



# American Ferret Association, Inc.

PO Box 554 ♦ Frederick, MD 21705-0554  
1-888-FERRET-1 [afa@ferret.org](mailto:afa@ferret.org) [www.ferret.org](http://www.ferret.org)

---

## ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT: March 12, 2026

I am excited to announce that we have filled our **AFA Shelter Co-Chair of Shelter Affairs** positions. Please join me in welcoming **Barbara Bullock** and **Shaye Rehmel**.

Since 2019, Shaye has operated *Snail's House Ferret Sanctuary*, where she provides care for ferrets in need with a primary focus on senior hospice and medically complex or special-needs ferrets. Her background includes lifelong involvement in animal rescue, including work with cat and parrot rescues in California. After relocating to Washington State, she worked at an Exotic Animal Specialty Hospital, an experience that strengthened her commitment to evidence-based ferret care and husbandry.

Outside of rescue work, Shaye enjoys art and illustration, often drawing inspiration from animals. Looking ahead, she plans to pursue a DVM degree as part of her goal of becoming a veterinary pathologist.

Barbara began working with ferrets about 17 years ago when she and her daughter brought home their first ferret, "Ellie." In 2012, she moved to Washington, DC, where ferrets were banned. Determined to stay connected to the ferret community, Barbara began volunteering with *Washington Metro Area Ferret Outreach*. In 2013, she joined the organization's Board of Directors, working closely with three sister shelters and benefiting from the strong mentorship and support of the local rescue community.

During her time in DC, Barbara also worked alongside the general counsel of the American Ferret Association to help lift the ferret ban in the district. In May 2018, she returned to Texas and began volunteering with *Texas Ferret Lovers Rescue*. Since July 2018, she has served as Vice President of the organization.

Please join us in welcoming Barbara and Shaye to their new roles as **AFA Shelter Co-Chairs**. Their collective passion, expertise, and dedication to animal welfare will be invaluable to our organization and the ferret community at large. We look forward to the positive impact they will make and to the bright future ahead under their leadership.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Russell  
Vice President