



Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc.

# Safe Haven Scoop

By Karen Augustynowicz, President

## A little nostalgia.....

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**Bike for the Buns!**



**Bike for the Buns!**  
Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc. 2011

### Bike for the Buns!



Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc. 2012



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### BIKE FOR THE BUNS!



Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue

Usually, this time of year my days are filled with preparations for our *Bike for the Buns!* Event. It does seem a little strange not doing that this year, but with the escalating cost of holding the event, we made the tough decision to end it's run after seven great years. It sure was a lot of fun!

Each year, Jacqui Crown portrayed the growth of our "Biker Bun Family" in her delightful logo designs. And likewise, the Safe Haven family expanded and grew as well. Many of you who rode or volunteered in the first event returned every year; forming fast and lasting friendships with a common bond.

Moving forward, the Bun-nanza will become our main event. Already in its 5th year, the Bun-nanza provides an opportunity to enjoy a day *with* your rabbit! This year's planning is underway and we will keep you posted on our website as plans develop. We promise a fun-filled day and hope you will join us!

As always, we are here to answer any questions you might have about caring for your rabbits. We are happy to share our experiences to help you and your rabbits live the best life possible.

Sincerely, *Karen A.*



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**Our 5th Annual  
"Bun-nanza"**

**Sunday, September 24, 2017**

Mark your Calendars!

**Baptist Camp & Conference Center  
(Camp Lebanon)  
70 Blossom Hill Road  
Lebanon, NJ 08833**

**11am—4pm**

We are excitedly planning the event and details will be posted on our website as they develop. Stay tuned!

***Did You Know?***

*By Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator*

**Did You Know** that rabbits have a comparative age to humans? Knowing your rabbit's comparative age may help you to better understand her needs and behavior. Below is a life expectancy chart comparing the age of a rabbit to that of a human. In that rabbits do not necessarily act like humans at their comparative age, the chart simply helps to understand the aging process as best can be explained.

Rabbit Age	2 wks.	4 wks.	2 mo.	4 mo.	6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yr.	3 yr.	4 yr.
Human Age	2 yr.	6 yr.	8 yr.	12 yr.	16 yr.	21 yr.	27 yr.	33 yr.	39 yr.
Rabbit Age	5 yr.	6 yr.	7 yr.	8 yr.	9 yr.	10 yr.	12 yr.	14 yr.	16 yr.
Human Age	45 yr.	51 yr.	53 yr.	57 yr.	69 yr.	75 yr.	87 yr.	99 yr.	110 yr.



**Trivia Corner** — *Guinness World Records for Rabbits!*  
By Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator



- ◇ The oldest rabbit on record is a wild rabbit named Flopsy, who was caught on August 6, 1964 and died 18 years and 10.75 months later at the home of L.B. Walker of Longford, Tasmania, Australia.
- ◇ The longest recorded fur on a rabbit is 14.37 inches and belongs to Franchesca, owned by Betty Chu as measured in Morgan Hill, California, on August 17, 2014.
- ◇ The world record for the highest rabbit jump is 39.2 inches and was achieved by Mimrelunds Tösen (The Lassie of Quivering Grove) who was owned by Tine Hygom (Denmark) in Herning, Denmark on June 28, 1997.
- ◇ The world record for the longest rabbit jump is 9 feet, 9.6 inches and was achieved by Yabo, handled by Maria Brunn Jensen (Denmark) on June 12, 1999 in Horsens, Denmark.
- ◇ The longest rabbit ears measured and recorded are 31.125 inches in a complete span on November 1, 2003 at the American Rabbit Breeders Association National Show in Wichita, Kansas. The ears belong to an English Lop called Nipper's Geronimo who was owned by Waymon and Margaret Nipper of Bakersfield, California.
- ◇ The longest rabbit recorded is Darius, a Flemish giant rabbit owned by Annette Edwards (UK), who was found to be 4 feet 3 inches long when measured for an article in the UK's Daily Mail newspaper on April 6, 2010.
- ◇ The most expensive book illustration sold at auction is a Beatrix Potter (UK) watercolour titled *The Rabbits' Christmas Party*, created in the 1890's, it was bought on July 17, 2008 by a British collector for \$513,177. From BBC website: "The watercolour was one of 20 Potter illustrations, books, Christmas cards and letters offered for sale from a collection belonging to her brother, Bertram Potter. The entire collection, the most extensive body of Beatrix Potter artwork to have appeared on the market in decades."
- ◇ The largest rabbit made of chocolate weighed 9,359.7 lbs and measured approximately 14.8 feet high x 6.9 feet wide x 5.8 feet long and was achieved by Equipe da Casa do Chocolate at Shopping Uberaba, in Uberaba, Minas Gerais, Brazil, on February 25, 2017. The Casa do Chocolate team had 9 professionals, working for 8 consecutive days on the chocolate rabbit sculpture.
- ◇ As of March 25, 2011, husband and wife Steve Lubanski and Candace Frazee have 28,423 bunny-themed items displayed in their own Bunny Museum in Pasadena, California. Their bunny collection opened to the public on March 20, 1998. They also have five real bunny pets. Their website is [www.thebunnymuseum.com](http://www.thebunnymuseum.com).

