

Our New Year's Wish List

Happy 2012 everyone! May the new year bring health, happiness, and good fortune to you, your bunnies, and those nearest and dearest to you.

We wish every homeless bunny a loving forever home, but we realize that wish is unlikely to be granted. In the meantime, we'll do our best to care for as many homeless rabbits as we can.



To help us help more bunnies, we need **your** help! Our foster homes are always in need of supplies and we'd be grateful for any assistance. See page 2 for the Buckeye HRS volunteer closest to you.



Here are a few of the items on our fosterers' wish list:

- ♡ Fleece fabric
- ♥ Blankets
- ♡ Laundry soap (biodegradable)
- C Litter (wood stove pellets, Yesterday's News, Feline Pine)
- ♡ Paper towels
- \mathcal{O} Large cloth towels
- 𝒴 Wire exercise pens, 30" or 36" tall
- ♡ Pet carriers, any size
- ♡ Large-size litterboxes
- ♥ White vinegar
- 𝗘 Stamps
- ♡ Fresh greens
- \mathcal{O} Untreated wicker or willow baskets for chewing

Of course, monetary donations are always welcome. Remember, your gift to us is tax-deductible, because we're a federally-recognized nonprofit organization. We depend entirely on volunteers and the generosity of the public. Why wait until the end of the year to donate?





Harelines, the Buckeye House Rabbit Society Newsletter, is published by the all-volunteer, non-profit Buckeye House Rabbit Society, Athens, OH.

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Visit the House Rabbit Society at http://www.rabbit.org and the Buckeye House Rabbit Society at http://www.ohare.org

THE BUCKEYE HRS RESPECTS YOUR PRIVACY

We know our members value their privacy and that's why we never, ever, sell our mailing list or distribute it to any other party. All of our members' information is held in the strictest confidence.

Special Thanks to:

Jim and Laura Gills, for their most generous donation in memory of **Cody**, who shared their home and hearts for 11 years.

Paula and Gary Savage, for their thoughtful tribute to beloved **Benjamin**, a dear companion who enriched their lives for 10 years.

The kind folks at **The Busy Bunny** (busybunny.com) and **BinkyBunny** (binkybunny.com), for generously donating to our Spring Raffle. See page 4 for raffle details!

Karen Salvagno, for many years of dedicated service as our gift shop coordinator. We'll miss you!

Debbi Braunschweiger, for enthusiastically agreeing to become our new gift shop coordinator. Look for brand-new items soon!

The following members, whose monetary and in-kind donations allow us to meet our ongoing fostering and educational goals:

Mary Zimmerman, Christa Billerman and Fayaz Bhanji, Janet Reed, Cathy Montiegel, Renee Falcone, Linda Gardner, Gary Savage, Jim and Laura Gills, Maureen O'Neill, Susan Pike, Janet Schandorsky, Hillary Gerity, Mark and Robin Covert, Linda Collins, Erik and Marla Mohr.

Our new and continuing Sanctuary Rabbit Sponsors! This program would not be possible without your compassion and generosity. We wish we could acknowledge each of you individually!

As always, the **Monks Copy Shop** of downtown Columbus, for their discount on printing our newsletter.

Promoted!

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Congratulations to newly-licensed, full educators **Jann Kuntavanish, Debbi Braunschweiger,** and **Jen Parks** and to newly-licensed, full fosterer **Stephanie Lodge**.

You are all wonderful permanent assets to the Buckeye HRS!

Film Review: The Christmas Bunny

By Kristi Cole

The Christmas Bunny is a story about a lonely foster child, Julia, who comes to stay with a new family over the holidays and finds a lost and injured rabbit in the woods. The bunny is nursed back to health by an eccentric woman, known as "The Bunny Lady," played by Florence Henderson. She runs a rabbit rescue in a barn behind her Michigan farmhouse.

There is a running thread through the movie of *The Velveteen Rabbit* and how love makes you real. Julia begins to feel real as she provides love to the bunny, an adorable spotted lop whom she named Rumple, and as she receives love from her new foster family. Julia relates to Rumple and he slowly draws her out of her shyness.

