

*This issue is dedicated to the
memory of*
**Dennell
Sandoval-Newhall**



Tribute on pages 6-7

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**Our 6th Annual Quilt Raffle
is underway!**

Last day to buy tickets: July 31st.
Details on page 8.

Fly-Strike Emergency

by Joy Gioia, Chapter Manager Missouri HRS

WARNING: *This article is not for the faint of heart or weak of stomach. This article is for the good of rabbits everywhere since fly strike happens both indoors and outdoors.*

Maggots

Fly strike can happen anywhere and anytime when the weather is warm enough to hatch fly eggs. Even the cleanest household can have a fly slip in when someone comes through the door. If that household also happens to have a rabbit with an open cut, a newly removed tooth, a messy bottom, or food stuck to him, he can be a victim of the ordinary house fly or other fly species. Blow flies have a metallic sheen and specifically target open cuts or sores. The more restricted a rabbit is in movement, the more likely he is to be a target.

Summer has arrived in New Mexico, and with it comes increased risk of fly strike. There have been several cases of rabbits infected by cuterebra in the Albuquerque-Santa Fe area, so be aware for the sake of your rabbit!

House flies want to lay eggs on the moist, food-coated area and are carriers of infection. Blow flies don't need to lay eggs on the messy or injured area; that's merely what attracts them. The eggs look like tiny patches of off-white mush laid on the regular fur where they can stick. When the eggs hatch, the maggots automatically migrate to the appropriate area where they begin to burrow in and, literally, eat their victim alive. The tiniest cut can provide access beneath the skin to blow flies where they begin to burrow and eat deeper and deeper. If not found and flushed out before getting too deep, there may be no hope. Between tissue damage, infection and toxic shock, they do a terrible job on their victim.

Inspect your rabbit thoroughly and regularly. If egg patches are found, a flea comb can help remove them. Vinegar also helps kill the eggs, but do not rely totally on this and **DO NOT** use vinegar on open cuts or wounds. Removal is the key so shaving it off is best.

The maggots themselves are tiny white worms (the larval stage of the fly) and there can be hundreds or thousands of them. You may have

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Fly-Strike Emergency

(continued from page 1)

seen such wiggling masses on garbage or dead animals. If you see them on the surface of your pet they are also under the surface. You can frequently tell where they are by a rippling motion under the skin.

An opossum I treated during my wildlife rehab days had a tooth knocked out when she was hit by a car. Flies laid eggs on her muzzle and the maggots crawled into her mouth and up through the open area in the gum. The infestation was apparent from the twitching motion in the muzzle not caused by muscle movement. Left much longer, the maggots would have killed her, but serious flushing using a long-tipped 35 cc syringe with a solution of hydrogen peroxide, warm water, and a small amount of betadine (be careful not to get any down the throat in a situation like this) finally won the war against the maggots. Our opossum was a super trooper and lay quietly upside down in a volunteer's lap for over an hour while I flushed out the maggots, carefully picking off every one with a tweezers as it came to the surface. Follow-up care with antibiotics was also required.

Every single maggot must be removed or it will burrow back inside at the quickest opportunity. Watch carefully for the tiniest sign of movement anywhere on the animal's fur or area of maggot entrance. The rabbit should also be thoroughly checked for additional patches of eggs that may not have yet hatched. Follow this with an immediate trip to your veterinarian, or head to your

veterinarian first if you cannot flush them out. A thorough vet exam, possibly more flushing, debridement and antibiotics will be needed any time maggots have been found on your pet.

Cuterebra

Bot flies are not usually found indoors as the fly needs a suitable environment for laying the eggs, so the bunny getting exercise outside is more susceptible than the one indoors. The bot fly that targets rabbits (other small mammals can get them, too) looks somewhat like a cross between a horse fly and a large bee. The females lay eggs where rab-



Cuterebra in various stages of development next to a size 7 ring. All of these were removed from one bunny.

bits have been or in an area they frequent. When a rabbit comes near the eggs, their body heat triggers the egg to open and the tiny cuterebra attach to the fur of their victim, entering generally through the nose or mouth. Then they migrate to a subcutaneous (under the skin) location. Preferred areas are around the neck or under the body, but they can be anywhere. One poor juvenile bunny we treated had eleven cuterebra all over her body. They leave an air hole and grow in size for four to six weeks and can be nearly as large as a human thumb, leaving traumatized

and infected tissue in the rabbit. Unlike other fly maggots that are small and white, cuterebra look like something out of a science fiction movie. Starting out white, they develop into an almost leathery-looking black, reticulated slug-type body tapered at both ends with a large mouth.

