



# The Hedgehog Welfare Society

TO PROTECT THE WELL-BEING OF PET HEDGEHOGS THROUGH RESCUE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR THEM.

NEWSLETTER #46, MARCH/APRIL 2010

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## HUGE SEIZURE OF ANIMALS IN TEXAS !



In December 2009, animal control officer Mike Bass filed an affidavit claiming that animals housed at an address in Arlington, Texas, were being “cruelly treated” as defined by the Texas Health and Safety Code. On December 15th, Chief Municipal Court Judge Stewart Milner issued a warrant for seizure of the animals.

Approximately 27,000 animals representing approximately 500 different species were seized. They comprised the inventory of a business operating under the name U.S. Global Exotics, which was involved in buying and selling “exotic” animals.

The warrant listed Jasen and Vanessa Shaw as owners of the animals. However, at the hearing following the seizure, it was revealed that the actual owner of the business and animals

was a corporation called U.S. Global Exotics, Inc. Jasen Shaw is the president of the corporation.

During the hearing, which began on December 18<sup>th</sup> and ended on December 31<sup>st</sup>, both sides offered witnesses and presentations. The Court heard testimony from several expert witnesses and received evidence consisting of photographs, videos and documents which detailed the confinement, health and condition of the animals.

One of the expert witnesses offered a definition of an “exotic” animal as an animal that is not a dog, cat or domesticated agricultural animal. According to this broad definition, an animal as familiar and common as a hamster or very rare mammals, reptiles, arachnids and amphibians could be described as “exotic.” Those

testifying about this particular point generally agreed that 75–80% of the animals were “wild-caught” meaning that they were captured in the wild and then sold to U.S. Global Exotics. Twenty to twenty-five percent of the animals were purchased from breeders who raised them for commercial purposes. After purchasing these animals, U.S. Global Exotics transported them to their facility in Arlington and sold them to other dealers, pet stores, zoos and private purchasers. Their sales were both domestic and international.

Other witnesses gave testimony describing the conditions at the U.S. Global Exotics facility. This, combined with evidence such as photographs, video and audio recordings, revealed ongoing problems. At least four of the expert witnesses testified that all of the animals living in the facility were treated cruelly.

*Continued on page 2*

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At the time of the seizure, Global Exotics was understaffed. Only three workers were responsible for caring for the animals although non-caretakers were said to help out from time to time. Witnesses who were employed by Global Exotics testified that there were some rooms where animals were kept that had no caretaker assigned to them. Animals in these rooms were left to wait until an employee assigned to other areas had time to check on their needs. Expert witnesses estimated that twenty to forty caretakers would be needed to adequately care for the 27,000 animals at the facility.

All the animals and their caretakers were subjected to poor air quality described by witnesses as "a constant stench of death" plus a strong ammonia smell from urine. The animals were stressed by overcrowded conditions which, in addition to spreading disease, increased the incidence of fighting, injuries and cannibalism. Dead animals were often left in areas where the surviving animals were confined. At the time of the seizure, 600 dead animals were found at the facility.

U.S. Global Exotics failed to provide for the basic needs of the animals including water, food, heat and clean bedding. The worst case described involved a shipment of 414 iguanas that were packaged in small groups in bags. The bags were packed in boxes for a planned shipment to Egypt. When the order was cancelled due to problems with the purchaser, the iguanas were left in the shipping crates for about two weeks. During this time they had no food or water. When the boxes were finally opened, about 200 of the iguanas were dead.

Nevertheless, evidence presented at the hearing did not support a finding that all animal deaths at U.S. Global Exotics were the result of the treatment received there. The death rate in the animal trade is generally high and many wild-caught animals are already carrying diseases and parasites at the time of capture. In addition the stress of capture, transport, temperature change and other factors harmful to the health of animals can result in death. Many animals simply stop eating when they are stressed. Often it is impossible to determine if the animal's condition was caused by the current owner or the previous owner.

Housing at U.S. Global Exotics was intended to be temporary however it was common for an animal's stay at the facility to be



longer than anticipated. Although evidence indicated that the operation was in accordance with the standards of the exotic animal trade industry, the Court found that these standards did not meet the criteria set by the Texas Health and Safety Code.

At the conclusion of the hearing on December 31, 2009, the Court found that all of the seized animals were treated cruelly in one or more of the following ways: cruelly confined and injured due to confinement; unreasonably denied necessary food and water; subjected to contaminated food and/or water; held in inappropriate enclosures, overcrowded in enclosures; held in shipping containers for extended periods of time and without proper care; subjected to conditions that promote fighting and cannibalism and denied necessary veterinary care. The Court ordered that pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code 821.023(d), U.S. Global Exotics, Inc., and Jasen and Vanessa Shaw would be divested of ownership of the seized animals and deprived of all right, title and interest in them. The City of Arlington was given the animals and ordered to sell them at a public sale by auction, have them humanely euthanized or give them to a non-profit animal shelter, pound or society for the protection of animals. U.S. Global Exotics appealed the decision.

