



House Rabbit Network

P.O. Box 2602

Woburn, MA 01888-1102



Dedicated to educating the public and to fostering and adoption of companion rabbits. 781-431-1211 or www.rabbitnetwork.org.

RABBIT TRACKS

Summer 2007



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An Extraordinary Journey:

A Rabbit's Fight for Survival Against the Odds

by Shannon Cail

In January of 2003, Bailey was diagnosed with spinal arthritis and two ureteral stones. He was just five and a half years old. This marked the beginning of a little lop's long battle to live, despite the odds stacked against him. It was the start of nearly four years of research and collaboration with veterinarians determined to help this brave and feisty little rabbit. It was also the beginning of an unimagined, powerful and precious bond between owner and beloved pet.

Within two days of diagnosis, Bailey had an ultrasound and was scheduled for surgery to remove the stones. The surgery was successful and Bailey recovered beautifully.

However, my vet warned me that more stones could develop in the future, especially given the calcification that was occurring in his left kidney. To help with the arthritis, Bailey was prescribed Glucosamine/Chondroitin. Metacam was ruled out (at this time) due to the negative effects it could have on his already compromised kidneys.

Towards the end of 2003, during a routine check, a small mass was discovered on Bailey's left front paw. Once again, surgery was scheduled and the mass was removed. Thankfully it was a benign basal cell tumor... a sigh of relief!

Five months later Bailey developed a case of mites and was prescribed

a dose of Revolution with orders to return in two weeks for a recheck. Before the two weeks were up, we were back at the vets. Bailey was arching his back and in obvious discomfort, the same signs I had seen almost one and a half years previously. I knew in the back of my mind what it could be, especially given the presence of mites (mites usually present themselves when there is an underlying



Bailey enjoying some hay in 2003, when everything began.

problem), but didn't want to admit it until actually proven. Radiographs confirmed my fears - there was a large stone lodged in the opening of the ureter of the left kidney. Both kidneys also appeared smaller in size and the left kidney was now almost completely calcified. Blood work confirmed chronic kidney disease. I was faced with the decision to remove the stone, remove the entire kidney or treat it medicinally. I discussed the pros and cons of all my options with my vet, other vets and people on Etherbun (rabbit list on YahooGroups.com). Many factors

contributed to my decision not to go the route of removing the entire kidney: there were no known statistics on kidney removal in rabbits (my vet offered this information after having just attended the ICE Convention the previous month where this very topic was discussed); it was an intense and invasive surgery; and, not least, the declining health of Bailey. Of course going in and removing just the stone

was also just as risky. My vet felt that if we were to go in and do that, then we might as well just take the entire kidney. Beforehand, he would have had to perform an intravenous pyelogram test to see the exact percentage of function of the kidney in question. In my research, I only found one person whose rabbit had this surgery and survived. This was not enough to convince me to put Bailey through this. I also knew, as

did my vet, that although he was a fighter, there was a slim chance he would survive this operation. So we went the medicinal route. He was put on Polycitra K Solution (Potassium Citrate) three times a day for life, to possibly help dissolve the stone and prevent future stones. Although there was no guarantee with that, it was worth a try. He was also put on oral Bupren (Buprenorphine) once a day or as needed to help with the pain. I wasn't expecting too much at this point and thought I only had a few months left with Bailey.

In August of 2004 Bailey was in the worst pain since the stone was discovered. As usual, it was on a weekend and my options were limited. So I packed Bailey up and took him to Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston. Bailey was grinding his teeth so badly it was deafening to the ear and I was at a loss of how to help him. The veterinarian on-call was wonderful with Bailey (it is rare for an emergency room vet to have some knowledge of rabbits). Radiographs showed the stone was no longer lodged in the opening of the kidney, but had actually moved into its core. It was different in shape than the previous radiographs in May. There was also "gritty-like" substance in Bailey's urine. Based on that, the vet concluded that he must have been passing tiny pieces of the stone that had "broken off" and this was causing the pain.