Before Rumple becomes part of the family after his injury heals, the "Bunny Lady" makes sure the family knows how to properly care for a rabbit. Julia must spend time at the rescue caring for the rabbits there before she takes on the responsibility of having a pet of her own.

Continued on page 5

Spotlight on Shorty!

By Keith Zimmerman

Please say hello to Shorty! He is a handsome young fellow whom someone used as a breeding experiment. It looks like they wanted a Dutch Lionhead, and what they got is a black and white bun with a Dutch face and a gorgeous, long, wispy mane that gives him a super-unique look. Shorty's a good boy who LOVES to sit on laps and be petted and groomed. He's quite friendly and curious, but doesn't fight with anybun else when he's exploring. His litterbox habits are excellent and he doesn't seem too intent on destroying things! Shorty is young, neutered, and very much looking to give his love to someone who doesn't mind him sitting on their lap for hours at a time! Give us a call if you think you'd like to meet our little boy - bhrs-keith@ohare.org, 419-355-8433.



Spring Raffle to Benefit Buckeye HRS Foster Rabbits!

Look what we've put together for you and your bunnies! How can you resist? Buy your raffle tickets online or by mail today!

Included in our fourth annual springtime raffle is:

 A beautiful ceramic rabbit from Sedlak Interiors surrounded by Oxbow Orchard Grass and Oxbow Timothy Hay cakes. Rabbit dimensions: 14" long, 5.5" wide, 8.5" tall. Thoughtfully donated by our very own Stephanie Lodge!

• An edible 14" basket and edible wicker balls (yummy!) generously donated by **Busy Bunny**

o We start with the Willow Toy Basket and add 5 Unpeeled Mini Balls and 5 Unpeeled Medium Balls. Perfect for all those bunnies out there who prefer the bark still on their willow toys. Measures 12 x 6.5 by 7 inches. From www.busybunny.com.

Also included are: Oxbow Simple Rewards
 -- (2) Lavender-Chamomile Medley & (2)
 Cranberry-Rosemary Medley.

• The famous "Tunnel Haven," generously donated by **Binky Bunny**, is guaranteed to provide hours of entertainment for both you and your bun(s).

o The amazing cardboard tunnel that stretches, twists and turns! Can expand in width and stretches in length, (over 5 feet!). Simulates a burrow feel that bunnies love!

o It collapses to 7 inches. When you're ready to put it away, just collapse, fasten, and store in the Tunnel Tote Bag! (Comes with 2 bungee cords and a tote bag.) (www.binkybunny.com)





All proceeds will go directly to our foster program and will ensure that needy bunnies have a safe haven until they find the happiness of a permanent home. **Tickets cost \$1 each and you may buy as many as you wish. All entries must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2012.** Please include your phone number and email (if available) with your check or money order and indicate it's for the raffle.

Mail your request to: Buckeye HRS, P.O. Box 5767, Athens, OH 45701. If you prefer, you may use the PayPal link on our website for ticket purchases of \$5 or more. The lucky winner will be notified before Easter.

Of course, our raffle package is best viewed in color on our website at www.ohare.org/gifts-raffle.htm

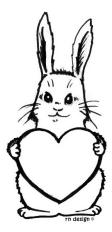


Film Review: The Christmas Bunny Cont'd

The movie provides lots of excellent educational material about rabbit care, including diet, exercise, spaying/neutering, litterboxes, bunny-proofing, and yes, poops. The plight of unwanted and abandoned rabbits is verbally addressed and seen visually in the number of rabbits the rescue is caring for. The main thing I did not agree with was how they picked up the rabbits – by the scruff of the neck. It was wonderful, however, to see all the different kinds of rabbits at the rescue.

All in all, I thought it was a worthwhile movie, showing how both people and animals can get a fresh start in a new home.

The Christmas Bunny is an independent film produced by Honey Creek Pictures and written and directed by Tom Seidman. It is currently available on DVD. At the International Film Festival, *The Christmas Bunny* won in two categories. The Critter Barn in Zeeland, MI – a non-profit rescue and education organization – provided the animals for the film. For more information, visit www. thechristmasbunny.com.



