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

Immediate Needs/Wish List

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

Special Thanks to:
The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
PetSmart Charities
New! Rude Ranch and Spay Spa
Cestone Foundation
Petco Foundation
Alley Cat Allies
The Snyder Foundation
The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Petco Foundation
Alley Cat Allies

Collared

The open garage must’ve looked like a pretty safe place for kittens, at least that’s what one mother cat thought as she snuck in and promptly gave birth to a litter. The owner of the garage, an older lady (she’s 93!) wasn’t happy that the kittens were in her garage, but enjoyed watching them run and play as they grew.

Once the kittens were weaned, the mother cat left one day and didn’t come back. However, the kittens did stay behind and made the garage their ‘home base’. Even though she couldn’t touch them, the lady was very attached to the kittens and didn’t want anything to happen to them. When they were almost 4 months old, she contacted a local veterinarian for help.

The kittens were rounded up, spayed, neutered and given vaccines. As they were living outside, the kittens were also ear-tipped. Thinking that the kittens would eventually start exploring the neighborhood, the veterinarian also suggested putting break away collars on the kittens, so people would realize they had a home. Soon the kittens were back in the garage, happily playing, and exploring.

A few weeks later, one of the kittens got his front leg through the collar. The collar was still pretty loose on him, so there wasn’t enough pressure to make the collar break. The caretaker noticed the collar, but she couldn’t catch the kitten to fix the collar.

Unfortunately for the kitten, the collar didn’t break and over the next few months the kitten continued to grow while the collar didn’t. Soon the collar was growing into the kitten’s skin. The lady knew it was a problem, but by now the kittens were almost 8 months old and with no human contact (and her age) the kitten would not let her get close enough to even try to get the collar off.

She called several agencies asking for help for the kitten, but there were no resources available.

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We are getting ready to start our twelfth 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 seventh 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, please let them know about us!

Our designation numbers are: CFC: 45379, MCC: 52-231267 and United Way: 9664.

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it's time for you to get the fluids, have your humans give you a temperature difference when they enter your body! When water for a few minutes.) The warm fluids will be less of a coating, you will get too much medicine at one time. If you are diabetic and need insulin, you need to keep a pretty consistent schedule of when you eat and when you get your meds. You need to make sure you stay on a low carbs diet. You also need to have a small meal when you get your insulin shots. Your humans can give you your insulin shot while you are eating. Your vet will need to figure out how much you should eat and how much insulin you need and how often. Your humans may need to check your blood sugar (glucose) levels at home. The most accurate way to do this is with a drop of blood and a glucometer. The test doesn't need much blood, so have your humans prick a blood vessel in the tip of your ear. (Tell them to put a dab of vaseline on the spot first, that will make the blood easier to get on the test strip and not absorb into your fur.)

Don't Forget . . . Santa Claws is Coming to Town December 9th!

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 Claus! For the past 13 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 opossum!) 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 this December at Crunchies Pet Foods, 2421 Crofton Lane on December 9th. Check our online events calendar for more details at www.RudeRanch.org.
Dale's Story

Dale came to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook as part of a feral TNR group from Community Cats Coalition rescue on the Eastern Shore. She was cat #32 (hence being named after hockey player Dale Hunter, even though she’s a girl). What we didn't know was that she had been hit by a car 2 weeks before she was brought in. Even worse, she had been pregnant and although the kitten did not survive, it was still inside her. Because of this unexpected complication, the surgery took much longer than normal and she had an extra-long incision. Due to this, we did not feel comfortable immediately releasing her back to her colony so a staff member, Katie, took her home to foster Dale while she recovered. That’s when Katie (and her husband, Drew) got the second surprise: Dale was not feral…in fact, Katie says Dale is one of the friendliest cats she has ever met and they decided to foster Dale until she finds her Forever Home.

Dale recovered well from surgery and has settled in to her Forever Home. She is extremely playful and intelligent. She loves to chase feather toys, jingle balls, and laser pointers, but she will also sit on your lap for snuggles. She also comes when she’s called...and is learning “sit.” She has used her litter box since arriving and has not had any health problems since her surgery. She is up to date on her vaccines and tested negative for FIV/FeLV. She is also microchipped.

Please consider adopting Dale. She has such a difficult life before coming to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook and while Drew and Katie are enjoying fostering her, Dale deserves a Forever Home where she can enjoy a life of head rubs and play time.

The Best Little Cat House In Maryland: The Purrrfect 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. You can even find out how our own Tommy Tomcat landed at Rude Ranch!

Available through the Rude Ranch website (www.RudeRanch.org/shop/... it really is our sales page!) and Amazon.

The Votes are In: Brooklyn

During the time that Rude Ranch has existed, we’ve had to come up with a lot of names for our furry residents. Sometimes a new furball comes in and we are at a total loss for a name. That’s how “Brooklyn” got her name!

