



THE RESCUE RECORD

FRISKY'S WILDLIFE & PRIMATE SANCTUARY

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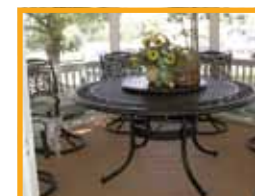
to find out what you can do to help the many animals in need at Frisky's

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SUMMER IMAGES

Visit us online at www.friskys.org

IMPROVEMENTS AT FRISKY'S



We have a supporter, who wishes to remain unnamed, who donated a beautiful screened in gazebo. It's great to have a retreat where we can have lunch, take a break, and have our meetings. Scott and Colleen even find time to sit down there after closing. It makes a great addition to the property. Thank You!



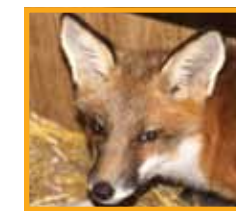
Ryan Hill, with Troop 882, created a universal enclosure for Frisky's as his Eagle Scout Project. It has a lot of safety features, everything is chew-proof, with metal covering all the wood areas. It has wheels to make it portable and it has a solid back which creates a windbreak from the weather. It has locks, a clean-out tray and many other extras. Ryan has great leadership skills, does quality work and Frisky's is very Thankful.



Joyce and Matt, both Wildlife Rehabilitators at Frisky's, updated Cody's enclosure. Cody is one of the two resident Coatimundi here at Frisky's. They opened up the summer side of the enclosure and made a lot of changes, expanding and upgrading the area. Cody now has new ramps and running boards. His enclosure includes grass, plants, areas covered in tree bark, tree stumps and hollow logs. It's become a new playground for Cody.



Joyce also created a natural setting for our fox kits. They have sleeping boxes, a den area



made of pine branches and lots and lots of climbing branches, perches and nesting box areas to hide out. Joyce likes to hide their food throughout the enclosure, so that they can make a game out of finding their food. We have a red female fox kit that has been here since April and a male kit that we inherited from Phoenix. Fox kits do not fare very well individually, so we had

asked The Phoenix Center if they had one to put with ours. Foxes need to keep company with their own kind and red foxes and gray foxes do not do well with each other. Phoenix had several fox kits and traded a red male over to keep our female company for a smaller gray we had. These two red foxes are doing well and will be kept here most of the summer until they are big enough to be on their own, and the little gray fox now is keeping company with others like him. At that point, they will be released on an approved site to live out the lives they were meant to live. Our thanks goes out to Kathy Woods of Phoenix!

We want to thank Evan Johnson once again for his fawn house project. This project was completed last season after all the fawns were gone. It was only when this season's fawns started coming in that Colleen knew how much she appreciated the new stalls in the fawn house. The dividing walls each work separately to make it easy to change the size of the stalls as the fawns grow. It also makes it possible to put the feeding bottles at whatever height is needed. Thank you again, this is a wonderful improvement!



AMPUTATING A BALD EAGLES WING TIP

BY: JANICE ELLIS

Sounds terrible doesn't it? But it was necessary to save her life. Let me start at the beginning. We received a call from a fisherman who had spotted an injured Bald Eagle several days before and had run across her again. He called DNR and was directed to Frisky's. He told his story of seeing the Eagle but not being able to do anything a few days before and hoping that she would have recovered and that he wouldn't see her again. But here she was again, in an area that had to be accessed by boat, and it was obvious that her wing was seriously injured. It hung at an unnatural angle and he could see one of the major wing feathers hanging as though it was about to come off.



We were fortunate to have Brian Loeper as a volunteer here that very day. Brian had come to us the year before with an interest in volunteering for Frisky's. He was a volunteer at Soldier's Delight and had experience with raptors, so we were very interested. He came during a community tour and I quickly took him aside to give him a personal tour once I realized who he was. It was almost a year later before he actually became a volunteer and that put him in the right place at the right time to help with this injured Bald Eagle.

He agreed to meet with the fisherman the next day, March 31, and we gave him the contact number and had him make the arrangements. He was given all the tools necessary to do a proper capture for a raptor, heavy duty gloves, nets, blanket and an appropriate enclosure. Even though he had the experience necessary to do a proper capture, Colleen reminded him that it is always Safety First. If Brian or the Bald Eagle were in any danger, or if either one was stressed out, Brian would need to abort the capture. They would come up with another answer if need be.

