



# HARELINES



Volume 20 Number 3 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BUCKEYE HOUSE RABBIT SOCIETY

Fall 2016

## Luck Be a Lady Named Barb

By Debbi Braunschweiger

Winning the lottery, picking the trifecta, striking gold, or wishing upon a shooting star. Admit it, we've all dreamed of hitting it big in hopes of improving our lives. Who's to say that rabbits don't have similar dreams of that perfect life where food is abundant and they get lots of love and play time? This is a story about one such lucky bunny and her Cinderella, rags-to-riches story.

In August 2014 our local shelter got a call about 83 farm animals that were living in deplorable conditions and appeared to have been abandoned. All of the animals were seized and charges were immediately filed against the owner. Seven of those farm animals were rabbits and they were taken to our shelter to be cared for by our Bunny Brigade volunteers.

All of the rabbits were lionheads. Some were double maned, some with a slight mane, but one had a particularly long, wild top knot of a mane that changed her look with each toss of her head. We all agreed that she had to be named Tina Turner.

Tina and the six other bunnies lived at our shelter for almost a year until the court case was finally concluded allowing them to be spayed/neutered and adopted. During that year Tina's personality shone like a sweet, furry clown. Every time we had an opportunity to use a rabbit for an education class or show a group of visitors about bunnies, Tina was our go-to rabbit. She never failed to charm anyone she met. So when all the other rabbits from her case were adopted before her, we were completely baffled. We had all assumed she'd be the first to leave us.

In Minnesota a woman named Barb was looking on Petfinder and came across Tina's picture. It was love at first sight. She contacted the shelter and we exchanged several emails before she decided Tina was

the perfect bun for her. Barb has many bunnies of her own and works with the Minnesota Companion Rabbit Society (MCRS), so the idea of someone driving hundreds of miles to rescue one rabbit seemed odd to us. Not to Barb.

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*Tina & Barb*



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<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:

**Jude May**, for her generous contribution in memory of Felix.

**Gary and Paula Savage**, for their thoughtful gifts in memory of their dear Caddy and Bogey, bonded brothers who passed two weeks apart.

**Jim and Nancy Reed**, for their wonderful contribution in Beatrix's memory. She enjoyed a long and full life with them and is deeply missed.

**Holly and Matt Lewis**, for their in memoriam donation in honor of their beloved Nutmeg, who shared their hearts and home for over 10 years.

**Kathleen, Will, and Ken Higgins**, for their generous tribute to their precious Beatrix. She was with them only a short time but she left an indelible mark in their memories.

**Clay and Nancy Pasternack**, for their loyal support in memory of sweet Ozzie and Prince.

**Small Pet Select**, for donating a percentage of hay purchases to the Buckeye HRS. See our website for details (under Recommended Supplies) and remember to use the coupon code "Buckeye" to receive free shipping and to help us help more bunnies.

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

**Nikki Romero, Christopher and Jamie Marks, Tracey Parsons, Judy O'Neil, Debbie Dowell, Alexandria Bates, Mark Kerley, Ryan Battelle, Junko Rogers, Cynthia Slezak, Carrie Levicki, Ruth Miller, Mary Zimmerman, Bob Piekarczyk, Norma Jean Mudry.**

**Our new and continuing Sanctuary Rabbit Sponsors!** These special rabbits, who will spend the rest of their lives in foster care due to serious medical conditions, have you kind and generous people to thank!

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

**Find the Buckeye House Rabbit Society  
on Facebook and Twitter!**



**Search for:  
Buckeye House Rabbit Society**

**[www.twitter.com/BuckeyeHRS](http://www.twitter.com/BuckeyeHRS)**

# Where Are They Now? Part Two

By Sue Zimmerman

We asked some of our adopters to give us updates on former Buckeye House Rabbit Society foster bunnies. Enjoy more wonderful stories!