BUNNY SHOPPING SPREE!

By Stephanie Lodge

Need help finding the perfect present for the bunny lover in your life? Or, if you just feel like treating yourself, check out our bunny shopping list! Enjoy!

Visit <u>www.etsy.com</u> and try searching for "rabbit" under the handmade section. You will find over
 36,000 items!!! Some of our favorites are the Family of 5 Bunny Rabbit Silhouettes -- Wall Decals for
 \$12.00, Black Bunny Button Bracelet made by HRS's own Carrie

Pizzalato in Metairie, LA and the **Winged Bunny Angel necklace** from sandrandan's store (search "angel rabbit").



Of course don't forget www.

<u>Cafepress.com</u> for t-shirts, stickers, hats, sweat shirts, mouse pads and more.

On <u>www.Ebay.com</u> search "rabbit", "bunny" or "year of the rabbit". A few things we just had to buy were the **Rabbit Design USB Flash Drive/Memory Pen** and the Rabito **Rabbit Rubber Skin Case** for iphones. Bidding for both normally starts between \$4.00 and \$10.00.

<u>www.modcloth.com</u> is a cool site that has unique clothing, fashion jewelry, water bottles and day planners.

Searching "rabbit" on the website <u>www.</u> <u>uncommongoods.com</u> will yield results for some beautiful handmade



hats, mittens and slippers for kids. <u>www.</u> <u>zazzle.</u> <u>com</u> is a fantastic site similar to cafepress.com that carries a wide variety of **t-shirts**, **bumper stickers**, **baby bibs**, **shoes**, **mugs**, **cell phone cases**, **ties** and everything in between. Zazzle also carries merchandise for the "Disapproving **Rabbit**". <u>www.</u>

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<u>disapprovingrabbits.com</u> features a different picture of a rabbit on their website daily. Want to see your bun on the internet? Just submit his or her photo. It's free!

For handcrafted gold, sterling, and pewter **jewelry** check out the <u>www.themagiczoo.com</u>.

Need Rabbit salt and pepper grinders? Try visiting Amazon.com and search "rabbit salt and pepper". One of the search results is the "Chef'n G'Rabbit Jr. **Salt and Pepper Set**, Set of 2, Black and Meringue" (Cost: \$19.99). Also in the "Home & Kitchen" section of Amazon, you can find **rabbit bookends, door stops, aprons** and an array of other items.

www.memorialgallerypets.com carries memorial items for your pet. Their Cremation necklace

features both a lop and erect-ear rabbits in silver, gold and platinum, although the necklace is a little pricey. The sterling version is about \$100; it is quite beautiful and we haven't found it any less expensive elsewhere.



[≪]∽One of our

favorite finds is on <u>www.giftapolis.com</u>. Who could live without **Killer Rabbit Monty Python Slippers**? Although this site doesn't feature many rabbit items, it's worth a visit for the Monty Python memorabilia. Now that you're done shopping for yourself, it's time to get something for the bunnies! The following is a list of organizations that carry toys, treats, hay and anything else a bunny could use. This list is only the tip of the iceberg!



www.bunspace.com not only has a

bunny-centric online store, but they also have book and product recommendations, continual rabbit photography contests, forums on just about every topic you could think of, and you can register your rabbit with his/her own bunspace page!

www.binkybunny.com is the go-to shop for baskets, toys, books and playhouses for your fuzzy, big-eared friends. The best part of Binky Bunny is that there is no minimum purchase required to get a FREE surprise with every order. Not only is Binky Bunny "bunny" friendly, they are environmentally friendly as well. To keep costs of shipping down, they are now re-using boxes and using newspaper as packing materials. In addition to shopping, there is also an entire section devoted to educating the public on topics such as costs of a bunny. litter box training, and bunny proofing, just to name a few. Binky Bunny will give 7% of the proceeds of any order to the House Rabbit Society when new customers follow the link on www.rabbit.org (for the link, see below).

