

## Paw Print Issue #17 - February 2012

### Jamie Finds a Home

The little starved girl, Jamie, introduced in last issue, has found a wonderful new home! We're thrilled that a reader from New York drove 2 hours to adopt this special little ferret.

We have a number of older ferrets arriving soon that will be in need of special new caretakers. Whether you are willing to adopt or are local and willing to provide a permanent Foster home, please [contact](#) us! Most of the new arrivals are 4 years and older and all they want is a warm, loving place to live their last year or two of life in comfort. Do you visit [SmallAnimalChannel.com](http://SmallAnimalChannel.com)? You should! Each month new articles are posted about ferret health, care, and behavior. Coming on March 1 will be my latest piece for them, *Ferret Names with Flair*. It's all about how to come up with names for your ferrets that are as unique and individual as they are!

This publication is sent to people across the country and around the world, and some who receive it may think, "why would I want to donate to a shelter in Connecticut? I live nowhere near there." We'd never discourage anyone from donating to a local ferret shelter; they all need support. However, FACT does more than simply help local ferrets. We've answer calls for information from as far away as the Ukraine and Malaysia! Right now, we are in the process of helping a pair of ferrets from Long Island. Abandoned at a vet office, the vet had treated them but they'd been there so long he was threatening to euthanize them if they didn't find a place TODAY. The vet tech who called us was able to transport them partway to the Port Jefferson ferry, where two of our network of volunteers will be picking them up for transport to our shelter. We helped fund Jake & Jasper, we helped the Washington State Ferret Rescue, and we do our best to assist whenever we can help. Helping FACT certainly helps ferrets in Connecticut, but it helps do a whole lot more for ferrets. Thanks for your support!

L. Vanessa Gruden  
Shelter Director

*Paw Print* is the [Ferret Association of Connecticut's](#) online newsletter. You are receiving this message because you contacted us for information. If you do NOT want to be on our e-mail list, please click [here](#) to unsubscribe! FACT never sells or rents our e-mail lists.

### Review: Jake & Jasper: A Ferret's Tale

Alison Parker's short film is out! Many excited sponsors - including FACT, an Associate Producer - were delighted to receive their copies recently. So how is it?

Overall, cute and a worthwhile effort. The production values and acting are great on a VERY low budget movie. The film accomplishes what it set out to do, which is to portray ferrets in a positive light while entertaining people with a simple story about a troubled boy. I can see why Alison focused her film on Connor Stanhope. He's a rosy-cheeked young actor with a lot of potential. The other actors were professional, also - the only weak link might be Nina Hagerty, playing Jake's sister Jesse, but it's hard to say if it was just a problem with the way the character was written.

There are some inconsistencies in the way the plot is developed...for instance, when Jake exits his dad's car and runs into the woods, his father sure doesn't seem to pursue him very hard, which might engender giggles from more cynical viewers. And while a major plot device is Jake and Jasper's foray into the woods, if their encounters with other animals were supposed to be symbolic, somehow I lost the point of the symbolism. It might have been a more logical progression if all the harmless animals were seen first, then the horse that takes off running, THEN the wolf threatens them as night falls.

"But what about the FERRET!" For ferret devotees, that's the best part and the whole point of the film. Jasper (played by Falcor the Ferret) is - of course! - cute and the director includes many close-ups of him doing fun ferrety things. She also does a pretty good job of indicating the growing friendship between Jake and his pet. If she had lingered more than a fleeting moment on him stealing the cell phone charm that leads to Jake's rescue in the end, his performing that trick would have "clicked" faster for me.

I think this is a nice short film that will please kids...the feedback I heard from ferret-folk was that there wasn't enough "ferret" but they could get their full "ferret fix" by watching the lengthy procession of funder photos in the accompanying feature. It's a tribute to the sheer



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### Events

The tentative date for the FACT Ferret Frolic is May 5<sup>th</sup>. We're just awaiting word from the hall that the date is available; watch for further details!