## Rodger – By Rob Lovicz:

We adopted Rodger from Buckeye HRS fosterer Stephanie Lodge about four years ago. When we got him, he was soooo little he could almost fit in your hand. He was supposed to be a small rabbit and "not shed too much". I am laughing as I write this because the opposite was true. He turned out to be a moose with about the same agility level. He has learned how to growl all on his own and he uses it as a language. He has a growl for when he gets treats, one for when he is annoyed and another for when he is really upset (which sounds



Rodger



Clover

like a "Wookiee" and I try not to laugh). He has been a wonderful addition to the family and I am so grateful that the Buckeye HRS found him for us.

## Clover – By Lydia Coutre:

I adopted Clover in early February 2016. Growing up with severe allergies, I never thought I would be able to have a furry pet. Stephanie introduced me to Clover, and by some miracle I'm not allergic to rex rabbits.

Clover was never exactly shy. She was a bit suspicious of hardwood floors the first couple of days in my home, but by the time I bought rugs for her to walk around the apartment, she was over her fear and running all over the place. It took her about a week to decide that the apartment was hers. Her favorite places are on my dining room chairs or the shelf above the radiator, where she can look out on her realm. She now has a little doll bed, but so far prefers climbing under it or squeezing behind it rather than actually sitting on it.

Clover is confident and stubborn. And I love her so much, even if she doesn't let me snuggle her ... yet.

## Norm – By Madaline Good:

Norm loves to stretch out and watch TV. It's so weird! While he hasn't become the "BFF" we had hoped for our other bunny, he definitely bonded with our two cats and my long-term boyfriend! It's great seeing Norm actively playing with him. Even though they're not best friends, Norm gets along OK with his bunny pal Griffith, and they keep each other company in their bunny room ... just with

*Continued on page 4*

a baby gate between them. We're hoping that someday they'll fully bond, but for now they're just taking their time with things and that's fine.

### Truffle – By Angel Quandt:

Once upon a time about a year ago, an angelic maiden, Stephanie Lodge, was called to our humble home to meet a tiny gray lop that a friend had dropped off at our house. They had just rescued him from a Montville family who was moving and who had posted online that they planned to release him unless someone took him in. We named him Smokey the Bunny.

On Stephanie's way over she stopped to pick up Truffle from another family's home. Her Truffle was a "bit" of a biter, pun intended. After Stephanie's expert advice about Smokey and his future care, she mentioned Truffle's sad story. No room at the inn for him. He "bit" his last at the previous home and Stephanie needed to find him a new foster family. Having just rescued Smokey, we weren't ready to open our home to another Biting Boy Bunny. Stephanie thought a single bunny home would work better for Truffle, but nobody had space to care for him, even temporarily. We offered to foster until she found the right Furever Home. So the story begins...

Since that day, the adventures of Truffle have unfolded. He is a soft, handsome, chocolate brown with-a-white-spot-on-his-nose bunny, who snuggled his way into our hearts. He was blessed in our church for St. Francis's feast day and has been the Easter bunny for about 50 children also at church. He enjoys rides in the wagon for short outings or rides in a basket with Smokey for longer car trips. His favorite time is playing in the bushes, knocking down paper tubes, stretching in his bed, or digging in his man cave. As you can see, we LOVE chocolate and Truffle became a wonderful addition to the Quandt family. So we all lived happily ever after ... just don't ask Smokey.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to share your stories and photos (high-resolution please) of a bunny you adopted from us, please email Sue Zimmerman – [bhrs-sue@ohare.org](mailto:bhrs-sue@ohare.org).



Truffle



Norm



## ***Holiday Raffle to Benefit Buckeye HRS Foster Rabbits!***

For our eleventh annual holiday raffle we proudly present these 4 Williams Sonoma Damask Bunny Salad Plates. Brighten your celebrations with these playful woodland rabbits!

- 8-inch diameter
- Made of high-fired porcelain
- Microwavable; oven and dishwasher safe
- To truly appreciate the pale blue floral backdrop that re-creates the look of damask textiles, please visit the raffle section of our website for color photos of the plates [www.ohare.org](http://www.ohare.org)

All proceeds will go directly to our foster program and will ensure that needy bunnies have a safe and happy holiday season while they await the ultimate gift, a permanent home. Tickets cost \$1 each and you may buy as many as you wish. **All entries must be postmarked no later than December 8, 2016.** 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 pay by credit card through our website – [www.ohare.org/wordpress/support/our-raffle](http://www.ohare.org/wordpress/support/our-raffle) – for ticket purchases of \$5 or more. The lucky winner will be notified mid-December and will receive the prize in time for holiday gift-giving.