Fortunately, Brian was able to make the capture without any problems. He was taken out to where the Bald Eagle was on the fisherman's boat. The capture was simple. Once he had her in the enclosure he returned to his vehicle and drove her to Chadwell Animal Hospital where Dr. Gold and Dr. Urie would take over. These two vets had worked with both Bald Eagles from last year.

It was obvious to Dr. Urie that the tip of the Bald Eagle's wing was infected and would have to be amputated. Their best guess was that after her recovery she will be able to fly somewhat, but not able to navigate. Therefore, she would be unreleasable. We gave this some consideration and knew that

we would not keep her permanently. She deserves to spend her life in a much larger enclosure than what we could offer here. We also realized that to have her in our largest enclosure would make it more difficult to house any new raptors coming in. Perhaps one day in the future we can construct another enclosure for such an opportunity, but this Bald Eagle would need to be placed elsewhere. Working with The Wildlife Center of VA last year, we knew that we would ask if they were interested, or if they know someone who is. We also heard



that the DC Zoo was looking for a female Bald Eagle, but that it has to be a female that cannot fly at all, so we'll have to wait for her recovery to see what her condition will be. We reported all this to The US Migratory Bird Department and got permission for Dr. Urie and Dr. Gold to do the necessary operation. We were told that their department would make the decision as to where the Bald Eagle would live after she recovers. They will take into consideration any suggestions we make, but they have the final word.

After a round of antibiotics, the infection improved enough to operate. The operation took place at Chadwell Animal Hospital and it all went very well. They removed the injured wing tip enough so that there will not be any bone showing when it heals. She was kept overnight, then sent home with new antibiotics and pain medication. Colleen gives her the medicine inside a whole fresh fish each day. She tends to dislike the taste of the medicine and eats less, but Colleen is watching her closely to make sure she is getting her medicines properly. We are keeping her in a smaller nesting box inside the flight enclosure, so she cannot injure herself. It is a task just to keep that smaller area clean, but we don't want any chance of a new infection.

Even though her wing is healing, she is not happy in the small enclosure. She wants out, but for her own safety she has to remain in there until she is completely healed. As much as we enjoy having a Bald Eagle here at Frisky's, we want to do what's best for her and will work with The US Migratory Bird Department to find the best possible placement for her.

Be sure to read about the Bald Eagle's rescue from Brian's point of view.



COMMUNITY TOURS

Frisky's posted the dates for our annual community tours on our website and on Facebook. The tours are offered to educate the community about what Frisky's offers and about rehabilitating wildlife in general. We consider the tours a success if the public leaves with the understanding that wildlife, both exotic and native, belong in the wild, not kept as a pet. Each tour is held on a Saturday 10:30 - 12pm. Our tour dates for 2012 are: June 16 - July 7 - August 8 - September 11. We also continue to offer educational tours to scout groups and school groups. Pictured are Girl Scouts from Clarksville on tour.



SIMIAN SOCIETY CHAPTER 13 MEETING AT FRISKY'S



June's meeting for Chapter 13 of The Simian Society was held at Frisky's on June 3rd. It was a small but very productive meeting and we enjoyed having Mel Orr and Cliff Lewis here as much as they enjoyed visiting with us!

ANNUAL USDA INSPECTION

Inspections are not scheduled, but come when we least expect them. APHIS came to do our annual inspection towards the end of May, on a day where boots were needed just to walk around the property. But the sun was out, so this was to be the day. Gloria checked primate numbers and enrichments, toured the property to see all the animals, how they were being treated and their proper enclosures. She also looks through our records for tours over the past year and also the records for all the animals that came in over that same period of time. Even though an inspection can make our busy schedule even more hectic, we do not panic when DVM McFadden shows up. We know that we do everything required of us and then more, so its just a matter of having it put on record.

As always, you can go to our website and safely donate through paypal!



WHAT CAN I DO?

Frisky's is a 501 (c) 3 Organization. Frisky's **DOES NOT** receive any county, state or federal funding. Frisky's survives only by public donations. All proceeds and donations go directly to the care and welfare of the animals. Please donate an item from the wishlist, or send in your tax deductible donation!

www.friskys.org • friskyswildlife@yahoo.com

DONATION RECORD FRISKY'S WILDLIFE & PRIMATE SANCTUARY, INC.

10790 Old Frederick Road • Rt. 99 • Woodstock, Maryland 21163

Your donation is 100% Tax Deductible

Retain this receipt for your records.

DATE _____

CASH \$ _____ GOODS \$ _____

CHECK \$ _____ CHECK # _____

(DESCRIPTION OF GOODS) _____

Thank you for your support!

