, she hissed and swatted at the hand or plate. Eventually Stephanie and Lucy worked out a deal: Stephanie would open the crate and approach Lucy with a roll of paper towels, Lucy would swipe and beat up the paper towels while Stephanie checked the kittens, changed the litter box and gave them food and water. This arrangement worked until the kittens were ready to start eating on their own.

At 5 weeks the kittens were big enough to start exploring on their own. By now they were starting to get on mom Lucy's nerves so she was fine with them leaving her for short periods of time. Soon the kittens were coming out of the crate every night, learning to cuddle, play and interact with humans. The kittens, a boy and girl, were soon named Fish and Oswald.

By now, Fish and Oswald were independent from Lucy and ready to take on the world. Lucy came back to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook and was spayed. Buffy and Tina finally cooperated and came in on the same day. All three cats went back to their barn and started working again a few days later. Fish and Oswald have stayed with Stephanie while they look for forever homes. This is one surprise that has a very furry ending! 

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.

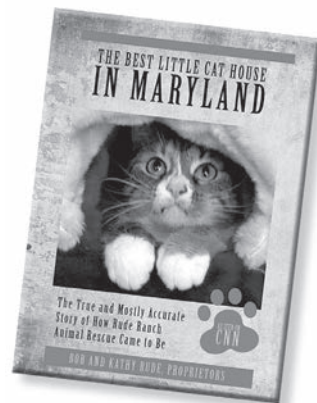


The Best Little Cat House In Maryland: The Purrfect Gift for the Animal Lover in Your Life!

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 through the Rude Ranch website (www.RudeRanch.org/shop/... it really is our sales page!) and Amazon.com, it makes a great gift for any animal lover. The proceeds of each purchase go right back to the furry residents of Rude Ranch. 



Special Thanks to:

Drs. Harrison, Roller and staff at Belair Veterinary Hospital	Our many contributors
Dr. Amy Holstein	Putts Fore Mutts Foundation
Our adoptive families	PetSmart Charities
Our volunteers	The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
	The Snyder 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



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