www.busybunny.com offers edible toy treats for pet rabbits and fun stuff for people. They carry everything from specially-designed litter boxes to healthy treats, mini-bales of hay, grass mats, and more! The rabbit products, rabbit treats and rabbit food are all natural and completely edible -- even the baskets are edible. The baskets are made of untreated willow and are filled with a variety of treats, including pinecones, timothy hay, alfalfa, alfalfa cubes, and twigs from certified organically-grown apple trees. For all purchases made through the link on rabbit.org, Busy Bunny will give 10% of the proceeds to House Rabbit Society.

<u>www.rabbitstop.com</u> specializes in food, treats and toys at great prices. Some of the brands they carry are Peter's Pet Products, Zupreem, Oxbow, and Kaytee to name a few. They also have a direct link to <u>www.makeminechocolate.org</u> – a personal favorite. www.catsandrabbitsandmore.com prides themselves with providing information about

themselves with providing adoption, education, and

carrying products for pets and people. The company was founded by Amy Spintman, a volunteer and licensed Educator with the San Diego House Rabbit Society. Some of our favorite items are the Cottontail Cottage and the Hopper Hideaway. As the name suggests, they do carry



items for cats, guinea pigs, rats and other critters.

www.thebunnybasics.com in three words – Has it ALL. Rabbit signs, bowls, books, magnets, and all the supplies you need for your bunny can be found on their site. The Bunny Basics is located in Scottsdale, AZ and 100% of the proceeds from their store help support the rabbits at their sanctuary. I give this "two-thumbs up"!

www.bunnybytes.com has great stuff! As "outfitters of the urban rabbit," they carry a wide variety of items for rabbits and people alike. Check out their first aid and grooming sections for bunny must-haves!

www.drsfostersmith.com carries something for everyone -- rabbits, cats, dogs and all the animals in between.They have free shipping on orders \$49 and above and carry such brands as Oxbow and Kaytee. Their online store also includes a pet pharmacy.

For more ideas for bunny shopping, please visit **www.rabbit.org** and search "shopping for HRS" and "mail order" or go to the direct links: http://www.rabbit.org/links/mail-order-resources.

html http://www.rabbit.org/links/shopforhrs.html



Somebunny Needs YOU!



Have you ever wanted back into a time of innocence, when rabbits could be big and white and magic? This young lovely, born in spring '09, will take you there. Open your door to her, and come home to the land of Honalee. Please contact Herta Rodina (bhrs-herta@ ohare.org) 740-797-7616.

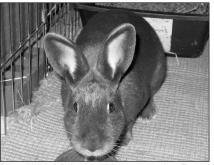


"Izzy" cute and adorable or what? Yes, he is! Meet Izzy; this four-pound gray dutch bunny is as sweet as he is cute and adorable. He has excellent litterbox habits too. "Izzy" going to be a part of your family?

Please contact Michele Roth Kerley (bhrs-michele@ ohare.org) 859-261-0556.



If you have a sweet tooth, you will love **Anise**. She is as black as licorice but she is way sweeter. This special girl is waiting for a loving family to show off her excellent litterbox habits. Call today to make her a part of your home, but careful, she's so sweet she may cause cavities! **Please contact Michele Roth Kerley (bhrsmichele@ohare.org) 859-261-0556.**



This is **Pumpkin**! She is a very sweet young lady. Just look at her awesome blue/gray fur! What a beautiful bunny! Pumpkin enjoys playing with her toys and she especially loves to chomp on

hay. Wouldn't you love to make Pumpkin a member of your family? Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ ohare.org) 419-355-8433.





Jacki is cute and sweet. She is very curious and likes to give kisses. She likes to snuggle, doesn't mind being held, and is a great hay eater. Jacki is also very neat with her litter-box. Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrssue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.

Chiqua came all the way to Ohio from a large rescue in New Mexico. She is all black with velvety-soft fur and lots of curiosity. Make an appointment to meet her today! Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrssue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.