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Please remember to detach this form and leave it with your donation so we can thank you.

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DATE _____

YES, You can count on me to help support your efforts to care for the animals of Frisky's!

My check/gift is enclosed. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Frisky's is a 501(c)3 organization and receives no financial support from federal, state or county government.

CASH \$ _____ GOODS \$ _____

CHECK \$ _____ CHECK # _____

(DESCRIPTION OF GOODS) _____

If you are interested in collaborative opportunities or donating your time and expertise, please write us with your thoughts, call or email Frisky's.

We try very hard to use your contributions for the most urgent need at the time we receive them. If you would like to restrict this contribution for a specific project, please mark here. _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

With a donation, your name will be placed on our mailing list to receive The Rescue Record.

EAGLE'S CALL FOR RESCUE

BY: BRIAN LOEPER



Few enterprises require more flexibility than that of Wildlife Rehabilitation. A call comes down the line, plans are put together quickly, and everyone involved works together in perfect tandem for the good of a single animal.

That was certainly true when the call came down that a group of buddies on a fishing trip on the eastern shore of Maryland found a downed Bald Eagle hopping along their lakefront. Plans were put together quickly and the next morning their outboard rig was motor-ing us along the banks where Great Blue Herons took off around every corner.

Following the final bend was a sight every nature-lover would travel great lengths for but was terrible news for our rescue: circling Golden Eagles.



Five Golden Eagles made shallow passes above the tree line where directly below we found what we'd come for. The Bald Eagle stood stoic and commanding

on a log overlooking the shallow tide. She wisely showed no weakness to the prowling predators above. Still, it's unlikely the charade would have worked much longer, considering the Bald Eagle appeared to be doing her hunting from the ground and never once took a lunge at all the visible fish populating the low tide.

As our boat breached the sand, our crew of three climbed the steep slippery slope. The eagle made a few clumsy attempts to fly before taking off running. We knew we had our work cut out for us. Bald Eagles are great runners and will occasionally take down land animals on foot. Like a military exercise, our rescue crew silently fanned out to establish a perimeter and then began to systematically close in. The eagle took off through the woods, but we managed to keep one step ahead, closing off any exits and containing her with natural barriers like fallen trees and thickets of thorn brush.

Finally our crew members were all within arm's reach of the raptor. The grab was nearly at hand and there was no telling what kind of fight would ensue. The Bald Eagle is known to be a scrapper. They will evade, steal, and bully in the wild, but when cornered our national bird becomes a formidable opponent. The curved three-inch long talons are supported by feet that can squeeze with up to 500 lbs. of pressure (the average human squeezes with 60 lbs.). The Bald Eagle is also one of the few birds of prey who will make use of its beak to bite and peck.

As we prepared for our fight, our mighty Bald Eagle laid down and surrendered. She didn't thrash once as we pinned her ankles and gathered up her malnourished frame in a thick blanket. She was exhausted, starving, and

defeated.

The final saving grace came from the wonderful staff at Chadwell Animal Hospital. They took our eagle in with no appointment, performed a thorough exam, took x-rays, and sent



her home with much-needed medicine. Two weeks later the talented surgeons at Chadwell successfully performed the necessary amputation of the eagle's infected broken wing.

Now safely at Frisky's, the Bald Eagle has made an incredible comeback in both strength and vigor. She gobbles up fish with a tyrannical appetite and fights being handled as expected of a mighty apex predator. With her rehabilitation recovery period almost complete, her ending would not have been so happy if those fishermen had not interrupted their vacation to take action.

Whether you bring us a baby bunny in a shoebox, help us catch an injured eagle on a rainy morning, or are willing to donate funds or supplies to our cause, everyone here at Frisky's thanks you for caring about the animals.

HAPPY ENDINGS

BAD BEHAVIOR REWARDED? We had a rabbit at Frisky's named Buster that acquired an attitude as he matured. He was very testy with several of our volunteers as they were tending to his enclosure. He did not like to be held, so this meant that he tried his best to keep from being moved when his enclosure needed cleaning. Precautions needed to be taken to make sure that he wouldn't bite anyone. Because of his nature, he was not put up for adoption to the public. However as luck would have it, Kathy came to Frisky's to check on our rabbits. Kathy raises and shows rabbits and is also a friend of one of the rehabbers. Even though we have vet check-ups for the rabbits, advice from Kathy is always very helpful. During her visit she was told about this rambunctious rabbit and wanted to see for herself. She had a method of holding him so that he could not get a foothold to kick or complain. As she held him, walking around the area, Buster became quiet and stopped protesting to being held. Kathy decided that Buster needed to go home with her and was adopted the same day. Since then, Kathy has reported that Buster has not been a problem at



all. Thank You Kathy, we love happy endings! (Note: on a more recent visit, Kathy adopted a chicken)

"DEAR FRISKY'S: My name is Amaya-Grace; I am 9 years old and in the third grade. I love all kinds of animals including my two new chinchilla's. I asked my mom if I could get a new pet and we came up with the idea of a chinchilla. My mom said that I would have to re-



THANK YOU FROM FRISKY'S!