U.S. Global Exotics, Inc. was ordered to pay court costs, including the costs of the transcript for appeal.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Judge Jennifer Rymell of Tarrant County Court at Law Number 2, affirmed Arlington Municipal Judge Michael Smith's decision that the animals had been cruelly treated by U.S. Global Exotics. The city of Arlington, Texas, turned ownership of the animals over to the SPCA of Texas. In turn, the SPCA of Texas turned ownership of the hedgehogs seized from U.S. Global Exotics over to the Hedgehog Welfare Society.

The following sources were consulted for this article:

Schrock, Susan. "U.S. Global Exotics loses appeal in animal seizure case." *Star-Telegram*. Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 30 Jan. 2010. Web. 10 Feb. 2010. <<http://www.star-telegram.com/local/story/1935380.html>>.

## Thoughts from the CVO

By Deb Weaver

As I write this article it has been 11 weeks since the seizure at U.S. Global Exotics. There are so many people to thank.

Thank you to PETA, the US Fish and Game Department, SPCA of Texas, and the City of Arlington for shutting down U.S. Global Exotics and giving more than 27,000 animals a chance at a better life.

Thank you to the two judges in Texas who carefully and correctly used the law to remove the animals from the awful place in which they found themselves.

Thank you to James Bias, president of the SPCA of Texas, for all his efforts--and for adopting two hedgehogs.

Thank you to all the SPCA volunteers and staff members who loved and cared for every single animal, from the smallest turtle to the biggest sloth, as if they were their own beloved companions.

Thank you to Dawn Wrobel, who was our initial contact regarding this event. She helped to provide a way for HWS to have "boots on the ground" as soon as we did.

Thank you to Dr. S. Brown, Dr. S. Ashley, and Dr. T. Stevenson for all the care you provided to the hedgehogs in Texas.

Thank you to the International Hedgehog Association, The Flash and Thelma Memorial Hedgehog Rescue, and the Breeders Helping Breeders group, for offering help and support right from day one.

Thank you to our attorney Georgie Duckler for guiding HWS through the legal matters surrounding this rescue event.

Thank you to those of you who donated money and a very special thank you to Naomi W. for her overwhelming generosity.

Thank you to those of you who donated heat packs and who sewed hedgie bags. Each hedgehog left Texas in a hedgie bag. You could almost hear the whine of sewing machines across not one, but two, countries.

Thank you to those of you who offered ideas and support to the HWS Board as we worked our way through this crisis. Your kind words meant the world to us. Our entire membership has been wonderful during this event - - this truly was a team effort.

Thank you to everyone who filled out adoption applications.

Thank you to everyone who filled out rescue site applications.

Thank you to those that lent a hand at the facility in Texas - - Nellie H., Kari H., Nikki W. Elaine B., Ashley F., and Shaun M.

Thank you to The Train drivers for transporting the Tumbleweeds. A special thank you to those that drove to and from Texas - - Carol F., Vicki M., Ashley A., Charity T., Connie G., Carole G., Sheila D., Jen S., Dora S., Jenn P., Teresa J., Susan M., and Gioia K.

Thank you to those who went to Texas and were able to stay a week or two to lend a hand - - Judi P., Vicki M., and Kristin ZB.

Thank you to my Board of Directors. This was a test of strength and resolve the likes of which this organization has never seen before. Thanks to - - Cindy D., Donnasue G., Tonya T., Margaret M., Laura D., Gioia K., Beth R. for everything you did. I feel special thanks need to be given to Board members Jen S., Cyndy B., Sheila D., Vicki M., Kristen ZB, Jenn P. and Anne T. This event simply would not have happened without effort from everyone.

Extra special thanks need to be given to two Board members. To Anne T. for opening her home as a "supply depot" for items sent down to Texas and for delivering all those items to the SCPA site. Anne also spent hundreds of hours working at the SPCA site. She is still fostering those too young to initially travel and their Moms. Thanks to Jennifer P. who moved to Texas on January 4<sup>th</sup> and returned home to Minnesota (driving a Train) on February 14<sup>th</sup>. You nursed them, cleaned up after them, worried about them, and were there every day, all day. Thank you, thank you, thank you to both of you for all your efforts.

As you read this, most of the Texas Tumbleweeds will be in their new homes--safe, warm, fed, loved, and happy. Guess there is only one more thing to say, "Welcome home Texas Tumbleweeds, welcome home."