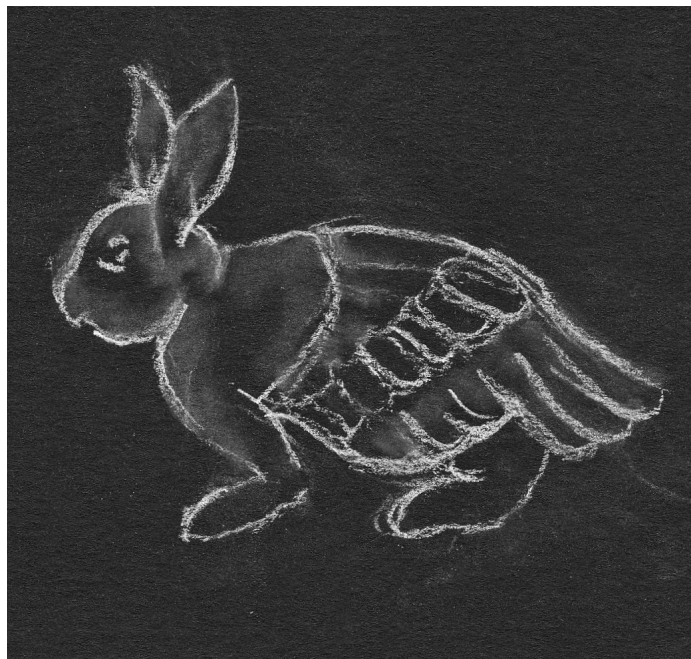
# Mythical Rabbits (Part 2 of a 3-part series)

By Michele Roth

Around the world stories of mythical rabbits were created and, over time, turned into folk lore. Here are more highlights surrounding these mythical creatures and their tall tales.