Over the next year, a lot had happened. The good news: we got an outstanding new rabbit savvy vet (Dr. Astrid Kruse) and Bailey found a girlfriend, Lily. The bad news: Bailey's spinal arthritis had continually worsened, his chronic URI was still present, another basal cell tumor was growing on the left side of his body, the stone was still present in the left kidney, his right kidney was now failing and he had gone deaf. If there ever was a REAL Energizer bunny, I think Bailey was it.

At the end of 2005/beginning of 2006 Bailey's hind leg movement became noticeably worse. It had reached the point where he couldn't use his back legs at times and would drag himself around with his front paws. Other times he would just pivot on his "really bad" leg, but he would still

get around. Although it was heart-breaking to see this little guy, with so many problems already, face yet another disability, nothing stopped this determined little lop. Thinking it was mostly related to the kidney disease, I started researching carts for bunnies and found a few companies that had actually made rabbit carts.

In January of 2006, Bailey was diagnosed with E.cuniculi and put on a 30 day course of Fendbendazole. During this time my mother came to me with something she had seen on Animal Planet: animal hydrotherapy. After discussion with my vet and the hydrotherapy vet, we opted for physical therapy only (there were concerns with the water and some of Bailey's medical conditions). Bailey also started going to acupuncture. Dr. Kruse referred us to a wonderful colleague of hers, Dr. Bethany Innis, who also practiced animal acupuncture. Within that one week in February, both treatments were started and the difference in Bailey's movement was amazing! He was actually hopping again, to everyone's surprise and delight. I think we were all kind of in shock, to tell the truth.

For the next 5 weeks we traveled to Sterling Impression Animal and Rehabilitation Center of New England in Walpole for his physical therapy sessions. His physical therapist Cathy, would gently work with Bailey each week for about 30 minutes. Specific exercises and massages were performed that focused on atrophied areas and joints. After each session we left with exercises to work

on at home. At the end of the 5 weeks, Bailey was discharged, with orders to come back if need be, but to continue his therapy regimen at home. Cathy said that of all her patients, Bailey was her most difficult yet. She couldn't believe a 4 lb. bun had that much feist and determination. I believe that's what kept him going through it all.

The acupuncture treatments were done once weekly, then every 10-14 days. The hour-long sessions consisted of a short exam, relaxing him, then inserting about 20-25 needles into various acupuncture points in Bailey's skin. After the needles were placed, a candle was lit, the lights turned off and the needles would remain for about 20+ minutes (or until Bailey shook them out). The acupuncture did not cure the kidney disease, arthritis, or slow the decline of old age, but it did help alleviate symptoms and discomfort.



Bailey & Lily, a few months before Bailey's passing. Note the Critical Care stuck to his nose and ears!

In April, Bailey developed nystagmus in his eyes and another 30 day Fendbendazole treatment was ordered. I could also tell he was becoming more uncomfortable and didn't think the glucosamine/chondroitin was doing enough for his worsening arthritis. My vet and I

did discuss my concerns about putting Bailey on Metacam (the adverse effects to already compromised kidneys). But at this point, for Bailey, the benefits far outweighed the risks and we really had nothing to lose. My vet gently helped to remind me that it was about quality of life for my little man, not the quantity and I did agree.

Less than a month later in May, my worst fears were finally realized - blood tests confirmed Bailey was indeed in renal failure. I knew it was only a matter of time now and I vowed to treat each and every day like it was his last.

On June 3, 2006 Bailey celebrated his ninth birthday. It was a milestone, considering two years before I didn't have much hope for his future. That same month, Bailey had another emergency vet visit due to the shifting of the stone. Radiographs showed a change in size and position. The Bupren was increased as needed to help with the pain and discomfort. Bailey also decided that the only things he was going to eat were Critical Care, cilantro and kale, and of course his treats of cranberries and banana chips. He would no longer eat pellets, no matter what pellet mush recipe I tried and he hardly ate any hay. Whatever he wanted now, he got. My promise was to keep him happy and comfortable "til the end".

We continued to go for acupuncture treatments through July, until the entire experience of just going there proved it was becoming too much on Bailey's frail little body. He would no longer sit still for the treatments; he was very agitated and his nausea was becoming increasingly worse. I think the traveling in the car was adding

to this as well. His "gramma" was the one who would take him each time and she advised me at this point it just wasn't worth it. I agreed.