## How to Make a Cage Liner for Your Hedgehog

One accessory that every hedgehog wants is a cloth cage liner. It offers the ultimate in cage décor, plus it's cozy. Here is a guide to help you sew a liner especially for your hedgie.

Step 1. The very first thing you need to do is measure the floor of your hedgie's home. Let's say it is 15 inches by 30 inches.

To figure out how much fabric you will need, add a seam allowance to the cage measurements. Allow half an inch for that. This means you are now working with a rectangle that is 16 inches by 31 inches. You will be sewing two rectangles of fabric together so we are talking about buying a piece of fabric that is at least 32 inches by 62 inches. Be sure to avoid loopy fabrics like terry cloth that might catch your hedgie's toenails. Look for something washable and sturdy. And don't forget the coziness factor! Corduroy and polar fleece are good candidates that your hedgehog will appreciate.

Step 2. Once you get the fabric home, you need to wash it. If it's going to shrink you want to be sure it does it *before* you cut out the cage liner pieces.

Step 3. Cut out two pieces of fabric that fit the cage measurement plus seam allowance. Pin your two pieces together—if your fabric has a right side and a wrong side, put the right sides together and the wrong sides facing out.

Step 4. Sew the two pieces of together leaving one of the smaller ends open so you can turn the liner inside out.

Step 5. Turn the liner inside out. The raw edges and stitching are now on the inside. This hides the stitching and protects hedgie toenails from getting caught in the thread. You may want to press the liner with an iron at this point.

Step 6. Turn the raw edges of the opening to the inside of the liner and carefully stitch the opening shut by hand. Hide the stitches inside the liner to spare your hedgehog's toenails.

It's a good idea to have two or more cage liners. That way one can be in the laundry and the other can be in the cage keeping your pet warm, cozy and stylish.



## How to sew a sleeping bag for your hedgehog by Alice



Sewing is one of the best skills humans have to offer their hedgehogs. Every hedgie deserves a minimum of two sleeping bags at the very least. That way when one goes into the wash, the other can go into your hedgehog's home. Of course if you don't want to do laundry that often, it helps to have more on hand. I personally prefer to have summer-weight bags (good for hiding in but not too hot) *and* winter-weight bags lined with cozy stuff like flannel and polar fleece.

An average, finished size for a hedgie sleeping bag is 10 inches by 12 inches. You need to add a seam allowance to this, so when you are buying the fabric think 11 X 13 inches instead of 10 by 12 inches. All hedgie bags need to be lined because our toes tend to get caught on threads unless the stitching is concealed between layers of fabric! Most fabric is OK as long as it is washable but the main thing most hedgies look for in a bag is COZINESS. You should avoid loopy stuff like terry cloth that can catch hedgie toenails. That can really hurt! It is always a good idea to wash the fabric before cutting it out in case it shrinks.

K, ready? Here are the directions for sewing a hedgie bag:

Cut four pieces of fabric measuring at least 11 inches by 13 inches (this allows for a ½ inch seam allowance). You can use two pieces of outer fabric like denim or corduroy and two pieces of liner fabric like flannel or polar fleece.

Pin two of the fabric pieces right sides together. (The right side is the part you want to be visible when the bag is done).

Sew the fabric together on three sides. Leave one of the 11

inch sides open. Remove the pins and set aside.

Pin the other two pieces of fabric together and sew on three sides leaving one of the shorter sides open. Remove the pins.

Turn both bags right side out and put one inside the other. The top will have raw edges.

Turn the raw, top edges over on the outside of the bag. Turn the fabric once again so the raw edges are hidden inside the fold. Stitch this in place being careful not to sew the bag shut!

Be sure to trim off any loose threads.

Now the bag is ready and I can take my nap! Thank you!



**Wrong side out.  
Stitch three sides  
together.**



**Fold the unfinished edge  
under and stitch the edge  
down using hidden stitches.**

## How to Sew a Hedgie Hat

Reprinted from

*Hedgehog Welfare Society Newsletter #39*, January/February, 2009.

Cut 4 pieces of outer fabric. Use a medium-weight, washable fabric such as cotton or thin wale corduroy.

Cut 4 pieces of medium-weight, fusible (iron-on) interfacing. This is often called "Shirt Tailor"

Cut 4 pieces of lining fabric. Use either vellux or polar fleece. Vellux works best as it stands up nice and stiff.

Fuse interfacing to wrong side of outer fabric pieces with medium hot iron.

Placing right sides together, matching notches, pin and sew one side seam of 2 outer fabric pieces together, using 3/8" seam allowance.

Repeat with remaining 2 outer fabric pieces. Open and place the 2 outer fabric halves right sides together and sew remaining long curved seam using 3/8" seam allowance.

Repeat with lining fabric pieces.