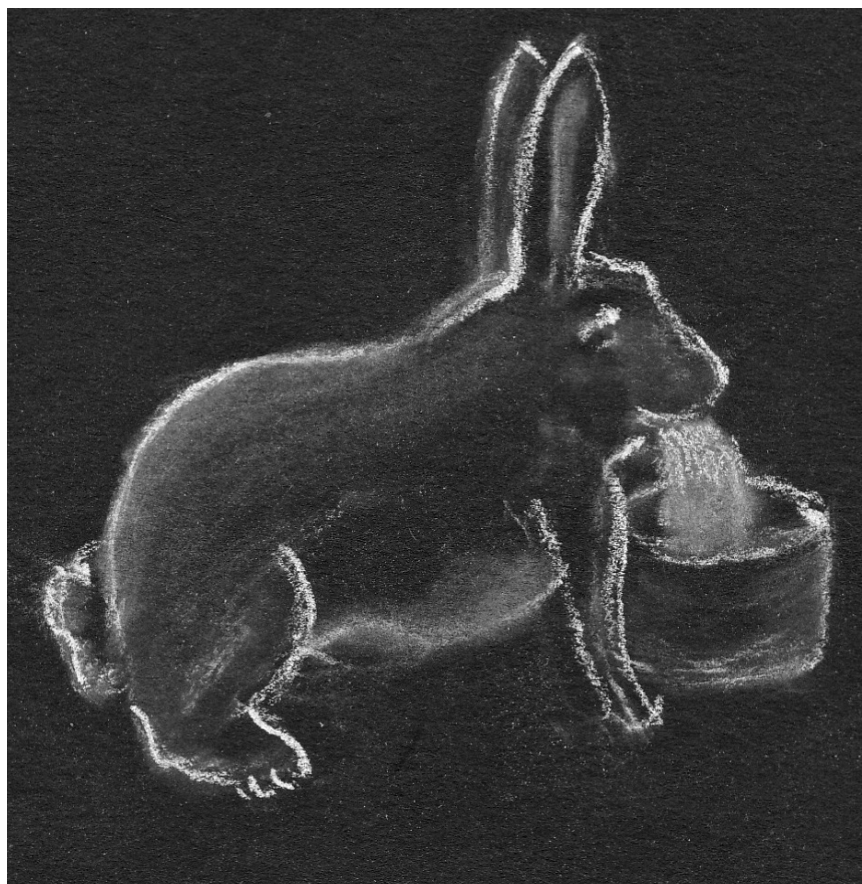
## The Skvader

In the beginning of the 20th century, a man named Håkan Dahlmark told a hunting story during a dinner party in a restaurant in Sundsvall, Sweden. He claimed that in 1874 he shot an animal that was a rabbit in the front and a grouse in the back. The nephew of his housekeeper did a painting of the animal as a birthday present for Dahlmark and presented it to him in 1912 shortly before his death. It was then donated



*The Skvader*

to a local museum. Rudolf Granberg, a taxidermist, then reconstructed the animal based on the painting. Since 1918, the painting and constructed replica of this Swedish fictional creature have been on display. Curiously, several hundred years earlier, the Roman author and naturalist Pliny the Elder described a similar rabbit-bird creature living in the Alps.



*Milk Rabbit*

## Milk Rabbit

The Milk Rabbit of Scandinavian folklore is also known as a troll cat and a milk ball. It would steal milk and cream from nearby villages. It was believed that witches created the Milk Rabbit from human hair, nails, and wood shavings that were then mixed with three drops of the witch's blood. Once the concoction was ready, the spell below, recorded in Sweden in 1908, was chanted. In some stories, any pain inflicted on the creature would be felt by the witch.

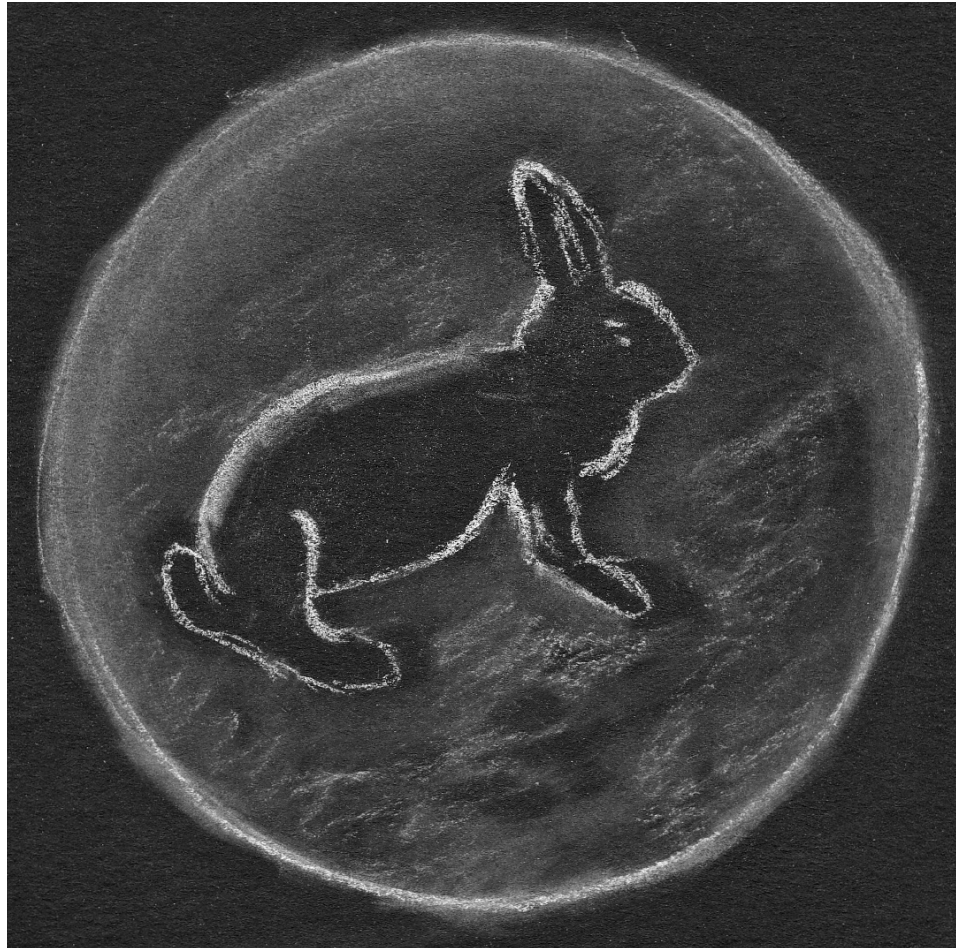
*I give you blood,  
Satan gives you power.  
You shall run for me on earth,  
I shall burn for you in hell.  
You shall travel through forests and  
fields,  
Gathering milk and cream.*