At the end of July I went away for a few days and due to Bailey's extensive care, I had no choice but to take him with me. He had more luggage to bring than I did! He was now on 3 medications (including an experimental medication called Mirtazapine to try and help with the nausea caused by the kidney failure), subcutaneous fluids (twice daily), Critical Care, with pumpkin and banana baby food for flavoring. He also needed daily physical therapy sessions, changing of his "bed linens" sometimes 2 or 3 times a day and regular butt baths (followed by toweling and a blow dry). It was a lot of work, but I wouldn't have changed it for the world. By the time we left the hotel, the hotel staff knew "Bailey the bunny".

The next few months proved just how much this little bunny wanted to live. Through it all, he remained strong, brave and determined. My love and devotion combined with his feisty attitude surpassed all obstacles that faced him. I was very scared during these months as well - terrified knowing that I was the one who may ultimately have to make the most heart wrenching decision for Bailey.

However, others kept telling me that Bailey would "tell me when it was time". I didn't believe them though. There were a few times when I thought "this is it", but in a few days Bailey perked right up again, like he was perfectly fine and nothing was wrong.

The week of October 2nd, things took a turn for the worse. It was indeed

clear that Bailey's little body could no longer endure all the illnesses that had invaded him. He hadn't eaten in almost four days, although he tried so hard. He would put cranberries in his mouth and chew and chew and then just let them fall out. (When he was diagnosed with renal failure, I vowed that I would not force-feed him just to keep him alive, as I personally did not feel this was fair to him. I did not want to prolong the inevitable for my own reasons of wanting to hold on to him forever.) The pain had become uncontrollable at this point as well. The last 24 hours I was literally giving pain meds every 2 hours just to get us through to get to the vets the next morning. Despite his condition, Bailey continued to groom and snuggle with his mate Lily; he was so devoted to her.

In the early morning hours on October 7th, I brought him into bed with me to spend time with him before we went to the vet. When I would doze off, he'd nudge my chin, almost as if to say "wake up mom, keep petting me". Then I'd start petting him again and he'd smooch down and settle in, like he always did.

Later that morning, with my mother, Ellie (vet tech), and me at his side, Bailey was freed from all the hurt, pain and struggles he had so bravely fought the last four years. Never in my life, had I experienced such heartache and sadness, yet at the same time, such peace, knowing that now Bailey was at peace too. The others were right - I knew "it was time" and I think Bailey's little soul did too.



My Green-Eyed Monster Bunny

by *Maysoon Hamdiyyah*

Dynamics can change when you bring a second bunny home...

They look like the perfect couple, Gwen and Xander, as they snuggle quietly side by side. It's a peaceful scene and I yearn to kiss the tops of their heads. But I hold back. There is something so precious in witnessing the simple pleasure they take in each others' company and I don't want to impose. However, it's not just that: I know what will happen as soon as I enter the picture. Gwen will jump up and scamper away. She is not afraid of me nor does she avoid attention and pets - she tooth purrs and closes her eyes in bliss with the best of them. No, it is Xander. Through bunny ESP he will frighten her away. Outside attention is coming their way and only he is allowed to be the recipient. There is no such thing as equal in his world – he has to be number one.

This scenario is one I never could have predicted three years earlier when I adopted them. I brought Gwen home first. After some difficulties following a traumatic spay, Gwen settled in and soon became ecstatically happy to see me when I came home from work. We played games where she chased me or hid behind an object before ambushing

my feet. In quieter moments she would lie down next to me. She was so sociable that I felt it wasn't fair to leave her alone all day – she needed a companion - and so I kept an eye out for possible candidates at the shelter. Three months had passed when I took Gwen on dates: the first two were disastrous. Then a bunny arrived who looked like the male version of Gwen: generously-sized, agouti-colored Flemish Giant mix. They could have been



Gwen & Xander - the perfect snuggle-bunny couple.

litter mates. Peter, as he was called then, was a sweet-natured and gentle soul. He would allow himself to be picked up; he snuggled, and was happy for any attention he received. He became a popular attraction for his spectacular bunny flops after which he would lie on his side for ages, his beautiful long ears poking out like a Jack Rabbit's.