CONSCIOUS CORNER consists of several eco-friendly and organic health businesses in Clarksville: ROOTS MARKET; where you can do your organic and eco-friendly shopping; BARKS, which offers Pawsitive Petfood; GREAT SAGE, offering Organic Green Cuisine; NEST, which offers Earth-Friendly Clothing and Gifts, and BOULDER, offering Eco-Wear for Men. Each quarter the employees are able to donate 2% of their employee discount to a chosen non-profit. Frisky's was the chosen recipient of last year's final quarter and we received a \$900 donation.

ROOTS MARKET also assists us during the fawn season, putting aside the much needed goats milk that we need for their formula and giving us a discount. We have much to be thankful for and CONSCIOUS CORNER is certainly on that list.

THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S THRIFT SHOP donated linens to Frisky's. Thank You Ladies! TIKI'S PLAYHOUSE has continued to make in-kind donations and donated their grooming services for our family dogs, Thank You! (Kelvin seen in photo returning Tripper from grooming, in front of Tiki's new Doggie Ice Cream Truck!) Many of our FRIENDS made so many donations for the fundraiser, over and over, Thank You All!



There are many times when someone comes on deck to drop off an animal, wearing a fresh manicure, nice clothes and driving an expensive car and yet they don't leave a donation. There are other times that we have received just a couple dollars from someone who appeared to be having hard times making ends meet. We never know what to expect in the way of donations. If we forget to ask if you

search them so I would know how to take care of them. To show I did my research and that I would be responsible for them she asked me to write a report and that after I did my research she would give me a chinchilla test. I found that chin's have sensitive tummies, can over heat, and are very active at night. If you don't take care of them a certain way they can get sick and even die. We also took a trip to the pet store to see what we would need for a habitat. Well I did everything that I needed to do and learned a lot. So my mom and dad surprised me with not one chin but two from Frisky's. They are so cute and active! I let them out of their cage, block them in the hallway and they will climb all over me like a jungle gym. They will even eat treats like cheerios out of my hand. Thank you very much for my chinchillas. I love them and will take care of them forever. Amaya-Grace" THANK YOU (another HAPPY ENDING)

On April 28, a BLUE HERON managed to find itself entangled in kite string and hung from the trees in Arbutus. Neighbors called DNR and the local Fire Department. Halethorpe's ladder truck had to be called in with a longer ladder for the rescue and they were able to remove him from the tree. Michael Lathroum, an off-duty officer of DNR was on the scene to receive the injured Blue Heron and brought it immediately to Frisky's. The Heron received care for just a few days before it was ready to be released. An apprentice from Frisky's, Brian Loeper, assisted with the



release.. It was a breathtaking sight as the Blue Heron flew out over the water and continued on its way. Another HAPPY ENDING!

can leave a donation, please remember that it costs to take care of the little one you are leaving in our care and donate if you can. Thank You to all who care enough to get involved and to all who make donations.

PORCH ANGELS... For those of you who do not keep up with us on Facebook, I like to refer to the people who leave supplies on the porch regularly as our "Porch Angels". Most of the time they don't even stay to get a receipt or even to say



hello. I simply mention on Facebook that we are low on certain items, and those very items seem to show up on our porch within days. Thanks to all the Porch Angels... you know who you are!



Thank you to Maureen V. Meehan for all she's contributed. Lauren Golon, 9 years old, from Mt. Airy, took up a collection of Wish List Items for Frisky's. Thank You Lauren!

Thank you to Dr. Gold, Dr. Urie and the entire staff at Chadwell Animal Hospital for their continued care and support of all our animals. Words are not enough, but Thank You!



Thank you to all the Officers at Howard County Animal Control for working with us as though we were all part of one team! When it comes to Animal Control Departments, we are so fortunate to be in Howard County. Thank you Officers!



WE BEAT OUR FUNDRAISER RECORD!