Treat Fly Strike as an Emergency

If not found in time, the result of fly strike is death. It is far better to carefully examine your pets on a regular basis to avoid such horrendous situations. If you think your rabbit may have fly eggs and you aren't sure you've removed them all, please visit your vet as quickly as possible. Regular fly eggs hatch quickly so they must be removed immediately. Both types of fly strike require treatment with antibiotics. If you find maggots on your pet or cu-

terebra holes, time is of the utmost importance in getting your pet to the veterinarian. Your rabbit's life depends on it.



For more articles about rabbit care, diet, behavior, and medical issues, go to the House Rabbit Society website at www.rabbit.org. There you will find a wealth of information from our knowledgeable educators and of value to both the new and experienced bunny parent!

Looking for their forever home!

Adoptable Buns

See all our adoptable bunnies and adoption procedures at www.newmexicohrs.org



Bella

Bella is a lovely little lady with the irresistible soft droopy ears of the lop. She has been looking for her Forever Home for some time now, and she wants that home to be yours! Bella is a courtesy listing and not an NMHRS rabbit, but we would be happy to get you in touch with her foster mom or you can email her directly at yorkybear@aol.com.

Little Guy

Little Guy, Big Personality. This 4-pound bundle of Grade-A cuteness loves to hop around and explore. He loves attention and getting petted, as long as he can keep his four fuzzy feet on the floor! Ladies: This handsome bun's favorite things are cilantro, timothy hay, and napping.



Archie and Smokey

Archie and Smokey are two very independent-minded sisters in need of a forever home. They were born at the Albuquerque city shelter in 2012 and have looked out for each other ever since. They are wary of outsiders and tend to be very shy. Archie is a gorgeous, pink-eyed, pure white diva and Smokey's lovely sable coat lends her that mysterious aura. If you can handle two strong women who are as independent as they are beautiful then Archie and Smokey are your girls...I mean ladies (sorry, Smokey).



Uno

Uno is quite the independent young man and has been blissfully cage-free in his current foster home and is litterbox trained. This energetic boy is looking for a loving home! Uno is a courtesy listing: contact gunnerjewell@gmail.com if you want to give this loving and attentive bunny a home. Strike a pose, Uno!



Ziggy

Ziggy was found abandoned in a home with his siblings. They have all found homes, and Ziggy is hoping to find his Forever Home too. This lovely boy is litterbox trained and does not mind being held. Ziggy is a courtesy listing. If you're interested, email his foster mom at yorkybear@aol.com



REMEMBER!

Free nail trims are almost always available at NMHRS events!
Email bill@rabbit.org to verify.

Check our website or Facebook page for our next event and bring your bunny for a mani/pedi!



2015 - The Year So Far

January

- Petco ABQ West event: 2 adoptions & plenty of nail trims!
- Winter Critter Camp at Santa Fe Animal Shelter: outreach & kids meeting bunnies!

February

- NMHRS/SF Animal Shelter/Petsmart Charities' adoption event: 1 adoption plus educating/outreach/nail trims.
- A "goodie basket" is introduced for rabbit adopters at Santa Fe Animal Shelter.

March

- NMHRS Easter Campaign "Think Beyond Easter" launches on buses in Santa Fe & ABQ; "Think Beyond Easter" billboard on I-25 near Exit 257/259 goes up, with artwork courtesy of Rabbitron.com and billboard space donated by SD Advertising & Santo Domingo Pueblo.
- Kirtland Air Force Base/NM National Guard Easter Event: outreach, education, and raising \$200 from the bake sale!
- Mama's Minerals Egg Hunt: outreach aimed at getting kids to "Make Mine Chocolate!" & raised \$100 in donations!
- *The Bosque Beast* publication mentions NMHRS Easter Campaign "Think Beyond Easter" seen on buses in ABQ & Santa Fe. Also features adoptable shelter rabbits.