Like most bonding experiences, it took a while. Since Gwen had originally been surrendered for being aggressive

towards people, I worried that she would be a bully towards another bunny. But there was a shocking role reversal - he was the aggressor. Her personality changed to that of a more subservient female rabbit. It was astonishing to me. "Don't let him get away with that!" I'd urge her to no avail. "Remember, you were here first!" After a turbulent beginning, they began to cohabit fairly peacefully in this new hierarchy. It took a while longer for Xander to like

me (another surprise considering our interaction at the shelter) and it was some time before he would allow me to pet him.

Once Xander accepted me, his gradual transition from attention seeking bunny to tyrant began. He became possessive about food. At first it was amusing watching his exaggerated hops

as he tried to make away with a whole kale leaf without tripping over! Then it was the pellets. I tried placing their bowls far apart. He'd run from one bowl to the other to make sure she couldn't eat from either. I tried staying with Gwen so she wouldn't be intimidated but she became angry and lunged at me – I got the feeling that I was breaking a rabbit code of behavior that required she wait her turn. I made sure to pet them at the same time, a feat some-

times requiring some awkward “twister” inspired moves. Then she was not allowed any attention at all and I found when I was on the floor cuddling him Gwen was nowhere to be seen. “Gwen, Gwen!” I’d call out feeling a shift under my hand: Xander, turning his back on me in protest. “And you too sweetie”. Snort.

Sometimes, when he is preoccupied with a project, say demolishing a cardboard box, I’ll play with my beloved Gwen - I catch those

moments when I can. It doesn’t take long for those ears to pick up on an interaction without him and Xander will come galloping across the room, outraged. (There is a website showcasing hilarious pictures of “disapproving rabbits” – I’m sure I could start a similar one for “outraged rabbits” featuring my Xander!) When friends come over, he is the bunny ambassador, garnering numerous admirers with his goofy antics. Even then, he insists that he alone gets attention, chasing Gwen away from anyone who tries to pet her.

I admit, there are times when I have wondered if I made a mistake by bringing another bunny home. I sometimes feel nostalgic about those precious times my girl and I had on our own, when we were able to just lie on the floor together in peace. But then I see them snuggled together, grooming, snoozing – just hanging out – and I think “no human could replace that”. Rabbits need the company of their own kind. There are pay-offs and I know I did the right thing.



Can Dogs & Rabbits Live Together Happily Ever After?

by Jessica Dufrene

This is exactly the question I asked myself as I brought Jazz, a 70lb boxer, home from the Animal Rescue League of Boston. I hadn’t intended to adopt a dog anytime soon but I had given a great deal of thought to what type of dog might fit into my family. It wasn’t just me after all. I had Rocky, Savannah, Scout, and Bear, my four rescue buns, to look out for and they are my priority.

I knew I would want an adult dog. Puppies are still developing their personalities and figuring out their fast growing awkward bodies. I knew we’d need a dog who was well behaved and eager to learn. He’d have to understand to be gentle with the buns and that they are NOT toys. Most importantly we’d need a dog with a low prey drive who’d be able to accept the buns as family and not as prey.

Jazz was 1.5 years old when he was surrendered to the ARL. Before choosing to adopt him, we spent as much time as possible together. I knew he was a young adult and so past much of the puppy energy. He proved to listen reasonably well and was eager to learn and willing to earn a place in our pack. Jazz also got along great with the small shelter dogs and he showed no interest at all in the cats even when I showed him their kennels. Two weeks later he was on his way to our home. Admittedly I was tentative, nervous, and even scared. I’d never had a dog before and I had four buns to look after including a playful 2lb bun who would barely be a snack for this dog!

Introductions went slowly, very slowly. At first Jazz wasn’t allowed near the bunny space. After several

days, I would bring him on leash by their condo. He showed little to no interest in them and my nerves started to subside. All the while I was very strict with Jazz’s training. He needed to sit when I said sit, down when I said down, stay when I said stay, and not even think for one second that he might be able to touch it when I said leave it. All this I taught and he eagerly learned with purely positive methods.