### Moon Rabbit

The legend of the Moon Rabbit exists in many cultures including Eastern Asian nations, Aztec folklore, and in Buddhist stories. Most of those tales consist of a rabbit sacrificing itself to a starving man who ends up being a God in disguise; the rabbit is then rewarded for its sacrifice by being placed on the moon for all to see. The tale I found most interesting, though, is the Native American (Cree) version. A young rabbit wished to "ride the moon" and the only creature willing to take him was a crane. The crane's legs were stretched due to the journey and the rabbit's bleeding paw left a mark on the crane's head, which explains the appearance of this strange but beautiful bird. According to this legend, the rabbit can still be seen "riding the moon" on clear nights.

Reference: *Wikipedia the free encyclopedia*



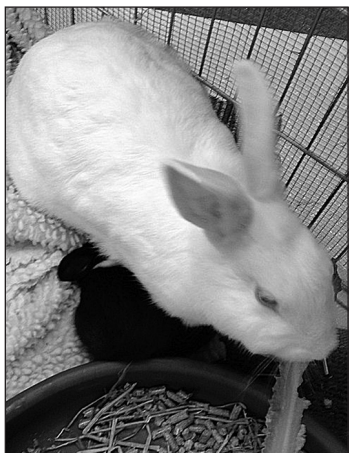
*The Moon Rabbit*

## Adopted!

A toast to **Guinness**! He has a new home with Sally Wood and Jeff Wolf and their adorable bunny Lily. ♥ Congratulations to **GrayC**! She not only has a new forever home with Michelle Cady and her husband, she has a new bunny companion in Carl. ♥ **Esperanza** wasn't available long before Sarah Rex adopted her to be friends with her current rabbit, Hazel. Congratulations! The adjustment to the new home is a slow but happy one. ♥ One of the bunnies rescued from Oklahoma, **Dinah** is the center of attention with her new family. Karleigh is the happiest kid around now that she has Dinah to dote on. ♥ **Stannis**, now known as Nimbus, is one spoiled rabbit. His new family is loving on him every moment they get. Congrats, Devin! ♥ **Gracie** is the apple of her new mom's eye. Leah, a flutist transplanted from Long Island, is now sharing her life and apartment with a very happy rabbit. Bring on the binkies! ♥ **Caramel** stole Sandy's heart and is currently dating Peter, a charming Flemmie mix. Sandy hopes they soon become BFFs. ♥ **Cotton's** life hasn't been an easy one, but now she has the best home she could ever ask for. Emily (human) and Louise (rabbit) have welcomed Cotton, now known as Flora, into their lives and she is surrounded by the love and patience that will help her learn to trust people again. ♥ It was wasn't long until **Prince** found a family to love and adore him. Sadly, their time together was cut short. Prince passed away about a month after his adoption. Binky free, Prince! We are very sorry for your loss, Clay and Nancy. ♥ Little did **Frances** know that when she went to her foster home she was also going to her forever home. During her 3 months in foster care, Frances changed from a shy, scared bunny to an outgoing diva. She loves to lounge with Netflix in the background and to throw toys at passing humans. Congratulations to Maggie and Frances Ferdinanz! ♥ I am extraordinarily proud to report that three times has been the charm for **Barry**. After being adopted twice and returned, he has now found his forever home. Right here! Some might say he has been adopted while others will call it a "Foster Failure," but failure is a light-hearted tease. Barry met Stella (one of my own bunnies) and they fell madly in love. They are now working on making their "Happily Ever After" a reality. – *Stephanie*