May

- Santa Fe Animal Shelter rabbits take part in pet outreach at Academy for Technology & Classics high school.
- Santa Fe's Honey Harris live radio show on KBAC 98.1 features Santa Fe Animal Shelter bunny Bianca and the joys of house rabbit companionship.
- NMHRS/SF Animal Shelter/Petsmart Charities' adoption event in Santa Fe: educational outreach & nail trims (despite Old Man Winter). Raised \$40 in donations and \$390 in raffle ticket sales.
- Petco ABQ West event: lots of outreach & loads of bunny nail trims!

June

- Critter Camp at the Santa Fe Animal Shelter: outreach and kids meeting a friendly bunny, Iris' MicTwist! Kids also make bunny 'treat bags' to deliver in person to shelter bunnies.
- Santa Fe Animal Shelter rabbit room and kennel deep-cleaning, courtesy of 5 dedicated volunteers.
- *The Bosque Beast* publication features a pair of adoptable shelter rabbits.

We can't do it without our volunteers!

Want to get involved? Contact a volunteer coordinator:

Ned (Albuquerque):

nednever@aol.com

Iris (Santa Fe):

iris.klimczuk@gmail.com

Victoria (Rio Rancho):

pereztori10@aol.com

Upcoming Events

JULY

Sunday, July 12
 PETCO San Mateo
 6300 San Mateo Blvd NE, ABQ
 12pm-3pm

AUGUST

Date TBD
 NMHRS/SF Animal Shelter
 Joint Adoption Event
 Location TBD

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, Sept 13
 PETCO ABQ West
 3601 Old Airport Rd NW, ABQ
 12pm-3pm

Saturday, September 26
International Rabbit Day!
 CABQ Eastside Shelter
 8920 Lomas Blvd NE, ABQ
 10am-2pm
 Date TBD
 Santa Fe "Treat & Toy" Workshop
 and Nail Trim Event
 Location TBD

OCTOBER

Date TBD
 Petsmart Charities'/
 SF Animal Shelter/NMHRS
 Joint Adoption Event
 Location TBD

NOVEMBER

Date TBD
 PETCO San Mateo
 6300 San Mateo Blvd NE, ABQ
 12pm-3pm

Stanley

By Ned Nevera

I have one personal rule that I apply to my volunteer work at the Albuquerque City Shelter, “You can’t take any of these rabbits home with you.” For the most part, I can say that I have adhered to this rule over the course of 5 years of volunteering (*if* you don’t count my numerous failed attempts at fostering). However, there are two types of buns that sorely test my self-imposed ban on weekly rabbit adoptions. The first are the “Unlovables,” the buns that come in as adults, having grown up damn near wild in somebody’s yard, suspicious, scared, and—well—unlovable. I am drawn to them because they’ll need a true rabbit person to accept them and care for them. The second type are the “Too Goods,” rabbits so friendly, fun, and out going that they are too good to be adopted by just anybody with \$20 and a small backyard cage.

STANLEY was a “Too Good.” He was a charmer who greeted you as you walked up to his cage. A friendly follower who trailed behind you as you cleaned up the rabbit room and wanted to make sure you didn’t get lost in your travels. A food mooch who wanted to be petted and played with. If that wasn’t enough to test my resolve, STANLEY was the spitting image of my recently departed buddy EDUARDO. The first time I met STANLEY I texted his picture to my wife with the message “At the shelter this a.m. Look like anybody you know?” My wife immediately replied “EDUARDO!” and very soon after, “No, you cannot bring him home.” I knew that, but still...

STANLEY was at the shelter again the next week to test my

strength as a volunteer. I was strong again and STANLEY stayed at the shelter. But I was beginning to crack. “If he’s there next week, he’s coming home with me,” I promised myself.

The next week came, but STANLEY was gone. Like so many other Too Goods I silently said goodbye to STANLEY and hoped



Stanley and his usual “Whatcha doin’?” expression.

that he found a good home with somebody who appreciated him and would love him for his awesomeness.

A couple of months passed and I was working at a NMHRS adoption event in Albuquerque. A young man in his twenties, approached the volunteers and mentioned that he was looking for a companion for the rabbit he and his girlfriend had recently adopted. We struck up a conversation and the gentleman, named Duke, said that his rabbit, named FINN, was very outgoing and friendly and a bit of a ham. I

asked where he had adopted FINN from and he said that he had gotten FINN from the Albuquerque shelter. I mentioned that I volunteered at the shelter but I didn’t remember a bunny named FINN.