Brooklyn arrived at Rude Ranch via the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook. Originally brought in from the Brooklyn Park area the kitten was a stray living in an alley, she had many fleas, making her anemic. Her fur was covered in dirt and tar from living on the street, and she was so underweight, the bones in her spine stood out. The emaciated kitten clearly was not healthy enough to be spayed that day. Unfortunately there was no one in Brooklyn Park to take her in and help her get healthy. Her only hope was to go back to the alley and try to survive, or come to Rude Ranch.

It didn’t take much to decide to bring her to the sanctuary, especially once she was tested and came up positive for FeLV (feline leukemia). We settled her into our leukemia area and Baby (one of our newer FeLV residents) quickly took the kitten under her paw. Thanks to Baby, the kitten’s fur was soon shiny and clean. However, she still didn’t have a name!

As she was technically a community cat, we figured the community should help name her! We posted her picture on Facebook and asked for suggestions. We got many great names, but variations of Brooklyn and Marshmallow were the most popular. It came down to a vote between the two and in the end Brooklyn won out.

Brooklyn is grateful to everyone that helped choose her name. While she still looks to Baby for guidance, she is getting braver everyday, coming out to meet people and play with the other cats. She did learn rather quickly it’s a really bad idea to pounce on Firefly’s tail!
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Dale recovered well from her surgery and has settled in to her Forever Home. Due to her feline leukemia, she is up to date on her vaccines and tested negative for FIV/FELV. She is also microchipped.

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Tommy Tomcat landed at 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 spokesperson. At the ripe old age of 21 he’s now “writing” this column to pass his wisdom on to the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

My humans are so mean to me! They are making take this horrid stuff called medicine! It’s bad enough that I have to take this stuff, but my humans say I have to take it for the rest of my life! Help!

Sincerely,
Poked & Prodded

Dear Poked & Prodded,

I understand your frustration with your humans giving you medicine everyday...it might taste bad, disrupt your nap schedule or your humans may need practice giving it to you. But remember it is important that you take it, especially if you have epilepsy, diabetes or your kidneys are starting to fail. Without these medicines you could get sicker, go into a blood vessel in the tip of your ear. (Tell them to put a dab of blood sugar (glucose) levels at home. The most accurate way to do this is with a drop of blood and a glucometer. The test doesn’t need much blood, so have your humans prick a blood vessel in the tip of your ear. (Tell them to put a dab on the test strip and not absorb into your fur.)

Depending on what medicine you are on, there are several ways you can work with your humans to make it easier for everyone. If you must take a pill, you can have your humans put it inside of another food that you like, such as a little piece of lunchmeat or a little cream cheese. They can also get pill pockets which come in yummy flavors and are designed so that humans can put a pill inside of them. If that doesn’t work, your humans can always try a something a little odd. (Some pets are happy when a little piece of lunchmeat is set in a bowl of hot water for a few minutes.) The warm fluids will be less of a coating, you will get too much medicine at one time. Without these medicines you could get sicker, go into a blood vessel in the tip of your ear. (Tell them to put a dab on the test strip and not absorb into your fur.)

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Although removing the collar brought the kitten almost immediate relief, he still needed a place to recover and heal. He needed follow up antibiotics, additional sutures (as his skin grew back), and monitoring. His original caretaker could not provide these things for him. Fortunately, Cheri, one of the Spay Spa’s vet techs felt bad for him and offered to care for him.

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The Snyder Foundation
Paul & Kim Intlekoffer

The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Drs. Harrison, Roller, Hersey and the staff at Belair Veterinary Hospital
Dr. Amy Carney
Putts Fore Mutts Foundation

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Unfortunately for the kitten, the collar didn’t break and over the next few months the kitten continued to grow while the collar didn’t. Soon the collar was growing into the kitten’s skin. The lady knew it was a problem, but by now the kittens were almost 8 months old and with no human contact (and her age) the kitten would not let her get close enough to even try to get the collar off.

She called several agencies asking for help for the kitten, but there were no resources available.

She finally got in contact with Marion Hosmer, member of the Anne Arundel Community Cat Coalition and an expert at catching and fixing stray, feral and community cats. Even though this kitten was in Prince Georges County, Marion knew he needed help - by now the collar had been embedded around his shoulder, leg and neck for almost 8 months. It took two days to catch the kitten. Marion realized he needed immediate help and brought him directly to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook.

As soon as we saw the kitten, we knew he must have been in great pain. The collar had rubbed away all the fur and skin round his neck, back and under his front paw. It was not only rubbing on the raw flesh, but had constricted the muscles and tissue underneath. Everyday he moved, the collar was constricting his body and rubbing on delicate tissue.

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