# Somebunny Needs YOU!



Meet **Lacey!** The mother of the Indiana babies, Lacey was dumped on the porch of a cotton-tail rehabber only to give birth to eleven kits the next day. (She raised the seven babies who survived right here in our foster home.) Lacey is looking for her fur-ever home. She loves baby carrots, cardboard boxes, hay munching (and long walks

on the beach – just kidding). **White bunnies with pink eyes are the hardest for us to adopt out.** Please give her a chance at a life she deserves and show her that she is anything but disposable. **Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.**



**Humphrey** is a very busy boy. He is only about one year old and loves free time away from his pen. He doesn't care for being held (because

that takes time away from his freedom to explore, you see). He does love attention and is very people-friendly. Humphrey enjoys shredding up newspaper inside his cardboard box. This little goof ball is sure to make you laugh. **Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.**

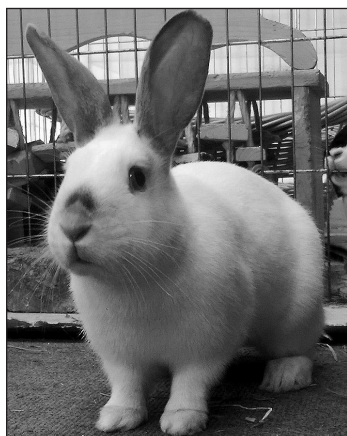
**Abby** is a beautiful big girl with perfect manners. This four-year-old bunny needs a big litter box and a lot of love and affection. **Please contact Stephanie Lodge (bhrs-stephanie@ohare.org) 216-571-1088.**



**Sylvia** is great with her litterbox, keeps her pen very tidy, and loves her three-story condo house. She is a cautious girl; you have to earn her trust. But once you do, she is a

loyal and loving soul who will open your heart to new adventures. **Please contact Stephanie Lodge (bhrs-stephanie@ohare.org) 216-571-1088.**

**Malibu** is an adorable young Californian with beautiful gray markings. She is very friendly and likes kisses on her nose. Malibu is a bit on the small side for a Cali girl. Malibu enjoys surfing, long walks on the beach, and listening to the Beach Boys. Just kidding, of course, but she would love making Pet Sounds forever with you! **Please contact Sue Zimmerman (bhrs-sue@ohare.org) 419-355-8433.**



**Em – Emerson** – is a teenage New Zealand white with an outgoing personality. He and his sister Gracie came from a bad situation, abandoned in a wooded area near Youngstown, Ohio, but they are now thriving as foster bunnies. Emmy is looking forward to growing into his ears! **Please contact Stephanie Lodge (bhrs-stephanie@ohare.org) 216-571-1088.**

# Introducing Our Newest Volunteer!

*We're delighted to announce that the Buckeye HRS has a new educator – Dr. Diana Dornbusch Cron, a rabbit veterinarian from Cincinnati. Diana has contributed several articles to Harelines over the years, has helped with rabbit rescues in her area, and is already well known to many members. In her own words...*

I am excited to now be working with the Buckeye HRS in an official capacity.

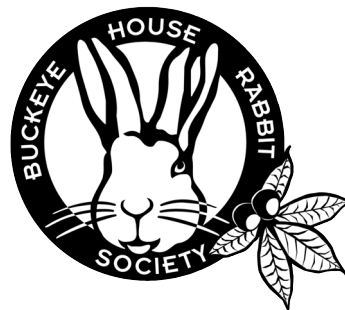
I began my professional life as an educator -- as a high school science teacher. As a veterinarian, I feel like an important part of my job is educating people about their pets' health and care, so the role of HRS Educator seems to be a perfect fit for me. I credit and am grateful to HRS for helping me learn about proper rabbit husbandry and care, since it wasn't a major area of study in vet school. Communication and collaboration with HRS folks in several nearby chapters, as well as attending two HRS conferences in St. Louis, have helped me get connected in the rabbit community and learn so much more. I also give credit to my own rabbits for teaching me the many things one can't learn from textbooks or from others. I currently have an aged pair, Clyde (adopted from the Humane Society of Greater Dayton at age 10, two years ago this fall) and Nadia (adopted from Columbus HRS 11 years ago) as well as a large one-eyed rabbit named Reagan, whom I couldn't bear to return to the SPCA after her spay and enucleation surgery. She would like to have a friend her own size in the near future, but our house is currently at maximum pet capacity with the three rabbits who share a nice sun room attached to our family room with three cockatiels, out of harm's way from the four cats and two dogs. My husband and I not only work in the same veterinary practice on the west side of Cincinnati, but we have a daughter, Elizabeth, who is a junior in high school. She keeps us busy with her activities including competitive diving, piano, and chorus.