Jilli, an adorable Californian mix, was dumped in her cage at a farm mailbox. Despite this rough treatment, she is super friendly and a great snuggler. She especially likes to burrow up under your chin.

She does not mind being picked up or held. Jilli is about 18 months old. Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ ohare.org) 419-355-8433.



Gabriella is a tiny brown and white lop-eared cutie with a lot of personality. She loves to run through her cardboard tunnels and boxes but will always stop to be petted. She's a good hay eater and great with her litterbox. Gabriella turned two years in August 2011. Please contact Kristen Doherty (bhrs-kristen@ ohare.org).



Meet Barley and Hops, aka "The Beer Babies". Barley and Hops are a pair of super friendly "BWBs" (Big White Buns). They are six months old. Barley is a sweet boy and likes to be involved in whatever you are doing. Hops

is a cute and curious little girl. We would like them to stay together. BWBs grow to be larger than average bunnies, but they have the sweetest temperaments. They are mostly laid back and easy going. BWBs are good for families with younger children. Come see for yourselves how wonderful these guys really are. **Please contact Sue Zimmerman** (bhrs-sue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.



Charlie is a young minirex tan bunny. What a ball of energy! In his spare time he enjoys running laps, doing binkies, and standing on his back feet to look around. Always a member of the "Clean Plate Club". he finishes all his greens. With fur softer than velvet and a playful personality, Charlie's sure to make you fall in love. Please contact Stephanie Lodge (bhrsstephanie@ohare.org) 216-571-1088.



Meet Luna and Matilda ("Mattie"). They look a lot like little Siamese kittens.They are very, very curious and anxious to explore their surroundings.

Both are friendly and good at being held. They've been spayed and are now ready for adoption. We prefer that they be adopted together. Make an appointment to meet these cuties today! **Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ ohare.org) 419-355-8433.**



Adopted!



Coco Bean is hopping and happy in her new home with Stacy Vashak. ♥ Misha has been adopted by the James Stabler family. ♥ Dixie has a new home with the Coverts. She also has a new lagomorph pal, Latte.
♥ Laura and Jim Gills have welcomed Tabby into their hearts and their home. ♥ Congratulations to Michelle and Alex Cook on their adoption of Moby. They are sure to have a whale of a good time with each other. ♥ Michael Nowman (and Eline) now have a new addition to their household with the adoption of Henry. Congratulations!

"I found a domestic bunny running loose." Now what?

By Sue Zimmerman

Many of the bunnies we have fostered over the years have been strays lucky enough for a kind human to come to their rescue. We also get a number of calls from people who find a stray domestic rabbit wandering loose and aren't quite sure what they can do to help.

If you find a domestic bunny running loose, the first thing that you should think about is getting the rabbit to safety. He more than likely will not survive without intervention. Just like a human, he is going to need food, water and shelter. Try to capture or coax the rabbit to a place where you can catch him or at least block him in. Some domestic buns are friendly enough to come right up to you and allow you to pick them up. Others may be more timid or want nothing to do with you. Remember that the rabbit is already stressed and scared and he may not understand that you are there to help. A phone call or email to an HRS representative is also a good idea; volunteers will provide tips and suggestions for getting this rabbit into "protective custody".

If you are not able to catch the rabbit on your own, you may want to try a live trap. These traps are humane, will not hurt the animal, and are available at most hardware stores. Place some food in the live trap to lure the bunny in. HRS recommends a slice of banana or some shredded carrots. Be sure to cover up the trap with a blanket, towel, or tarp. This not only offers bunny a place to hide but will help reduce his stress level when captured. Be sure to check the trap at regular intervals, about every four hours. Keep in mind that it may take more than one day to successfully catch the stray. It is possible that you may not be able to catch him at all. Don't get discouraged; take comfort in knowing that at least you tried to help.

I once found a domestic rabbit hopping along the middle of the road on my way to work. I pulled over and coaxed him over to the side of the road. I nearly got him to hop into the back seat of my car, but he ended up running away into someone's back yard. I felt terrible that I wasn't able to catch him. There was nothing else that I could do. In the end I felt a little better knowing that I got him away from the road. I may have not been able to rescue the rabbit but I was able to move him to a safer place. Ever since that day, I now carry a collapsible pet taxi in my car just in case this happens again.