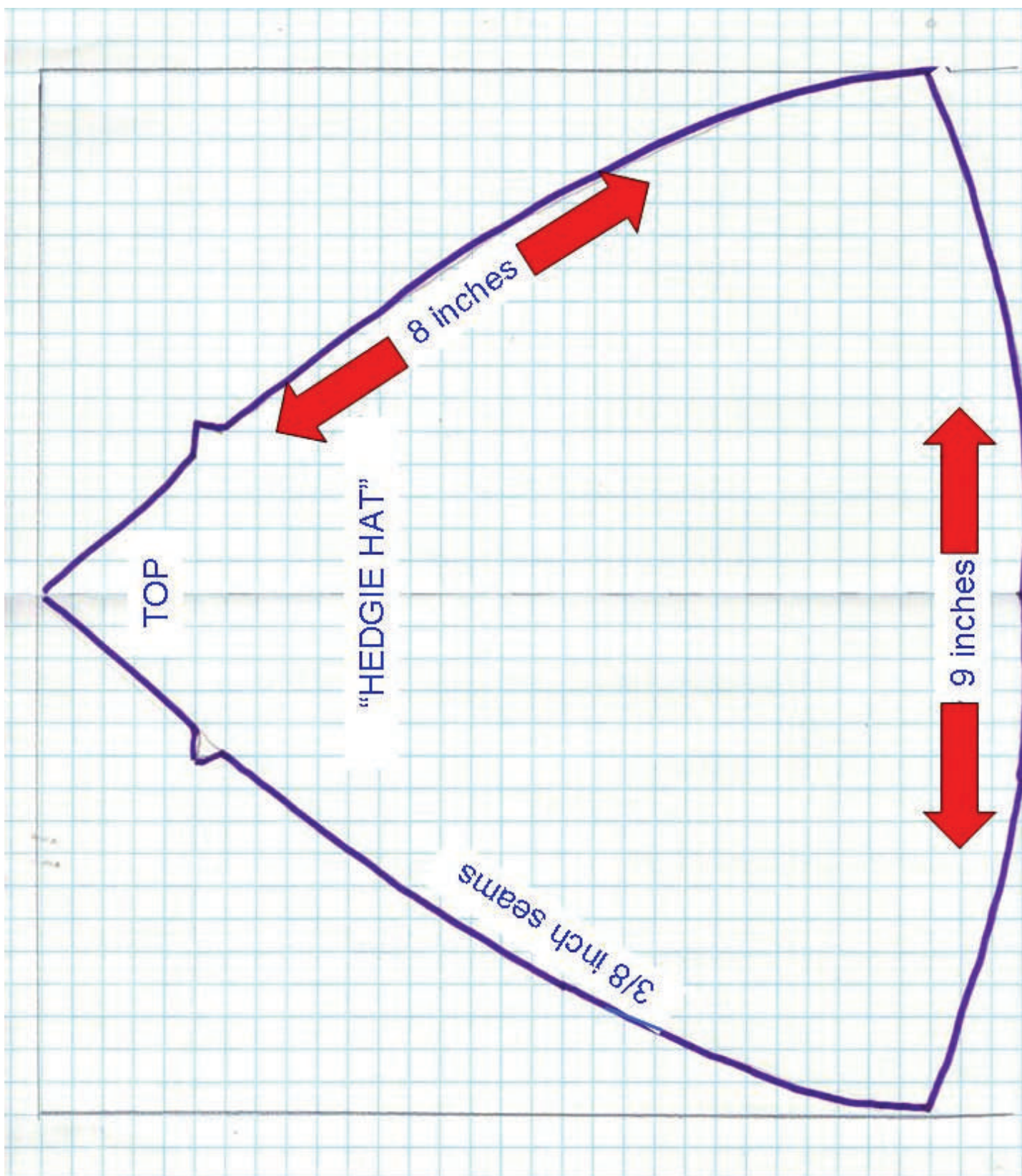
With right sides together, place completed lining over completed outer fabric hat; line up at bottom and side seams.

Stitch hat to lining along bottom, leaving a 4" opening between 2 of the side seams for turning. Be sure to backstitch at each end of that opening to prevent seam from ripping out when turning.

Gently turn hat and lining right side out through opening.

Turning edges under 3/8", pin outer fabric and lining fabric together, closing opening, and stitch closed close to bottom edge. Cut any loose threads.

Using doubled thread on needle, hand-stitch lining to hat at the top (the peak of the hat) with a few stitches. This prevents sagging and keeps your hedgehog from pulling the lining away from the hat. Knot this stitching well and cut any loose threads. Hat may be washed by machine, using warm water and gentle cycle.