*Dr. Diana Dornbusch Cron*

I was on the Cincinnati Veterinary Medical Association Board as the Animal Welfare Organization Liaison for 8-9 years and, as a result, got to know many wonderful people involved in animal rescues in this area. I just started a three-year term as an elected board member of the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, representing my district. I have been a member of the Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis Club for 20 years and am currently working on getting more rescue groups involved in our annual fundraiser, the Harvest Home Fair. I love to crochet, garden, and be in or on the water, whether it is on water skis, or in a canoe, kayak or pool.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group!



**Helping  
Rabbits  
Since  
1997!!**



In Barb's words, she's a true believer in karma. While Barb and I were corresponding to arrange for Tina's adoption, another rescue group, Georgia House Rabbit Society, was reaching out to organizations throughout the country to help with a confiscation of over 200 rabbits. Several conversations later, Barb was heading to Dayton to pick up Tina and then on to pick up 20 other rabbits to take back to Minnesota to find their forever homes.



*Tina's first Hoppy Hour*

Barb considers Tina an Ambassador for the Atlanta bunnies. She even wrote a little ditty about her: "I am Tina, hear me roar. I waited such a long time for just the right forever home. There was a purpose. My new mom is from a state far away where rabbits are prized as family members. Where rabbits work in the community bringing joy to seniors and sick children and work with their family. As my new mom learned about me the conversation turned to all the rabbits in Atlanta who need help. Rescued from horrible conditions 200 of them need to find loving forever homes. So the Minnesota Companion Rabbit Society heard the call and 20 are making the long drive with me and my new mom to Minnesota. I am proud to be the Ambassador who made this possible. Now just wait to see the amazing things I will accomplish in my new home. I am Tina – remember my name!"

Since her adoption, Barb has sent many updates and photos. Tina has become a pet therapy bunny making weekly visits to local nursing and retirement homes as well as to the Children's Hospital. Everyone laughs when they hear



*Tina & new beau Nimoy*



her name but all agree it fits her perfectly.

MCRS has a wonderful program called Hoppy Hour where pet rabbits can play among other rabbits in a large, open gymnasium. Barb tells me that Tina loves it, but is more about mingling with the owners; when she's had enough she just sneaks out of the room and explores the halls. Tina is nothing if not independent and fearless.

If that weren't enough, Tina is now learning agility training and we're certain she'll excel at that and be the rock star she's named after. Coming soon on a YouTube stage near you ;-)

From horrible beginnings to a chance encounter to now living a perfect life, what an amazing journey this little bun has had so far. We can't wait to hear more.



*Pet therapist Tina with a new friend.*



*The Buckeye HRS at BunFest 2016 – Keith, Sue, Herta, Shawwna, Stephanie! What a fun day! Thanks to everyone who stopped by our table.*



**Buckeye House Rabbit Society**

P.O. Box 5767

Athens, OH 45701



Buy a bunny a little time...

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Your \$35.00 annual membership in the Buckeye HRS includes:**

- National membership (\$20.00) and 3-4 issues of the House Rabbit Journal
- Local membership (\$15.00) and issues of Harelines

If you are already a national member, your local fee is \$15.00

☐ I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help a foster rabbit (vet care, supplies)

☐ I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_.

The grieving family receives an acknowledgment of your gracious gesture.

**I would like to volunteer to:**

☐ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks  
payable to:

**Buckeye**

**House Rabbit Society**

**P.O. Box 5767**

**Athens, OH 45701**

**All donations are  
tax-deductible.**