“Oh, we renamed him FINN, he was STANLEY at the shelter.”

Out came the cell phones, pictures were shared and sure enough STANLEY was FINN and FINN was STANLEY. He was still a prince, still a ham, still awesome,

still a party waiting to happen...just renamed FINN and living with his forever family.

Duke and I talked for about half an hour and we agreed to work on finding a mate for FINN. We exchanged contact information and as we were about to close our conversation I told Duke, “If it doesn’t work out with FINN, make sure you call me and I can take him off—”

Duke stopped me right there

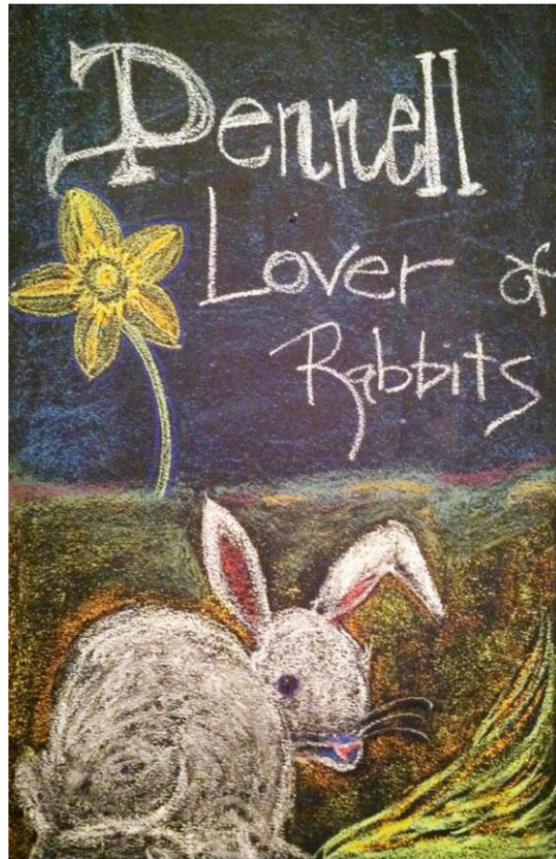
(continued on page 8)

Darlin' Dennell, Even now I weep at the mention of your name. Your spirit, your compassion, your endless generosity touched me deeply. I am honored to have known you.

She was always there for the rabbits/ animals and such a good person.

Dennell was the kindest person I have ever known. Working with the WMR buns she taught me a lot about handling and helping our furry friends and also how to find joy in the work even when it is hot and dirty and the little ones protest, bite, kick, and scratch at every turn. Every moment spent in her company is a treasured memory. I will miss her deeply.

Dennell was a bright light. Not only did her huge smile light up any room she was in, but she consistently gave more than she ever took, making everyone's life better in the process. She cared about others--human and nonhuman--and showed it in how she lived her life.



She was wonderful in every way...

Dear Dennell ... I had the pleasure of knowing you for many years. I remember the first time we met at WMR and the last time we spoke in your backyard. I will always remember your beautiful smile. I think of your warmth and your kindness. I think of the love you felt for every living creature – there was no limit to your generosity or your compassion. We who are left behind struggle with the death of our loved ones – and I find some comfort in these words of Ellen Brenneman:

"... But we can know that nothing that is loved is ever lost, and no one who has ever touched a heart can really pass away, because some beauty lingers on in each memory of which they've been a part."

I miss you my friend. Until we meet again.

The warmth and sincerity radiated from every part of Dennell - I hate to use the phrase, but she was an adorable ball of sunshine whenever I saw her. Her face was an open book of compassion and love for the rabbits. And I'll also always remember running into her at Sprouts, pushing a cart full of greens and sporting camo pants, high heels and a baseball cap!

The bunnies weep. And so do I.

Dennell was a lovely and caring woman who will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened

Working in rescue, I have met some of the best people in the world. Dennell was truly among the top. She loved the animals and the people unconditionally. She provided our organization with a lot of support and guidance. For me, personally, she provided a lot of emotional support and advice. I will miss her smile and positive attitude, but most of all, it is the animals that have lost a great advocate.

She left us too young. Her love of all animals remains with us. So many were saved because of her. There is a hole in our hearts and a bigger hole where the animals roam, but we know she is surrounded by fur and love now. Her heart was drawn to the sick and injured. Now they all have an Angel watching over them.