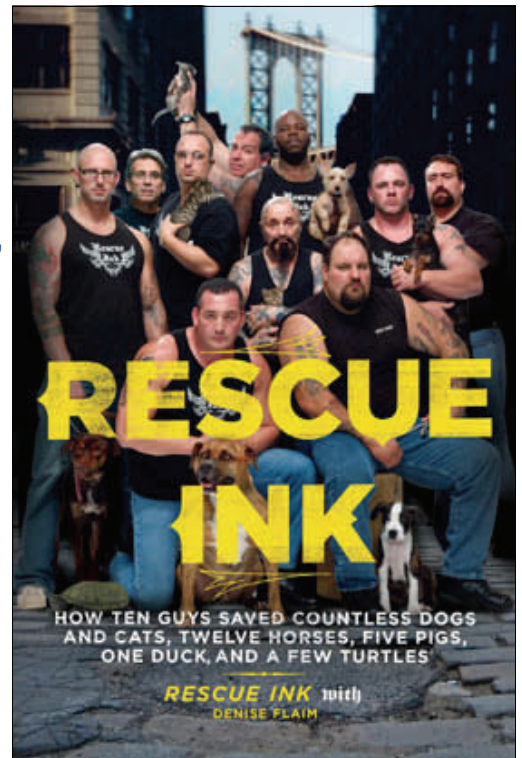
## The Literary Hedgehog

### Rescue Ink: How Ten Guys Saved Countless Dogs and Cats, Twelve Horses, Five Pigs, One Duck, and a Few Turtles

Former *Newsday* journalist Denise Flaim offers stories of fourteen animal rescue missions performed by members of what must be one of the more unusual animal rescue groups in the world. *Rescue Ink* was founded in 2008 by a group of brawny, tattooed bikers with a shared love for animals. Members of the group include security guards, club bouncers, and a retired police detective. The guys, Joe, Johnny O., Batso, Big Ant, G, Angel, Eric, Des, Bruce and Robert act on tips received from neighbors, concerned citizens and total strangers and are willing to do whatever it takes (within the law) to help animals in need. They are particularly talented when it comes to persuading animal abusers to surrender their animals and mend their evil ways.

In addition to confronting abusers and saving animals, *Rescue Ink* educates high school students about compassionate treatment of animals and animal rights. The group now has an extensive web site ([rescueink.org](http://rescueink.org)), an online store, and a weekly television program, *Rescue Ink Unleashed*, that airs on The National Geographic Channel. They participate in events such as pet expos, book signings, happy hours and an annual fund raiser called *Paws for a Cause*. The book is still in print and is available in several formats including hardcover, audio CD, and a Kindle Edition. You should be able to find it at your local library or order it from your local book dealer.

Flaim, Denise. *Rescue Ink: How Ten Guys Saved Countless Dogs and Cats, Twelve Horses, Five Pigs, One Duck, and a Few Turtles*. New York: Viking, 2009. ISBN: 976-0670021161



#### A Note About The Texas Rescue Effort

More than 600 hedgehogs were cared for, transported, and settled into either adoptive or foster homes during the past eight weeks. The Hedgehog Welfare Society is saddened to report that 21 hedgehogs died during this time period. While we don't know the exact causes of death, it is reasonable to assume that underlying health issues, injuries suffered while kept in overcrowded conditions at U.S. Global Exotics, travel stress, or simply a failure to thrive, contributed to these deaths.

While many organizations would consider this amount of loss acceptable for a rescue of this scope, the HWS does not. The Board of Directors is working on gathering data on all aspects of this rescue effort. This data will be reviewed by the Board, and our procedures will be changed accordingly and strictly enforced.

In addition to articles in this newsletter about the Texas rescue event, look for more information in our May/June newsletter.

#### A Change in the HWS Board of Directors

On February 26th, Jennifer Sobon resigned from the Board of Directors. The Board thanks Jennifer for all her efforts during the Texas event, for serving as our web master, and for her outstanding work as the newsletter editor.

