



San Diego's

FERRET BULLETIN

Do it for the little guy!

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June, 2006

May 25th Rally Brings Us a Little Publicity

On May 25th LegalizeFerrets.org had its first attempt to get media attention with mixed results. Thirteen ferret fanciers dressed as convicts and unfurled a 20-foot banner outside the "Hall of Justice" in downtown San Diego. The banner read... well, see the photo for yourself.

Press releases went out, follow up calls were made, emails sent to the media. KFMB and Fox News showed up and did brief stories. KFMB opened their story with a photo of black footed ferrets popping out of a hole. That would be akin to having a photo of wolves to open a story about the wiener dog races (yes, they dress up their Dachshund as hotdogs and race them through the park).



Not to be outdone, I heard second hand that Fox news radio mentioned our website – www.LegalizeFerrets.gov! A fricken 20' banner says Legalizeferrets.org, but we also have LegalizeFerrets.com, and what they get is a .gov!

Two members joined the 3,000 Club based on that news coverage. But it did lead to a story from nationally-syndicated pet columnist Steve Dale. Steve asked hard-hitting questions, and didn't go for the cheap puns most journalists use when they cover this story. His original version is on our websites (ferretsanon.com and LegalizeFerrets.org) but the version that appeared in the Union-Tribune on June 1st had key paragraphs removed and seemed to be like a very bland article, newspaper filler if you will.

We have a long way to go. AB 647 may or may not make it. If successful it might lead to legalization, or it could be a way to spin our wheels and just keep us busy. But the 3,000 Club has brought more members into ferret legalization and reignited our energy. If you haven't joined the 3,000 club yet – please do so. If you have, thank you!

~ Pat Wright



NEXT FERRETS ANONYMOUS MEETING

San Diego chapter of Ferrets Anonymous Business Meeting – ferret talk, discussion on legalization efforts and upcoming local FA events

Thursday, June 15th, 7:00 PM

Twiggs Coffee House, 4590 Park Boulevard (Corner of Park Blvd & Madison Avenue in Normal Heights, San Diego)

You will find a few of us drinking coffee and discussing ferrets. Why not show up and offer your ideas? Anyone for setting up an information table at Petco or PetSmart? If interested, please call FA at 619-303-0645 or email info@ferretsanon.com

The monthly "play" meeting is the last Monday of the month. Please email Chris K at wuv2sing@cox.net for more information.



Ferrevite to the Rescue: Blizzard Investigates Someone Else's Home.

Nothing like Spring in VA, and a beautiful day it was. I try to get my cute little Blizzard out in the sunshine everyday all throughout the year, as I heard that natural sun can assist in off-setting adrenal gland disease (as it stimulates the natural melatonin in a ferret's body). So there we were...playing in the yard. Me clapping happily, Blizzard running free (sans leash), when all of a sudden The Blizz Meister disappeared! As I did not think we were in the middle of a magic trick, nor did I think we were on Candid Camera, I immediately got a sinking feeling in my heart. Yes...Blizzard found a new groundhog hole and went in at full speed to investigate!

I called his name, and then ran into the house to get my wife. She came out hearing the distress in my voice not knowing what had happened. We found the other entrance/exit of the groundhog home where I stationed her. I was at the original point of entry calling his name. My wife went back into the house to get a bell/squeak toy. He heard the toy and stuck his nose out of the exit, but when he realized it was a parental trick, went right back in! Then I ran back to the house to fetch some 8 in 1 Ferrevite to "lure" him out.

I called his name at the original point of entry. Thank G-d for his bell collar. It could actually be heard in the hole! I stuck in my finger with the 8 in 1 Ferrevite on it, and sure enough...here comes little Blizzard. With spider webs all over his mustache, he could not keep from licking my finger as I slowly brought it out of the hole. As soon as I could get my other hand around his rib cage I swooped him up and out.

I let him lick the rest of the 8 in 1 Ferrevite and brought him back into the house, where he received the first bath of the season. Who knows what was down there? Fortunately, not a baby groundhog and more fortunetly, not its mother.

All in all for Blizzard, it was just another day at the Office of Investigation. For my wife and me it was almost a day of going into cardiac arrest. I guess 8 in 1 Ferrevite can add something new to their marketing plan for this "alluring" product which should now be called 9 in 1!

~ Mark Sonder, CSEP

Help A Shelter

Check out Terra's site at: <http://ferretville.net/terra/fundraiser.html> (some newer items are not up yet but you can contact Terra for more information on a full selection of items)

For the month of June, donations help two shelters that have now merged in to one - HEAVEN SCENT/THE DOOK NOOK. Sandi and Jackie are in serious need of help. Here is their story:

Heaven Scent (formerly in AL, now in Jacksonville, FL) and The Dook Nook (Jacksonville, FL) Ferret shelters have recently combined their shelters. Sandi and Jackie have taken in 48 ferrets (plus their other ferrets to equal over 80 ferrets). Of those taken in, several had broken toes and tails that had mended crooked. Some were balding. Through all this, they are all just as sweet & lovable as can be.