### Looking for Love?



Spencer & Elliott are still awaiting a forever home. They are big, handsome brothers just under 2 years of age who arrived at the shelter in July. They were late altered and thus not ferret farm-bred, although we do not know where they originated.

They do have some special requirements: Both were not handled properly as youngsters. They no longer bite hands or arms, but retain a weakness for ankles, especially those wet from the shower! And they love each other, but will attack other ferrets unmercifully. Despite these issues, both love to be cuddled in your lap and stroked. Spencer, especially, LOVES toys and will drag and carry them all around.

They need an experienced ferret owner, preferably someone without any children in the home and either currently without other ferrets or with the means to keep them separate.

Please [contact](#) us if you think you might be the right match for these wonderful boys. You won't find more devoted companions anywhere!

### I Want a Discount, Too!

Sad that you'll have to pay full price for Jake & Jasper? Wishing YOU could become a Foster Parent or adopt ferrets from FACT for \$10 less? Dying to read ALL our news in a 12 to 18-page, regular publication? You too can get all these perks and more when you become an Associate Member of FACT. \$25 first-year dues gets you all sorts of goodies AND helps support the FACT shelter. Click [here](#) for info!

### New Ferret Patch

funder photos in the accompanying feature. It's a tribute to the sheer number of ferret-lovers that donated and embraced the making of Jake & Jasper that the photo feature is about as long as the movie! Someday I'd love to see a documentary that really helps describe the charm and delight of ferrets - the one that occasionally shows on PBS doesn't count, IMHO, due to it's focus on some fairly fanatic owners who make it look like people who enjoy ferrets are a little nuts. Some may be, but not all of us!

You can buy Jake & Jasper direct from Alison ([www.jake-and-jasper.com](http://www.jake-and-jasper.com)) at FerretDepot.com, or from FACT. Our price is \$25.00 plus \$3 shipping. FACT members (if you receive our printed newsletter you're a member) can purchase the DVD at a discount. Click [here](#) to order from FACT.

### Product Review

If you read Critters 2012 annual magazine, you may have seen Vanessa's article, [Maintenance Matters!](#)

While describing the best way to keep your ferret products in great shape, she notes that stainless steel bowls are recommended by veterinarians because they are non-porous and less likely to breed bacteria. The problem with many is that they are lightweight and easily tossed about. The "non-tip" versions normally have rubber ringing the base - too tempting for ferrets to chew & ingest!



So we got excited when we found Bella Bowls. Lined with stainless, these lightweight plastic bowls have a non-skid bottom - but the rubber is a separate insert beneath the bowl, easily removed for dishwasher cleaning. (Dishwashers destroy rubber quickly.)

We've been using them in our "Oldie" shelter room for several weeks now and like them a lot. We put bowls atop a plastic tray to help contain crumbs, and while the younger ferrets in residence have moved them about a little, they haven't tipped them nor have they tried munching the rubber.

They come in sizes from X-Small (perfect for 1-3 ferrets) to X-Large. Bella Bowls can be found in Petco and Petsmart, but for a better selection of sizes/colors, visit [Wag.com](http://Wag.com). (We found some discounted at Marshall's/TJ Maxx, but the selection is limited.)

Wag.com also carries some ferret supplies and foods such as Marshall, Evo, 8 in 1, ZuPreem and Wysong. You get free 2<sup>nd</sup> day air shipping on each \$49 purchase and you can include purchases from their associated sites like soap.com, which has a great variety of cleansers and beauty products. Here's an even better incentive! Use this code at checkout and you get 10% off - and WE get a \$10 credit for the shelter:

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Thanks!

Paw Print is published by the [Ferret Association of Connecticut](http://Ferret Association of Connecticut), Inc., a nonprofit humane organization dedicated to helping ferret owners, caretakers, and most importantly, the ferrets themselves.

Website: [www.ferret-fact.org](http://www.ferret-fact.org).

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Valentine's Day may be over but ferrets walk across our hearts EVERY day. [1 Ferret's Treasures](#) has just added this 1 5/8" embroidered applique. It's only \$1.99. The site, owned by FACT Board President Ann Gruden, ships daily to national and international customers.

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