

New York City Appeal for Support; Shelter Directory Updated Site; Shelter Conference Update



Reminder: Please do not unsubscribe as this is the only way to communicate with Directory participants. If you want to remove your listing; add anyone to the list, or have news to share please contact us at Help@FerretShelters.Org.

New York City - Dept of Health Hearing - January 21 - Help Needed!

The New York City Department of Health hearing to take testimony on removing the current ban on ferret owning in the city and five boroughs is scheduled for January 21st. Vanessa Gruden of FACT will be giving testimony at the hearing. We are working closely with Ariel Jasper - Ferret Club of New York City on this.

We would appreciate your help in trying to alleviate the ban. This link will give you the information you need to send in your comments to the Department of Health. As always, your own words are best. As shelters we are at the front lines and, we hope, our experience will carry more weight. If your vets would be willing to lend a voice, that would also be sincerely appreciated. We were fortunate to have an Animal Control Officer last week stop by to drop a ferret and she agreed to sign a letter and

ferrets were appropriate companion pets in their city and never caused any "problems" as a species.

<http://ferretassn.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/nyc.pdf>

This is just the beginning of the process, but a VERY IMPORTANT one to the ferret owners of New York who will be very appreciative!

Shelter Directory Site Updated & Staffing

I took the quiet holiday "lull" to switch over our out dated template on the Directory. No "major" revamp, but we are now using a new, sleeker, modern template that should keep us on track for a long time. Along with the changes, did a bit of tweaking on the navigation moving some items to the footer (log-in etc). Also links to Petfinder as well as Adopt-A-Pet were added.

Happy to report that Dianna Desrochers will be staying on with us as a site Administrator. She'll continue to help staff the "help" desk along with adding additional shelters. We are now over 150 shelters on the directory and will continue to add more each month. PLEASE let Dianna know of vets, pet stores, ACO's and other multi-species shelters in your area that take in and adopt out ferrets. We need to grow the directory to make it as effective as possible.

Shelter Conference Grants Update

Unfortunately we were turned down by the two most promising potential grant organizations so it is not looking good good for a conference for this year.

Trying to look at options as suggested - I saw that Google Hangouts has the ability to do online video conferencing. I have not had time to investigate further. If anyone has any info or can look into it, please go ahead! It will take me some time before I have a chance to look into it and I will admit, video and me are a bit like oil and vinegar - but will give it a try if I must!

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Hoping that everyone had a peaceful holiday and all the best in 2015!.

Ann Gruden

Ferret Association of Connecticut

Note: Previous newsletters and surveys/results are stored under the Directory Menu tab [Shelter Portal](#). Feel free to share the information.