

Small Animal Symposium brought to you by

Sunday, November 4th, 2012



New England Federation of Humane Societies Small Animal Symposium

Schedule of Workshops

8:30-9:00- Registration

9:00-10:15- Bunny Basics 101

10:15-10:30- BREAK

10:30-11:45- Bird Basics 101

11:45-12:45- LUNCH (provided by NEFHS)

12:45-2:00- Guinea Pig Basics 101

2:00-2:15- BREAK (light snack provided by NEFHS)

2:15-3:30- Ferret Basics 101

3:30-5:00- Rabbit Clicker Training





Registration Form

- Taking place at

The Ramada Saco
325 North Main St.
Saco, ME

- Conference Fee is \$25
(includes a vegetarian lunch
and afternoon snack)

- Space is limited

- Registration deadline is
October 22, 2012

- Make check payable to
NEFHS and send check and
completed registration
form to:

ARL/NH –North
Attn: Connie Harger
PO Box 260
Conway, NH 03818

- For more information call
603.447.5955.

Name _____

Organization _____

Job Title _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____



Workshop Descriptions

Bunny Basics 101- Bunny Basics 101- Presented by Marlene Wilhelm from House Rabbit Connection- Bunny Basics will discuss the essentials of basic rabbit care such as proper diet, medical care and enrichment. Marlene is President of the House Rabbit Connection, Inc. She was introduced to her first rabbit Izzy in 2002 and since then has developed a growing passion for these gentle creatures. Holding a degree in Criminal Justice she advocates for rabbits rights and works alongside others to help influence state politicians to include rabbits into existing regulations affording them the same rights given to cats and dogs. She also is devoted to educating the public and animal welfare facilities about the unique issues challenging rabbits in today society. Marlene is mom to her own rabbit Jesse; cat, Jade; and dog, Shock, and an ever fluctuating cast of foster bunnies.

Bird Basics 101 – Presented by Debby Vogel from the Animal Rescue League of Boston- This session will discuss the basics of bird care including diets for various types of birds, appropriate caging, and enrichment. Debby Vogel has been an employee of the Animal Rescue League of Boston since the spring of 1997 and is currently the Volunteer and Education Programs Manager. She loves the family atmosphere of the Animal Rescue League of Boston and like many of her coworkers, she delves into all aspects of the organization including animal rescue, events, and foster care. With approximately 400 volunteers the Animal Rescue League of Boston is a very progressive organization and Debby is proud to be a part of it.

Guinea Pig Basics 101- Presented by Michelle Melaragno from Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals in Windham, ME.- This presentation will discuss the many basic needs of guinea pigs including but not limited to diet, enrichment, medical care, behavior and housing. For the last 10 years, Michelle has operated a small guinea pig rescue, through which almost 400 guinea pigs have been rehabilitated, cared for and adopted. Michelle is also an Assistant Instructor with Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue™ and has been actively involved in animal welfare for more than 30 years.

Ferret Basics 101- Presented by Andrea Pasco from the Humane Society of the Waterville Area- This presentation will discuss the basics of ferrets including behavior, medical needs, diet and enrichment. Prior to starting her career in sheltering in December 2011, Andrea worked for the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program for 15 years as a supervisor in the Health Services Department. Andrea loves her new role working with animals as they are her true passion. Andrea lives with her husband, their two dogs, five cats and three ferrets.

Rabbit Clicker Training- Presented by Sheri Gustafson from the MSPCA Methuen campus and Mary Ann Callahan, CPDT-KA, Senior Instructor and Training Coordinator. This workshop focuses on the fundamentals of using clicker training with rabbits as a valuable, positive reinforcement tool in the shelter environment. It will review how to identify behavioral issues and then talk about how to train rabbits effectively to see results quickly. The workshop will also show how it can be used to help bond a rabbit with their adopters as well as an enrichment tool for rabbits. Sheri started at the MSPCA in the beginning of 2007. She is currently an Adoption Counselor and Animal Care giver there. Sheri is an active member of Nevin's Small Animal Task Force which provides training and specialized care for all small animals. Sheri has been working to bring more training options into the shelter setting to deal with behavior problems in the small animals and rabbits. She also is a foster home for the shelter providing care for many of the rabbits, guinea pigs, or other small animals. Mary Ann has been clicker training since 1995 and as part of her early instruction had the benefit of training in an 8 month long class conducted by Karen Pryor. She has enjoyed continuing her training education through many classes, seminars and workshops. Mary Ann actively pursues her desire to provide a more enjoyable and efficient learning experience for both the animals and people.

New England Federation of Humane Societies' Board members are happy to provide this workshop and hope to see you there!