Source: [www.guinnessworldrecords.com](http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com)



## *Educational Corner*

*by Linda Torlay, Safe Haven Educator*

It's that time of year. The time of year when we shed our winter coats and you'll probably notice your bunny is too.

It's natural for a rabbit to shed their furry coat thru a process also known as "molt or molting". The event varies from breed to breed and even from rabbit to rabbit and typically takes between 2 to 6 weeks. On average rabbits molt about every 3 months alternating between a light molt and then a heavy molt. The heaviest molts are usually after winter and then again at the end of summer. Again this will vary and also because our companion rabbits are kept indoors, in a controlled environment, their "natural" rhythm may not hold to the norm.

For adult rabbits molting usually starts on the upper back closest to the head. It then continues down the back and then along the sides. Often the back and sides, closest to the tail and hind quarters, gets "stuck" meaning



the fur tends to get heavy and clumpy there (seen as matting or tufts) because new growth is coming in but the old isn't completely letting loose. Some rabbits molt in patches with no set pattern being apparent. When your rabbit is molting you should notice a change in the appearance of her coat which tends to look disheveled and messy often with an apparent "shed line" as the old coat is blowing off and the new one is coming in.

When rabbits are molting it's most important to brush them daily to help them rid the fur they are shedding as opposed to having them ingest it when grooming. Rabbits are habitual groomers and thus it cannot be avoided that they ingest fur. Gastrointestinal problems can occur when too much fur is ingested and has trouble passing thru the gut, so the more fur you can help your bunny remove, especially when she is molting, the less that will end up in her digestive system possibly causing a "hairball". Even when rabbits are not molting they should still be brushed frequently.

Rabbits molt to help them control their body temperature due to the changes in their environment. A rabbit molting at the end of summer will bring in a thicker coat to help keep them warm in winter. The opposite is true of a rabbit molting at the end of winter, the shedding of her winter coat will bring in a lighter one to help keep her cooler in the warmer weather. This even applies to rabbits kept indoors.

Just as the molting process is different for each rabbit so is each rabbit's coat. One tool/brush may work better for a particular rabbit than another and trying a few different ones to see which one works best at removing the shedding fur and too which one your rabbit favors is smart. Rabbits have delicate skin underneath all that fur and care should be paramount to not scratch or scrape the skin causing injury or an unpleasant experience. Wire slicker brushes, the kind used for dogs or cats should be avoided as the tips are sharp. Look for brushes with protected ends. Grooming gloves are another option. They are often made of soft pliable rubber that gently pulls loose fur away. New and unfamiliar items may be intimidating and scary to your rabbit so proceed with ease and let her get familiar and comfortable with it. Even simply stroking your bunny with damp hands pulls and attracts shedding fur away and in places where her coat is "stuck" gently pulling away the clumps will greatly help. Getting your rabbit to sit still for grooming may be a challenge and I have found sitting calmly with my rabbit in a very small penned in space allows me to groom her without a chase. Let the grooming experience be one of patience and gentleness.

As a reminder, this too, is a good time to also take notice of your rabbit's nails to see if they are in need of trimming and replace nail clippers periodically to ensure you are not working with dull clippers.

## News from our Adopters

### Megan

Adopted by Alex & Jenny Aragona



"I just wanted to send you an update on Megan. She's doing great and we are so happy to have her as a part of our family. Our second attempt at bonding was successful, and Spike and Megan are now living peacefully in our Bunny Condo in the living room.

Since we just moved a few months ago, both buns have been having a great time exploring our new (human) condo. Megan is quite the little explorer, and is actually braver than Spike when it comes to checking out uncharted territory.

Megan is still more skittish than Spike, especially around new people. But she's come a long way in the past few months. Regular human noises (like laughing) don't spook her as often anymore. Now, if we talk to her and clap, she binkies. She really is just a lovely, sweet girl and we've loved watching her come out of her shell."



Jenny & Alex



**Cubby** - Adopted March 12 by Jacqui Crown who fell in love with this little cutie the first time she saw him. Both Jacqui and her husband, Jim had been thinking about finding a friend for their Woolie Bear for quite some time.

We will let Jacqui tell

their story in the next newsletter, but for now, as you can see they are well on their way to becoming the *best* of friends!



## News from our Adopters

### *The latest thing.....*

You may not want to let your bunny see this, or they soon will be wanting in on the latest trend in bunny beds!



Bear, luvbun of Gail Peterson & Bill Mack, appreciates an elevated spot to snooze!



Lauren Himesh says “Fonzie absolutely LOVES his bed!”... *He does look very comfortable!*

*We love hearing about our former foster buns as each one of them has left their mark on their foster parents and everyone who shared just a portion of their journeys to their forever homes. So, keep the notes and pictures coming in and we will continue to share the smiles!*

*Have a safe and wonderful summer!*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Karen A. &  
All the volunteers of  
Safe Haven Rabbit Rescue, Inc.*