Dennell was a friend who always had a comforting word for me. She was an example of the kind of person we all strive to be. One of her great passions was giving a voice to those that had none. She truly is an angel looking down on every bunny.

*Dear Dennell,
Every time I met you, you were smiling. Thank you forever for all you did, especially for the rabbits. You touched innumerable lives, and the reverberations of your actions - both small and large - will continue to affect life in ways we will never know. The world is a better place for having known your presence.*

"What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?"

– George Eliot

I attended a City Council meeting with Dennell. During a break, a number of other friends of animals and rescuers came up to her to say 'Hi'...seemed like she knew everybody. I knew nobody. Dennell introduced me by saying, "This is my friend..." and I remember thinking, "Oh neat! Dennell says I'm her friend!" I'll treasure that memory – and her friendship - for as long as I live...



Dennell was really sweet and I enjoyed her company and was glad she was part of NMHRS. She was very kind.

When you were in her midst, you knew you were with a true friend of the heart. Her warm, welcoming manner and radiant smile exuded compassion for all who needed her. Though she had a busy schedule, she made extra time to come to city council and county commission meetings to show her support for better funding for shelter animals and for better anti-cruelty laws for all animals. Dennell was a gift to all who knew her and to the Animal Welfare movement. Now she has taken her rightful place as an angel in heaven, no doubt beautifying heaven as she beautified our world.

My favorite part of the garage sales was when Dennell and I would count the money at the end. There are a couple of pictures with us with handfuls of garage sale money. It was such a good feeling to have made so much for the bunnies. Dennell was one of the first volunteers I met, the day I adopted Harrison. Dennell was able to talk to the public about house rabbits and rabbit care. When I felt I would have trouble at the bake sale talking diplomatically to a would be volunteer that wanted to foster rabbits outdoors, Dennell was able to talk to him and explain why we wouldn't do that. She let me know that anything like that I could simply suggest they talk to her. She knew just what to say and how to say it. Also her kindness for the bunnies was so apparent. We miss her here, and we will meet her again

always a friend no matter the circumstances



Stanley

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saying with a laugh, “Ohhh no. No matter what, it will work out with us and FINN.”

It did work out for FINN. Through the efforts for Bill, Victoria P., Iris, and Donna, NMHRS found FINN a girlfriend. Her name is DAISY. He lives today with his adopted parents (Duke and Amber) and his DAISY in Albuquerque.

Now you’ve all heard me say it before, but when NMHRS posts a win as big and as complex as we did for FINN and DAISY it bears repeating:

If you ever cleaned a rabbit cage at a shelter...

If you ever volunteered at an adoption event...

If you ever baked something for a NMHRS bake sale...

If you ever cleaned the sanctuary...

If you ever ran a foster bun to a vet on short notice...

If you ever donated something for a NMHRS garage sale...

If you ever provided medical advice to a worried bun parent...

If you ever did ANYTHING to help save a New Mexico bunny...

...then you helped FINN and DAISY find each other and their forever home.

And the New Mexico House Rabbit Society thanks you for that!



**Missing An Issue?
Want To Read An Entire
Article Series?**

Previous issues of Rabbit Tracks are available on our website!

New Mexico House Rabbit Society Raffle

6TH ANNUAL QUILT RAFFLE



**Buy Raffle
Tickets
\$5 each
or
3 for \$10**



In My Garden



**Alastair
says:**

“Everybody needs some bunny to love...open your heart and home”

To Purchase Tickets:

Contact Bill Velasquez – bill@rabbit.org or visit <http://bit.ly/1zip4AU> for an on-line link to purchase tickets using your credit card (\$10 minimum)

www.newmexicohrs.org

All proceeds benefit NMHRS

a non-profit 501(c)3 rabbit rescue organization.

Raffle date: July 31, 2015



TASTY BUNNY COOKIES

*The wide variety of treats and cookies that is offered in the small pet aisle of any pet store might look delicious, but they are not made of ingredients that are healthy for rabbits. (Yogurt, anyone?) Here’s an easy recipe for cookies which are tasty **and** good for your bunny!*

Ingredients:

- ¼ c. ground pellets
- ¼ c. ground oats
- ¼ c. banana
- ¼ c. pumpkin
- 1 t. honey (*teaspoon!*)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

2. Mix ingredients together and roll out to ¼-inch thickness.
3. Cut out shapes with small cookie cutters (about the size of a quarter).
4. Bake for 30 minutes.
5. Turn off oven, and let cookies sit in oven to dry for 1 hour.
6. Serve!