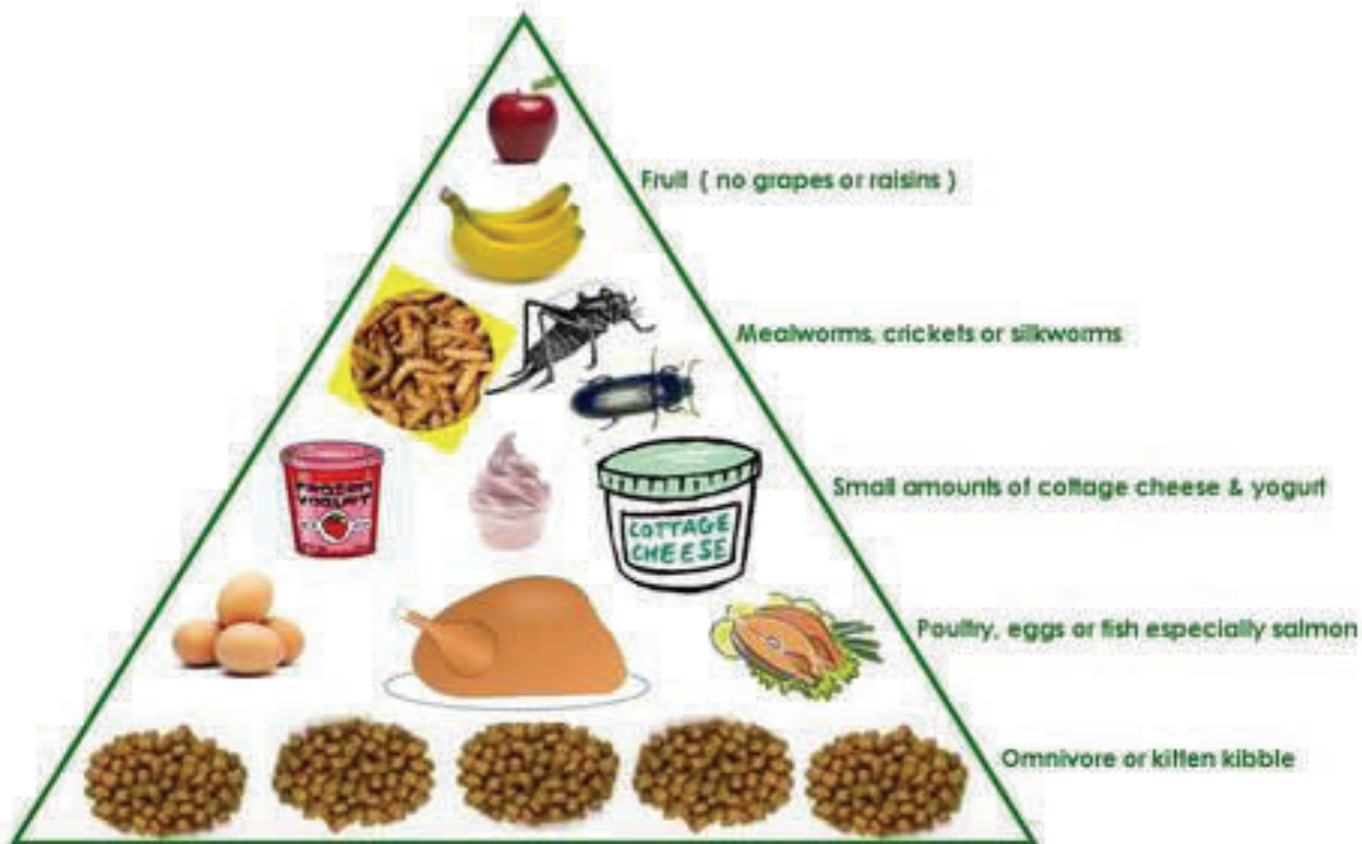
Margaret Myhre will serve as our newsletter editor and Elizabeth Hatch Reichert will serve as our web master.





Thank you hedgie train drivers and crew!

### Pet Hedgehog Food Pyramid



## My Texas Pen Pal

a letter from Alice



Hi Everybody!

When the kids in my class heard about all the poor animals in Arlington, Texas, we felt really bad—especially when we heard that lots of them are hedgehogs just like us!! We asked our teacher what we could do to help. First we all donated things that we thought we would want if we had to stay in a big scary place with lots of other animals.

We collected stuff like toys, warm blankies and sleeping bags. I donated a flashlight too just in case there's another kid like me who is scared of...you know...um... the dark (Shhh!! Don't tell anybody!). I wrapped my flashlight in an old blankie so none of the other kids in my class would see it.

Our stuff filled a huge, big box. Everyone chipped in their allowance so we would have enough money to send it all the way to Texas. Then we made a big chart in our classroom so we could track how many days it took for our box to arrive. After we knew it had arrived, we tried to get back to normal. We tried to listen to our teacher, follow directions, learn stuff, and get along together. But it wasn't the same ... everybody was worrying about the hedgie kids in Texas.

Then one day our teacher brought a great big envelope into our classroom. It was full of letters from Texas! There were enough letters for everyone in the class to get one. Now we get to be pen pals with those Texas hedgie kids!! Phoebe is the name of my pen pal. She wrote me a long, long letter and—guess what? She drew lots and lots of pictures to go with her letter and, not only that, she told me she's afraid of the dark too! She was really glad to get my flashlight! She said that for a long time she was stuck in a box with lots and lots of other hedgies. There were hedgehogs all around her and even some on top of her! It was really crowded and cold and dark and everyone was really, really hungry.

