

## Ferret Paw Print January 2014 Issue #31



### Announcing the Ferret Shelters Directory

The Ferret Association of Connecticut, Inc. (FACT) is proud to unveil a project of significant benefit to ferrets and shelters. The Ferret Shelters Directory - [FerretShelters.org](http://FerretShelters.org) - is a searchable, comprehensive registry of people and organizations that offer shelter services for domestic pet ferrets.

FACT is collaborating with Support our Shelters (SOS) on this important new project. The Ferret Shelters Directory is replacing the ferret shelter list that has resided on the SOS website. It will remain free for both shelters and users.

The Directory is a fresh look at what both the public and shelters need. Existing directories are simple lists of ferret shelter locations; vague, incomplete and most often out of date. They generally lack important details, such as if a shelter is home-based or their capacity and nonprofit status. They exclude mainstream humane organizations, animal control facilities, foster-based networks, even veterinarians or pet stores that place ferrets. As more regional animal shelters accept and place ferrets, it's vital for people to realize these other options exist.

For those who need to place their pets, want to adopt, contribute or volunteer for a shelter, the search functions that have been included in the new Directory will allow you find organizations that match your needs and interests. You can search by a variety of characteristics; for example, nonprofits with volunteer opportunities. Shoppers can search for shelters that make bedding, toys, or have other items available for sale. You can even privately message a shelter directly. Also included are detailed tips and suggestions for users to research, evaluate, and better understand shelter operations.

For ferret shelters, the Directory offers significant enhancements. Shelters can maintain and update their own information. Listings allow shelters to provide plenty of detail about their facility and even upload images to showcase who they are to the public.

The Directory also includes Event listings for registered shelters. It's easy for potential attendees to search by date and location. Another benefit is a shelter resource list which is currently public. As the list expands it will become password protected and accessible to registered shelters only.

Further details will be e-mailed shortly to each shelter on the current SOS list. However, we are urging all shelters not to wait but to begin to register starting right now. If you work with a facility or resource, urge them to sign up. Detailed Shelter Help is available on the site under the tab Ferret Shelter Lists or through the Contact form on the site.

FACT and SOS will be working on migrating shelters that have not signed up themselves. The goal is to move everyone quickly. A special incentive program will be in effect from now through March 16 for shelters who register. Details of that program will be on the Shelter FAQs page.

The Ferret Shelters Directory is a collaboration between the Ferret Association

### Events

February 2 (heavy snow date February 9)  
Hours: noon to 2 pm  
14 Sherbrooke Avenue, Hartford  
FACT's annual **Member & Donor party and open house!** Stop by, meet other FACT members, and visit the shelter. Of course, the Ferret Treasures store will be open for those whose ferrets need new sleepy spots! Light lunch/snacks provided.

Late February/Early March

#### **Painting Party!**

Hours and exact date to be determined  
The FACT shelter rooms have been enduring pawprints (human & ferret) noseprints (ferret), and the occasional spot of poop (ferret, we hope) for over 10 years. They need repainting! So our Board President, Glen, will be coordinating a painting party. With enough hands, it should take only an afternoon. We may spit into 2 different weekend days depending on people's availability. To volunteer to help out, [contact us](#) and we'll forward your info to Glen.

### Calendar Reminders

FACT publishes a small calendar for our donors each year. It's magnetic, with our annual solicit letter photo on the top, and tear-off pages. It's great to hang on your refrigerator. We have couple dozen still remaining and would be happy to send one if you send us a self-addressed stamped (one forever stamp is fine) envelope. Just mail it to 14 Sherbrooke Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 and toss a post-it inside saying "calendar, please!" There are still 11 months of 2014 remaining!

Welcome to  
**amazon**smile

of Connecticut, Inc. (FACT), Support our Shelters (SOS), Ferret Emergency, Rescue, Response & Evacuation Team (F.E.R.R.E.T.) and Motor City Ferrets of Detroit, Michigan. We would also like to recognize the Emma Barnsley Foundation for initial funding of this project.

The Ferret Shelters Directory is dedicated to all shelters, irrespective of size or location, and to the people who help support them.

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### Adoptable Ferrets



Freddie and Farina have been here since March 2013. Doesn't someone have room in their hearts for this pair? Look-alike silvers, now nearly 3 years old, Freddie is a big, sweet fellow who gives kisses. Farina is a bit more of a challenge – she is inclined to chomp on wrists or ankles. She especially likes to “test” new people, which has made her and her buddy languish in the shelter. However, Farina DOES learn to not nip if you are consistent with handling; she rarely bites me and I can stop her quickly. They get along wonderfully with other ferrets. Obviously, they aren't suitable for families with children, but need an adult(s) with patience and time. Could you find a place in your heart for them? [Contact us!](#)

Are you using the smile.amazon portal for your Amazon purchases? It's easy to forget, isn't it? Mobile users: there's a Chrome extension that automatically redirects you to amazon smile so you never forget to earn your favorite ferret charity a little gift when you shop. You can get it at the Chrome web store: <http://bit.ly/1ckIISw>

### Shelter Wish List

Postage stamps! We use piles and they're cheap to mail to us. If you have older ones with fixed postage on them, we're happy to use them up. Thanks!

### Fashionable Ferrets!

Ann Gruden's article on dressing ferrets has been published at [smallanimalchannel.com](http://smallanimalchannel.com). Wander over and read it!