You know you're a rabbit lover when...!

- You ask your guests not to sit on "the rabbit's chair."
- You start working cardboard boxes into your home decor.
- You become a master of electrical repair and have several rolls of electrical tape.
- And you're on your third laptop power cord.
- Your vacuum cleaner is filled with bunny fur, hay, and bunny poos more than actual dirt.
- You have considered learning woodworking to make one of those epic bunny castles.
- Your bunnies have more Facebook friends than you do.
- Your phone has more pictures of your bunny than anything else.
- You refer to yourself and your significant other as "a bonded pair."
- You have found hay in your bed and other odd places.
- Your rabbit throws a tantrum and you know exactly what you did wrong to make him mad.
- You're house shopping and your biggest question is, "Is there a room for the rabbits?"
- You apologize to the wild rabbits in your yard when you scare them walking from the house to the car.
- You buy your hay from the feed store waaaay on the other side of town because *that's* the hay your bunny likes.

Newsletter Material Wanted!

Is there a topic that hasn't been covered in *Rabbit Tracks* that you would like to see? Do you have writing muscles you want to flex? The range of topics is only as limited as your imagination!

Another bunny treat recipe?
A review of a rabbit-themed book? Fiction? Non-fiction?
Poetry? Creative writing?
A personal account of how a rabbit changed your life?

Submit all material or ideas to the editor:

kbushway@gmail.com

Deadline for Winter issue contributions:

Sunday, November 22nd

Thank you for your contributions and support!

My Big Fat Bunny

By Criss Starr

This is a multi-part series of articles about one big bunny's journey on the road to healthy weight loss. For the previous two installments, see the Summer and Winter 2014 issues!

My Rabbit was a Big Fat Bunny. I knew he needed to lose weight slowly and safely. This can be difficult for rabbits because they need to be constantly eating. We can never fast them or put them on a "diet" in the traditional sense.

The first step was changing the content of his diet. My rabbit had been eating alfalfa-based pellets, lots of sunflower seeds and sugary bananas as treats. Alfalfa is good for young, developing bunnies, but not for adult rabbits because it is high in protein and calcium. Adult rabbits require very little protein, fats or calcium in the diet.

My Bunny needed unlimited access to as much long-strand

timothy hay as he could eat. All rabbits need fiber to form the bulk of their diets. I also switched from a water bottle to a heavy ceramic water crock. Proper hydration is vital for healthy digestion since rabbits eat so much dry hay. Water bottles do not allow for a proper drinking position which can lead to chronic dehydration.

Increasing fresh greens also helped my bunny slim down. He ate wet leafy romaine lettuce, parsley, and cilantro daily. I did not give him any sweet fruits or carrots and we avoided gassy foods such as broccoli and cabbage.

The second most important aspect of my rabbit's weight loss

was exercise. The first few weeks it was funny to see my big fat bunny clomping around the house. He couldn't stand up on his hind legs or jump onto boxes like my other rabbits, but he loved to hop (thud) around and explore his new home. It took many months, but eventually he could run and binky. Over the course of 11 months, his enthusiasm for fun helped the pounds melt away.

If you would like to help your rabbit to lose weight, talk to a rabbit-savvy veterinarian who can guide you through the process. Your rabbit will be happier and healthier for having lost the weight, just like my sweet, slim bunny!

Rabbit Island of Japan

By Kerrie Bushway

Bunny lovers who have spent any time on the internet will have seen those viral videos of their dreams come true: a herd of bunnies following a young woman's every move; a man being pig-piled by a fuzzy swarm of cute. This adorable horde of lagomorphs are the sole inhabitants of Japan's Rabbit Island.

Ōkunoshima, or Usagi-jima ("Rabbit Island") has become a hot tourist destination in recent months, after those aforementioned videos hit the mainstream. Over 300 rabbits occupy this tiny bit of real estate that measures just over a quarter square mile and is located in the Inland Sea of Japan. This cuteness is a sharp contrast



Ōkunoshima, also known as Rabbit Island, is one of many islands within the Inland Sea of Japan (see inset).

to the island's rather dark history.