Then one day everyone was talking about something called an *espeeseeyay* coming. No one knew what an *espeeseeyay* was. Some thought it was a ferocious, hedgie-eating monster or maybe a really scary storm and others thought it might be some kind of food. Everyone was thinking a whole lot about food by then.

When Phoebe thought about monsters, all she could think of were the faces of the people who had packed her and the other hedgies into that huge box and then gone away without leaving them any food or water. She couldn't imagine that the *espeeseeyay*, whatever it was, could be a worse monster than those people!

And then all of a sudden a whole bunch of people came to the dark, cold, scary place where all the animals were crowded together. The people gathered up Phoebe and all the other animals and took them away. Phoebe was so scared she fainted.

But guess what? When Phoebe woke up she was in a nice roomy place with just a few other hedgegie girls. It was warmer and they had water and blankies and lots of really yummy, yummy food! There were lots of people there but they weren't scary like the monster people Phoebe knew before. These people were really, really nice.

The first day in the new place Phoebe had to take a bath! She had never had a bath before and she was scared. But it turned out to be nice (mostly) and it was *warm!* And then she got dried off in a cozy towel and someone stole her toenails. Phoebe thought about biting that someone but by then she was too cozy and warm to do it!

After that she had a nap while she waited for her turn to see the veterinarian. The vet weighed her and looked in her eyes and ears and tried to feel her tummy. Poor Phoebe felt kinda scared again but the vet was nice.

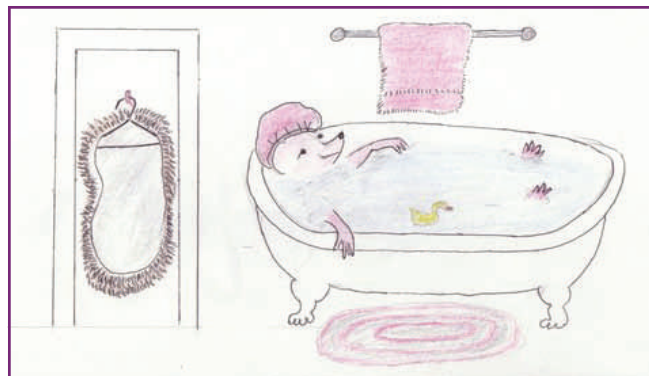
And then she had a meeting with the hedgegie therapist. He was very kind and explained a lot of things to her and answered her questions and asked her about things that worried her or scared her. They even talked about being scared of the dark!

And then Phoebe met Jennifer, Anne, and Vicki, the really nice ladies from something called the Hedgehog Welfare Society. Auntie Jennifer kept the hedgegie girls' dorm clean, wrapped her in cozy blankets and talked to her in a really nice, gentle voice. She explained that Phoebe and the other animals would be staying in the dorm for a few weeks and then they would all take trains to foster homes and maybe forever homes. They promised Phoebe that the *espeeseyay* and the Hedgehog Welfare Society would help her find a forever home where she could live happily ever after...just like in a fairytale! That's when Phoebe figured out that the *espeeseyay* was an organazashun and not a hedgegie-eating monster! Then someone explained that it was really called the SPCA—the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Phoebe didn't know what a society was but she did know one thing...it was way better than a monster!

I hope that I get to meet Phoebe some day. Maybe when she finds her forever home I can take the train to see her.

Love,

Alice



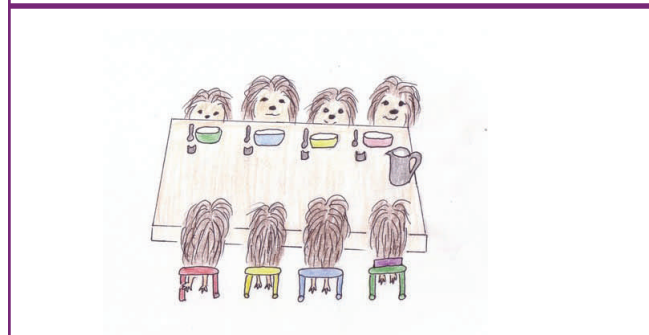
Phoebe had a nice warm bath



Then she had to get weighed



Phoebe talked to the therapist for a long time



Dinner with the other hedgegie kids

## Hedgehog Trivia by Margaret Myhre



### **Egyptian Spiny Mouse**

First discovered in Egypt in 1819, the Egyptian Spiny Mouse, *Acomys cahirinus*, is distributed through Africa and the Middle East. In the wild it lives in arid and semi-arid environments such as deserts and savannas. It is generally found in rocky areas and has sometimes been known to occupy the burrows of other animals. Although it is generally terrestrial, some have been found in trees.