A week later and I trusted Jazz enough to securely leash him to an immobile object, place him in a down-stay,



“Ho hm...just another day with the buns.”

and let my eager little bun out of his kennel. Little 2lb Rocky hopped right over to his new playmate and said, “hello”. I had both my hands covering Jazz’s face as my heart raced but Jazz simply sniffed him back, got bored, and relaxed on his side. Slowly over the next days and weeks I let each of the buns meet Jazz. Rocky continued to think of him as a new playmate, Savannah and Bear showed no real interest in him, and Scout was the biggest surprise. Until that point, Scout had shown no interest in anything. I was barely worthy of a glance even armed with every yummy treat in the world, but Jazz? Jazz he adored. As I worked up the nerve to give them closely supervised (still securely leashed)



Jazz enjoying the (closely supervised) company of his bunnies.

space, Scout and Jazz started relaxing together. The only time I’ve seen Scout relax enough to flop was when he was tucked securely against Jazz’s belly.

It was a solid month or more before I loosened the leash. Still, I was a hawk waiting for the slightest movement I didn’t like from Jazz. It never happened. Two and a half years later, Jazz and the buns are best buds. Even now I would never leave them together unsupervised. I know that Jazz would

never intend to hurt his buns but an accidental paw placement could irreparably harm them. The buns doze happily when Jazz barks like a maniac at the mail man knowing that he’s there to keep them safe. Jazz even pinned a friend’s dog when he got closer to the bunny condo than Jazz liked.

So the short answer to the question “Can dogs and rabbits live together happily ever after?” is positively yes and absolutely no. It depends entirely on the dog, the bun, and your patience. It is possible as these pictures show, but it isn’t for every dog or every bun. Always remember that your primary goal is to keep everyone safe.

If you choose to introduce a dog to your warren here are a few things to keep in mind.

1. Rescues are an ideal place to start looking for a dog. Volunteers and foster families get to know their dogs and can give you a real assessment of their personalities to help match you with the right dog.
2. Adults are often better choices than puppies – they are calmer and already have their personalities established.

3. Dogs rarely come fully trained but ask the rescuer about trainability. Many dogs are eager to learn and fit into a pack. Others are more strong-headed and may have a more difficult time. You’ll need to be strict with your dog so he knows you are always in charge, but strict is not mean. Everything your dog needs to know he can learn through positive training and establishing you as the leader will create a stronger bond between you and the dog.

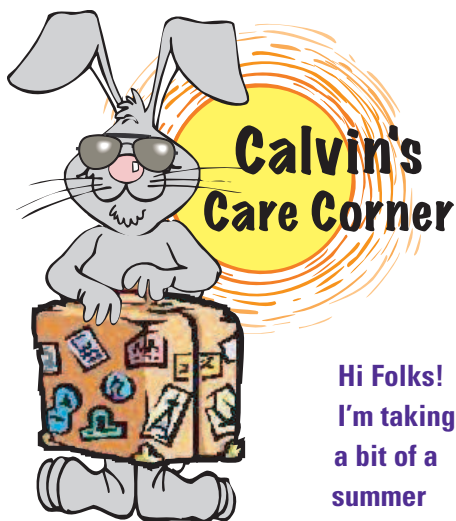
4. A low indoor prey drive is critical. You want to find a dog who does not want to pounce on every small animal in his house. Keep in mind though that wanting to pounce on every squirrel, chipmunk, or bird outdoors does not mean he will have that same prey drive indoors.

5. Dogs and rabbit have different nutritional and medical needs. Never apply something to your dog that can be harmful to the buns. For example, tick and flea treatments need to be bunny safe.

6. Very importantly, have patience. It may take weeks or months before you find the right dog and it will take weeks and months before that dog can ever spend time with your buns. Despite picking out what you think is the perfect dog, he may never be able to be around your rabbits and that should be ok too.