In the late 1920s, a poison gas factory was built on the island. Although Japan had signed on to the Geneva Protocol which banned the use of chemical warfare, the production of such weapons was not explicitly forbidden. The site of the

factory was kept in secrecy, so much so that the island itself was removed from maps. By the end of World War



Some of the hundreds of rabbit residents of the island soaking up rays between tourist visits. (Screenshot from BBC video)

II, several kilotons of mustard and tear gas had been produced. Allied forces disposed of the gas through various means, and there are some concerns that the island still retains traces of the contamination since burial sites of the gas are unknown. In 1988, the remains of the factory were converted into the Poison Gas Museum to acknowledge the history of the island and Japan's use of chemical warfare.

But where did the present occupants come from? One possibility is that they are the descendants of some of the factory's lab rabbits who escaped. However, according to some documents, they were all destroyed during the chaotic days of the Allied occupation and destruction of the factory. Another rumor is that some rabbits were released on the island by students during a school visit in the 1970s.

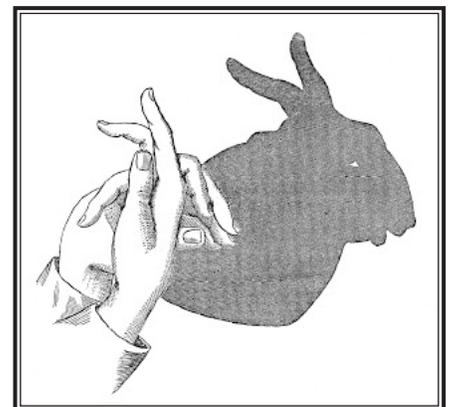
These feral rabbits do not exhibit the usual timid and shy behavior

that we expect from them, but instead fearlessly chase visitors. Since dogs and cats are banned on the island, these rabbits have no predators and can therefore live a

more carefree life. However, the fact that their numbers aren't in the thousands is a mystery in itself. One possibility that they love human visitors so much could be that the vegetation of the island is already mostly consumed, and any bunny owner knows that the promise of treats can turn the cuddliest bunny into a ravenous piranha.

Along with Tashirojima ("Cat Island"), Japan tops the list of must-go destinations for animal lovers.

Try at Home!





Above: Palin (left) and Liz (right) provide smiles and education to potential adopters at the Santa Fe Petco event.
Below: The family-friendly annual Easter event at Mama's Minerals is an excellent opportunity to get out the "Make Mine Chocolate" message to kids!



What Does **Volunteering** Look Like?



Everything you do makes a difference to the rabbits of New Mexico!



Above: Regina (right), did plenty of outreach at the Petco West event.
Below: Uncomfortable talking to strangers? No worry! There are plenty of ways to help the bunnies! A team of volunteers led by Iris (second from right) gave the Santa Fe bunny kennels and room a thorough cleaning.



Are you a supporter of New Mexico HRS?

How you can help:

- **Volunteer** to be a Petco Rabbit Pal, shelter volunteer, fosterer, or outreach volunteer!
- **Use** your skills to help us with our website, PR and outreach, newsletter, and more!
- **Join** NMHRS and become a supporter!
- **Make** a donation to support our work helping homeless rabbits in New Mexico!

We also accept donations of food and other needed supplies.

- I would like to support New Mexico House Rabbit Society.
- \$30 for combined national House Rabbit Society and New Mexico HRS
- \$20 for combined national House Rabbit Society and New Mexico HRS (**Students or Seniors**)

I would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ _____

I would like to volunteer for _____
Area(s) of interest

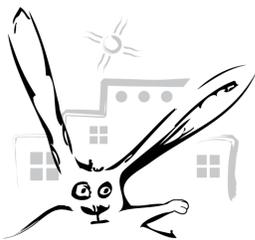
- Check enclosed (payable to NM HRS)
- Pay by credit card (circle one)
- VISA Mastercard AmEx Discover
- Card # _____
- Expiration date (mm/yyyy) _____
- Signature _____



Send your donation to:

NM HRS
PO Box 95226
Albuquerque, NM 87199

New Mexico House Rabbit Society is a non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible as provided by law.



New Mexico

HOUSE RABBIT SOCIETY

PO Box 95226
Albuquerque, NM 87199

A non-profit 501(c)3 organization
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bill@rabbit.org
www.newmexicohrs.org