The body length of this mouse ranges from 7 to 17 centimeters. Weight is between 30 and 70 grams. Other characteristics include large ears, a gray to white belly, and a hairless, scaly tail that can be 5 to 12 centimeters in length. Of course, one of this animal's most interesting characteristics is the spiny hairs that cover its back. These range in color from gray brown to a sandy tan. Although they are not as sharp as quills, the bristles scratch the throats of birds and other predators attempting to consume spiny mice. One experience like this is usually sufficient to discourage most from sampling a spiny mouse a second time!

Spiny mice are talented jumpers and are quite energetic. They are social animals who live in family groups with a dominant male. The females have small litters of two to four babies at a time. Other species of mice average ten to twelve babies per litter. Female spiny mice have been observed helping other females give birth and sometimes act as surrogate moms by nursing the babies of other females. Unlike other mouse babies, newborn spiny mice are not pink, blind or hairless.

Because spiny mice do not smell and have a good temperament, they are frequently kept as exotic pets. Like hedgehogs, they are often housed in glass tanks or aquariums with wire mesh lids. Bedding may be hay or other pet bedding products although cedar and pine shavings should be avoided. The mice chew up plastics very quickly so toys, food dishes and exercise wheels which are made of plastic should also be avoided. Cardboard nesting boxes are OK although they too will be chewed up very quickly.

Because they are so active, spiny mice need lots of food and water. The main source of nourishment for pet spiny mice is “lab blocks” -- small blocks of a processed kibble-style food designed for lab rats and engineered to be nutritionally balanced. Green lab blocks are intended for rabbits and guinea pigs and should not be given to spiny mice. This diet can be supplemented with berries, fruits, vegetables, cat or dog kibble, and grains—particularly oats. Sunflower seeds and nuts should not be offered to spiny mice. It is important to provide something hard to chew on such as dried bread. This helps to prevent rodent teeth from overgrowing. The water supply, usually kept in a bottle rather than a dish, should be changed daily.

Like hedgehogs, pet spiny mice need to be handled regularly especially when they are young. Until the animal is used to being held, it is important to keep both hands cupped around the mouse to prevent it from jumping down and injuring itself. The tails are very fragile and easily broken. Spiny mice should never be lifted by the tail and even holding on to the tail is dangerous for the animal.

Health issues for spiny mice include a tendency to get endoparasites (worming is recommended every six months), as well as susceptibility to colds, tail injuries and obesity. Older mice may have difficulties with over-grown teeth

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Andersin, Tiina, et al. "Spiny Mice--Like Tiny Hedgehogs with Cute Tails." Finn Mouse's Site. Finnish Show and Pet Mice Club (Suomen Näyttely- ja Lemmikkihiiret) , 2009. Web. 23 Jan. 2010. <<http://www.hiiret.fi/eng/spiny/index.html>>.

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"Egyptian Spiny Mice Fact Sheet." Oregon Zoo. N.p., 2009. Web. 23 Jan. 2010. <<http://www.oregonzoo.org/Cards/EgyptianSpinyMice.htm>>.





Every month, Maisy travels the world to find the latest and greatest in fashions for hedges and is showcasing her finds here in Maisy's Costume Corner.

Send your pictures to [hedgiemom@comcast.net](mailto:hedgiemom@comcast.net)



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS SPRING :

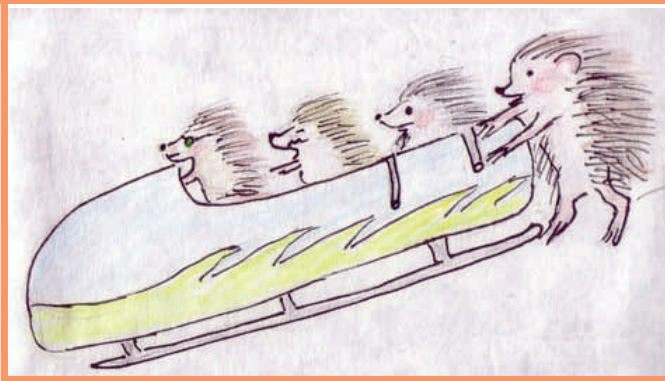
**MARCH**

- Mar 9 Daffodil Miller
- Mar 9 Keevy Miller
- Mar 14 Verbena Miller
- Mar 18 Zinnia Miller
- Mar 21 Arcturus "Little Bear" Kueter-Watkins

**APRIL**

- Apr 4 Pagoda Miller
- Apr 11 Kenny Woodring
- Apr 17 Dryandrus Miller
- Apr 20 Wisteria Miller

# Hedgies at the Olympics



## Hedgie Kids Puzzle

Connect the dots in numerical order to find out what this hedgehog is doing.  
Use a ruler to keep your lines straight.