Most of the ferrets have numerous medical problems. About half of them having adrenal gland disease and/or insulinoma. Many also have dental problems. These kids need surgery ASAP but funds are not available except for the most urgent. Immediate needs are help with vet bills for medications, tests and surgeries. Other needs include donations of hammocks and other bedding, water bottles, lock-on food dishes, cages, litter, litter pans, quality ferret foods, cleaning supplies, cage floor mats, Ferretone, Laxatone, Nutrical, gift certificates to Wal-Mart, Target, Tractor Supply, etc...and especially forever homes for special needs kids. Basically, anything at all will be deeply appreciated.

Terra hopes to make this an extra special month for them, so keep her busy, everyone, and let's get a great donation together this month to help these ferrets out!

website: <http://fuzzyslave.tipod.com/> (to be updated shortly)

Vet Info:

John Rossi DVM, M.A.

2641 Park St.

Jacksonville, FL 32204

Phone: 904-388-3494



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Puck in Window - photo submitted by FA member.

Update on AB 647

Assembly Bill 647 is the current legislative effort to legalize ferrets in California. Last year it failed to make it out of the Senate Appropriations Committee and became a two-year bill. Assemblyman Paul Koretz is trying to get it out of committee by mid-August so it can go to the Governor's desk and become law.


This bill doesn't legalize ferrets. It allows the state to spend \$30 for a CEQA study (California Environmental Quality Act). If the CEQA study results in a negative declaration (which is good and means that no environmental impact would be expected if ferrets were legalized) the California Resources Agency would be required to study ferret legalization using as a base a previous study already done which was favorable (and ignored) to ferrets. It puts in motion eventual legalization.

If they don't get a negative declaration, meaning ferret legalization could harm the environment, a full-blown EIR (Environmental Impact Report) would be required, costing between \$250,000 and \$300,000 before ferret legalization would be considered. (and our hopes would basically be dashed).

Assemblyman Koretz's office is trying to secure private funding for the CEQA to move it out of the Appropriations Committee. The Appropriations Committee official task is to consider the fiscal impact of legislation; it is one more hurdle a bill must pass if that bill is going to spend state money. The Appropriations Committee usually considers any bill spending more than \$250,000, so it is unusual they would even

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Thank you!



LOW COST CLINIC - JUNE 24, 2006!!! 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

No cost exams and nail trims!

Ear mite check	\$10.00
Ivermectin Injection	\$18.00
Rabies Vaccine	\$ 6.00
Distemper Vaccine	\$13.00
Diphenhydramine	\$13.50
Dexamethasone	\$13.50

*Dexamethasone injections are given before the vaccines if anyone has ferrets that have had an anaphylactic reaction in the past (also known as an allergic reaction). This vaccine can also be given after the regular vaccines in the event of an unexpected reaction.

bother with this. This should tell us the bill has powerful opponents.

Also, according to the very helpful staffer at the assemblyman's office, opposition to this bill is coming from the California Department of Fish and Game, and Mike Chrissman, head of the Resources Agency also "doesn't like the bill."

However, she also told me that Governor Schwarzenegger wants to sign this bill and he regrets vetoing last year's ferret amnesty bill. I don't believe that, I think the Governor is once again talking out of both sides of his mouth and he doesn't give a hoot about ferrets or their owners.

The chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee is Senator Kevin Murray:

State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-4026, Fax (916) 445-8899

District Office - 600 Corporate Pointe, #1020
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 641-4391, Fax (310) 641-4395

Looking at his past voting record on ferrets we can find twice where he did not vote on the issue. If you decide to write to Senator Murray asking him to support AB 647, please be polite!

~ Pat Wright





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Bumper sticker 2

Product Order Form - please complete, indicate quantity of each item ordered, and mail with address and contact information:



Buttons - \$2.00 each

T-shirt - \$17.50 each - also indicate size:

- small
- medium
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- XL
- XXL
- XXXL



Bumper stickers - \$3.00 each Bumper sticker 1

- style #1
- style #2



3000 Club Membership - \$10.00 - indicate name to be used online



We Bought An Add in the Union Tribune's Quarterly "Save A Pet Section"
LegalizeFerrets.org paid about \$240 to place this ad in the Union Tribune Pet Rescue special which will run in their Wednesday, June 14th edition. If any pet needs to be rescued - it is the domestic ferret from California's insane policy on banning a domestic animal. Thank you to everyone who contributed and thanks to our graphic artist, Heidi, who took time away from tiling her new bathroom to rush this ad into production!