7. No matter how trust worthy you think your dog becomes never EVER leave the dog and rabbits alone together unsupervised. A well meaning paw or a gentle love bite from a dog can be too much for a bun and you don’t want to have any regrets.





right now, but will be back next issue with a brand new Calvin's Care Corner. In the meantime, please keep my furry friends inside during the summer. The outdoors, especially in the summer, is no fun for a house bun. Here are a few summer problems and tips that can help you. Happy Summer!

Summer is rapidly approaching and with its arrival come special problems for rabbits: heat/humidity and fly strike.

Heat/Humidity

The most serious summer danger to rabbits is heat stress/stroke. Early signs that your rabbit is suffering from summer heat include lethargy, panting, and dehydration. Freeze water in one- or two-liter pop bottles and let your rabbit lie next to them. If your rabbit drinks from a bowl, give him ice water on hot days. Mist his ears with cool water to help keep him cool. If nights are cool, open the house and allow it to get as cool as possible. If you don't have air-conditioning, use a fan to circulate air or let it blow across an ice block to further cool the air. Don't have the fan blow air directly on your rabbit.

Fly Strike

If you have a problem with flies, fly traps and fly paper are safe ways to reduce the number of flies. To minimize the problem, make sure screens are intact and encourage all family members to close doors quickly. Flies are attracted to warm, moist areas and to odor. If your rabbit has been battling an intermittent wet or messy bottom, make a vet appointment now! Keep a watchful eye on your rabbit any time a stray fly is in the house. If your rabbit appears to have a seizure, check carefully for signs of maggot infestation. Maggots produce toxins that can quickly send a healthy rabbit into shock. If this happens to your rabbit, stay calm and get your rabbit to a veterinarian as quickly as possible.

HRN News

HRN Speaks at NEAR Workshop

On Saturday, April 14th House Rabbit Network President Suzanne Trayhan, spoke at the New England Animal Rights Workshop in Shrewsbury, MA. Before an audience of approximately 70 activists, Suzanne discussed the problems that rabbit rescue groups face – most originating from the lack of importance given to rabbit welfare. For example, donations and corporate support can be harder to come by when rabbit rescues are taken less seriously. Many people, in addition, believe that only cats and dogs can be adopted, unaware that rabbits (and other animals) are in shelters waiting for homes. Suzanne stressed that one

of the biggest difficulties rabbits face, in contrast with other 'companion' animals, is the lack of protective legislation in regard to humane treatment and breeding restrictions. Joining Suzanne was Deb Young, Foster and Adoption Committee Chair of The House Rabbit Connection of CT and MA. Deb presented on the need for activists to join in a coalition to boycott the PETCO Corporation for side-stepping their 'Think Adoption First' philosophy and introducing Marshall Farms-bred rabbits to the New England market beginning this past February. Many organizations in attendance expressed their dismay and offered to lend their support to this campaign.

Save the Dates!

HRN's 8th Annual Summer Bunny Bash is on Saturday August 4th.

This is a fun pot luck where you have the chance to share bunny stories (and pictures) with your rabbit friends! Please check our website or email for more information as the date gets closer.



Our second Annual Flatbread benefit night will be on Tuesday October 23rd. Flatbread holds benefit nights every Tuesday and HRN is honored to be the chosen charity for Oct 23rd! Flatbread will donate \$3.50 from every large pizza and \$1.75 from every small pizza to HRN. We will also be holding a Chinese Auction. Last year we raised just over \$2K for the bunnies so this is definitely a great event for us!



Prizes and more details to follow.

Save your Shaws Receipts

HRN is calling on everyone who shops at Shaw's or Star Market to hang on to all their register receipts! We are participating in a fundraiser whereby Shaw's will donate to HRN one percent of the total value of receipts collected. So for the foreseeable future, please ask your friends, colleagues, and family to pass on their receipts. They should be mailed to: **House Rabbit Network, P.O. Box 2602, Woburn, MA 01888-1102.** Funds raised will go towards the medical expenses of HRN's foster bunnies.

Yankee Candle Fundraiser

The Yankee Candle Fall Fundraising event will begin on August 4th at the Summer Bunny Bash and continue until September 14th. To take a sneak peak at the Fall collection, please go to: <http://www.yankeefundraising.com/html/includes/catalogs/FallCatalogs.html>. HRN will receive a profit of 40% on all purchases.