Frisky's 2012 Fundraiser came to an end and we all waited as Colleen started adding up all the numbers. We knew that we had broken the record for one day sales earlier, and we all were hoping to break the record for the year's total sales. But not even one of us had thought we would do as well as we did. Colleen told us the total and we were all surprised. Even with our expenses from advertising and the extra electric necessary to the cost of putting in a portable potty, we still cleared over \$10,000. Our best year before this was just over \$7,000, what had we done differently?

Before the fundraiser even began there was so much preparation. We needed to bring all the sale items outside from the barn and make decisions, depending upon their condition, of keeping, tossing, cleaning and pricing. This went on for weeks. Tables and clothing containers had to be cleaned before we could use them. The Kratz family came in and assisted Colleen and Scott with changing the canvas covers on the tent frames. Their family helps every year with setting up for the fundraiser before it begins and on the weekends. We removed everything from the tents to put down new stone floors. Then all those items were sorted, and the items we kept were cleaned up. The Christmas tent was emptied and all the items were cleaned up. All the dishes that had been stored since last year were sorted, and again the items we kept were all hand washed. There was so much work before the fundraiser could begin. But we were blessed with volunteers that gave of themselves to make it all possible.

We have a lot of people to thank for our success. There were familiar faces and new faces alike that brought donations in the months before the sale and also during the sale. Some of these same faces visited Frisky's every weekend to see what new treasures they could find. It is always nice to see old friends and to make new ones. Very few people questioned our prices, knowing that the money was going to support the animals. I did have a couple ladies try to bargain at the register and I gave them a better price, only to have them make a donation on top of their purchase! I guess for some, it's the challenge of getting a better price. Those who asked Rose to lower the price found themselves playing a different game. If they asked her to lower the \$4 price to \$3, she came back with "sure, if you also put \$1 in the donation box". If she was feeling her oats, she would come back with, "sure I'll give you a different price, how about \$5?"

We had a few veteran fundraiser volunteers and quite a few new people who had only helped once or twice before, or maybe this was their first experience with a fundraiser. For the second year, Rose Craig was in charge of the fundraiser and the volunteers who offered to help. Rose is moving later in the year and so she had lots and lots of items for the fundraiser to sell, including a truck load of houseplants that needed new homes. Items that were in need of a slight repair often went home with Rose overnight and came back ready for sale. Janet is another veteran fundraiser and she showed up bright and early to help sort, organize and price all the many items that kept coming in. Her daughter Heather, also a volunteer with lots of experience in Frisky's

past fundraisers, was there to help whenever possible. Heather had just returned from Abu Dhabi where she was living the past two years and was just settling into her home, yet she found time and energy to be there for Frisky's event. She took jewelry that we were uncertain about its value to Serg Acle of Sergios Jewelers to have it appraised and brought back a check for \$300 for just a few pieces that we would have almost given away at the sale. Thank you Serg for helping out with the jewelry. Carolyn came to Frisky's last year as the fundraiser was beginning, and was put right into the mix, so this was her second time around. Last year she was rather shy, but this year she was quick to ask if someone needed help and helped many people find what they were looking for. All these ladies also came in throughout the week to get the new donations ready for the following weekend. Rose's niece, August, was able to help prepare for the fundraiser as she has done in past years. There was one other veteran volunteer, Cecilia Toth, and this marked 20 years that she has been part of our fundraisers.



Colleen and Scott were there everyday to set-up and to close-up. In between all her daily routine chores with the animal feeding and care, Colleen found time to come down throughout the day and help with the sales and run the cash register. Julia, our Jr. Administrative Facilitator, assisted with the daily animal care throughout the weekend so that Colleen could have some time for the fundraiser. Julia also helped at the fundraiser, with sorting, organizing and helping carry purchases out to the vehicles. Scott was responsible for the yard sale signs each weekend. Each sign had to go up on Friday evenings and come down on Monday mornings each weekend. Scott was hanging signs in the early morning hours when most of us were still sleeping. He did have a little help from Janice, our Administrator, who placed some signs in the Columbia/Ellicott City areas. Whenever the phones, computer or the wildlife coming in did not have her attention, Janice also came down to help with the pricing, the customers and the register.

We had some security stationed around the grounds, because there is always someone who takes advantage of the situation, and takes something without paying for it. Thank you Mike, Maria and all those of you who were asked to help out with this. Many of our other animal care volunteers came in on their regular days and came in on the weekends to help with the fundraiser. Izzy, Omar, Jackie and Ashley were there to do whatever was asked of them. Other animal care volunteers came in on the weekend to take care of daily chores to make it possible for the rest of us to be down at the fundraiser. Thank you Amy and Bonnie.