Once you have the rabbit in custody you may want to check with neighbors in the area to see if the rabbit belongs to them or if they know where s/he came from. If you are unable to find the owner, you have a few choices. You can keep the bunny for yourself, try to find a good home for him, or take him to a local shelter. Be sure to contact an HRS representative for more information on your options. Our foster homes are usually always full, but it's a good idea to check with us in case we have an open spot or know of someone who can help. We may not always be able to take the rabbit, but we will work with you to the best of our ability.

In the past, Keith and I have offered another option. We will supply the rescuer with housing, food, and all supplies. In return, they agree to keep and care for the rabbit in their home until we have an available foster spot. We offer this option only if we know that we may have a spot opening up within a few weeks.

In closing, if you happen to see a domestic pet rabbit on the loose, remember to get him to safety first; catch him if you can and call a local HRS representative for assistance. (For more information on domestic stray rabbits visit www.rabbit.org)

Bunny Cookies

By Rebecca Nagley

Hop into springtime with these easy-to-make rabbit-shaped cookies!

Preparation Time: 40 minutes Bake Time: 30-45 minutes Total Time: 70-85 minutes

Ingredients:

- 3 1/3 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 T. vanilla sugar (or 1 tsp. extract)
- 1/4 tsp. double-acting baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 2 whole eggs
- 14 T. butter
- Rabbit cutouts
- raisins, cranberries or nut pieces to decorate the eyes
- Optional: grated nuts

(depending on preference), powdered sugar, or icing; cookie gift wrap supplies (\$3-4 at craft stores)

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Preparation:

Mix the flour, sugar, vanilla sugar, salt, and baking powder in a bowl. Add butter in chunks and the eggs. Mix by either rubbing the ingredients with your hands, or use a mixer on low speed. Mix until the dough is smooth.

Creating the Cookies:

Roll out the cookie dough to 1/4 inch thick. Cut out shapes using rabbit-shaped cookie cutters (best to stock up on those before Easter). Decorate cutouts with nuts, cranberries, or raisins for eyes.

Place cutouts on lightly greased or nonstick cookie sheets. Bake at 350°F until lightly golden, for about 30-45 minutes depending on oven.



Cool completely on sheets for about 5 minutes, then transfer to cooling racks. Sprinkle some powdered sugar, frosting, or grated nuts over the cookies for a polished presentation. After the cookies have completely cooled, wrap as a gift or serve on a pretty holiday platter. Enjoy!

Farewell to Fievel

I cherished every moment I had with you. Although it wasn't a lengthy period of time, it was quality. I remember when you first came to us, you were afraid to leave your potty. After time, you realized that we loved you and just wanted to make you as happy as possible. Your health declined extraordinarily fast and ending your life was very hard for me. I know it was the right thing to end your suffering. We miss you and think of you often. I hope you are doing your silly head shakes across the bridge. Love you!



Stephanie and Phillip Lodge

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Your \$33.00 annual membership in the Buckeye HRS includes:	Please make checks
 National membership (\$18.00) and 3-4 issues of the <i>House Rabbit Journal</i> Local membership (\$15.00) and issues of Harelines If you are already a national member, your local fee is \$15.00 	payable to: Buckeye House Rabbit Society
□ I would like to donate \$ to help a foster rabbit (vet care, supplies)	P.O. Box 5767
I would like to donate \$ in memory of The grieving family receives an acknowledgment of your gracious gesture.	Athens, OH 45701 All donations are
I would like to volunteer to:	tax-deductible.
□ Distribute information to vets □ Assist with mailing	
□ Help at Buckeye HRS booth at Pet Expos and fairs □ Other	
Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip Phone	
E-mail address	
Bunnies' names and special dates	



Buckeye House Rabbit Society P.O. Box 5767

Athens, OH 45701



Buy a bunny a little time...