Upcoming Ed Events

We hold information booths at various locations in Eastern Massachusetts and will list the dates and locations on our web site at www.rabbitnetwork.org. Please stop by and visit. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have about rabbits and rabbit care. We will have infor-

mation about adopting rabbits along with a listing of rabbits currently available for adoption. We do not adopt out on site.

- Sep 8 - Tufts Open House, Grafton, MA
- Sep 9 - Pet Rock Pet Fest, Worcester, MA

Need More HRN News?

In every newsletter, HRN writes about the news and events within our organization. Since we only publish three issues a year, this has not always been a good mechanism for time sensitive items. To address this issue, HRN has created an email news list. The first week of every month (and sometimes mid month if needed) we send out an email news bulletin with the latest news, education events, fund raisers and recent happenings with HRN. It's a great way to stay on top of HRN affairs! You can join our email news list via our home page www.rabbitnetwork.org (scroll down to the bottom right) or by going to <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/HouseRabbitNetwork/>

Memorials

Flower

I said it from the beginning and I'll say it always...A Flower truly is the Sweetest thing. Your personality was

unlike any other rabbit I've ever known. Your puppy-like qualities were what any potential adopter



would have yearned for in a bun and the reasons why, if you were healthy, you would have been adopted in the blink of an eye. How could anyone resist how you would crawl into my lap and go to sleep, or come running to me every time I walked into the room? Or your little bunny kisses and how you followed me everywhere. Or the way you "tooth purred" whenever someone was cuddling you. How could they resist loving you and your amazing character? To have known you, cared for you and loved you like I did, makes my life that much more blessed. Maybe you came to me for a reason. Maybe you knew I would love you like my own buns and spoil you rotten, until the end. I do believe all things happen for a reason and there was a reason I picked you up that day. You were probably one of the most precious bunny souls I've ever known, and for that "my little Flower-child", I am forever grateful.

Love, Your foster mom Shannon

Why are red eyed white bunnies so blue? Because they want to come home with you!

Won't you adopt a "Red, White & Blue" bun? These big white bunnies are often overlooked time and time again due to their ruby red eyes. It's such a shame too, as they are probably some of the most docile, loving, yet silly and charismatic buns there are. This summer we are hoping to adopt out many of our "Red, White & Blue" buns because they would love a home to call their own.

Show your patriotism and ADOPT a big white bun!

Join HRN...or...Please Renew Your Membership

House Rabbit Network is now in its 8th year—and we continue to grow. Through our network of dedicated volunteers and members, we are making amazing strides to improve the welfare of house rabbits everywhere.

Your support can only further our goals, so become a member and get involved.

Visit our website to find out how to help: www.rabbitnetwork.org.

If you are not already a member, please join HRN!

Your membership dollars will go towards rescue and rehabilitation, community outreach and education, and veterinary expenses.

Help make a difference in a rabbit's life. They're counting on you!

Contact House Rabbit Network at info@rabbitnetwork.org or (781) 431-1211.



House Rabbit Network Membership and Ordering Form

Your membership donation is tax deductible and will be used for medical costs (spays/neuters, vet bills) and education expenses. All members will receive a copy of our newsletter, *Rabbit Tracks*, when it is published. Currently, we are publishing three issues per year.

Memberships run from April 1 to March 31 (donations received in Jan.–March will be credited for the following year). To join, fill out this page and mail it with your check (payable to the House Rabbit Network) to:

**House Rabbit Network
P.O. Box 2602
Woburn, MA 01888-1102**

- Choose your membership level:*
- Dwarf \$ 15.00
 - Mini Lop \$ 25.00
 - New Zealand \$ 50.00
 - Flemish Giant \$ 100.00
 - Mix (other) \$ _____

- Choose your newsletter delivery preference:*
- PDF format via email (significant savings for HRN)
 - Hard copy via U.S. Mail

Please send me _____ copies of *Rabbit Health in the 21st Century* 2nd Edition at \$20.00 each \$ _____

Membership: \$ _____

Other Contribution: \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Total: \$ _____