We asked on Facebook for some extra help and Maureen came in to help with the fundraiser. Nasi offered to help when she brought a hawk in. They both fit right into the mix and worked right alongside the veteran ladies to help make all the clothes and other items ready for the sale. We had a young man, Brian, who started as a new volunteer about the same time the fundraiser began. He had no hesitations about working at the 'hen party' and was a great deal of help. Alex came to Frisky's to drop off a car full of great donations and he stayed to help. He offered to help keep an eye on things and he also was able to advise us about items that we were not sure of. He recognized several items that were very valuable that we were practically giving away. We were able to pull them aside and found a more profitable venue for them. We raised more money



FUNDRAISER RECORD... continued

than we had ever thought possible on just a few items that hadn't seemed special to us at all. Thank you Alex. Bruce comes in each year to help with our "man's cave". This is where you would find tools, electronics and unidentifiable items. Bruce lives close enough to take home items that need fixing and return them the same day, ready for sale. Ingrid, of Westwood Unique Furnishings & Antiques, helps every year by giving us advice on vintage items. Some of the items we thought would be worth a lot turned out to be almost worthless, and items that seemed ordinary were not so ordinary. We are learning. Richard and Gail, local neighbors and longtime supporters, every year bring in tons of donations and also help us with distributing the items that are left after the sale is finished. They take donations to The Jonah House in Baltimore, which is a shelter that provides food and basics for the needy. Thank you Maureen, Brian, Alex, Bruce, Ingrid, Richard and Gail.

Scott always shows his appreciation to the volunteers by providing us with coffee, tea and donuts every Saturday and Sunday of the sale. Rose provided lunch every Saturday and Sunday, even on the day that she was having her daughter's baby shower and was unable to be here. Rose also hosted a volunteer appreciation party at her house. We were all together to celebrate our success at the fundraiser and also to be with Rose as a group to say goodbye before she moves out of state.

Frisky's wants to express their appreciation and gratitude for everyone involved in the Fundraiser. New volunteers, staff volunteers, veteran fundraiser volunteers, animal care givers, those who donated, those who made purchases, those who made repairs and those who gave advice, we thank you. To our families, thanks for allowing us to focus all our time on the fundraiser. To those who supported us by reposting our Facebook info and notices, to those who just told all their family and friends, we thank everyone for everything you did, no matter how small it may have seemed, because it all added up to the success of our Fundraiser and we couldn't have done it without you.

Due to the generous donations from our supporters, Frisky's continues to raise money by offering many of the donated items on E-Bay. We have raised over \$400 so far and will continue as long as we have items to offer. So... It's not too late to donate! Collector's items, one of a kind items, there are so many items that do well. Dog carriers have done very well, brand named purses and vintage items also. Call or email us if you have items you think we could auction to help raise money to support Frisky's.



FRIENDS OF FRISKY'S

BY: COLLEEN LAYTON-ROBBINS

Dearest Friends of Frisky's:

Well, here we go again, into full throttle for all of Spring and Summer. April's Annual Fundraiser was a real success. It pulled us out of debt and then some. It was our greatest year to date!

Weather has been fantastic, although the pollen is all around us, on everything to an extreme and so many of us have allergies that have been acting up.

Our small orchard is blossoming. The sweet and sour cherry trees are loaded, the limbs are covered in shades of red. Even our garden is coming in great. Grape vines are loading up and the raspberry bushes are really filling in after receiving an earlier trimming.

Scott, my husband, and I have pulled off the tarps from the outside enclosures. The primates, the avians and the mammals are all enjoying the sun.

We've been refurbishing enclosures and doing spring cleaning. The gutters seem to keep us going up and down the ladder. Scott, who works 50 to 60 hours a week as a mechanic/welder, comes home to make our dinner before cutting the grass and doing whatever repairs and chores need to be done each day. On the weekends he cooks for the monkeys too and we all enjoy it because he's a good cook, providing us with healthy meals, made with love. But all this work leaves little time for rest or sleep for either of us.

It takes the whole staff to keep up with the enclosure cleaning for almost two dozen primates and hundreds of birds and mammals. I'm often asked how I do it all. Well, I have lots of help. I'm thankful for the cooking, the preparation, the feeding, the cleaning, the donations and all the love that goes into Frisky's to make this all possible. Your compassion, empathy and giving for animals in real need, makes us the amazing team we are.

True Love and Hugs to you all! Each and Every One of You,
Colleen Layton-Robbins

