



The American Ferret Association, Inc.

PO Box 554, Frederick, MD 21705-0554

1-888-FERRET-1 afa@ferret.org www.ferret.org

THE AFA HELP LIST

The American Ferret Association, Inc. (AFA) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization working to PROMOTE, PROTECT, and PROVIDE for the domestic ferret and ferret fanciers everywhere. We are always in need of people willing to donate their time and skills. The list below contains short description of some of the areas where AFA needs your help. Some committees also have vacant director positions. Please see the AFA webpage for current list of director positions filled and vacant. Remember, all positions are *volunteer* positions. **All volunteers must have access to reliable frequent internet access.** If you would like to be involved in one of the activities below (or would like to work on something you don't see on the list) please give us a call at **1-888-FERRET-1** (toll free) or fill out our volunteer form and mail it to:

AFA, PO BOX 554, FREDERICK, MD 21705-0554

Breeder Committee: Promote the breeding of healthy ferrets who conform to the structure of what the ferret was meant to be. Anything outside the 'norm' is discouraged as is the selective breeding of traits that are not normally found in the species *Mustela [putorius] furo*.

- Develop programs and guidelines for hobby ferret breeders including but not limited to Ferretry Name Registration, Voluntary Responsible Hobby Ferret Breeder Program, Ferret Registry.
- Respond to correspondence from the public on matters pertaining to this committee's expertise and responsibilities.
- Contribute a minimum of one article per issue to the American Ferret Report. Internet access is required for this position.

Education Committee: Promote and disseminate AFA public information regarding the domestic ferret in many forums, also at pet events, not limited to, but including: ferrets shows; vet symposium, etc.

- Be responsible for the editing, publication, and distribution of all AFA educational materials and publications, including, but not limited to: any AFA publication, whether written, video, audio, or literary, or all information, promotional or educational materials whether in literary, video, audio, electronic media or any other format produced by the AFA.
- Choose events and avenues for ferret education in keeping with AFA's goals. Maintain the AFA booth(es) and display.
- Oversee the staffing, preparation, and content of the AFA booth(es).
- Respond to correspondence from the public on matters pertaining to this committee's expertise and responsibilities.
- Contribute a minimum of one article per issue to the American Ferret Report. Internet access is required for this position.

Health Affairs Committee: Promotion of Public Health through disease prevention in ferrets and preventive health practices through regular vaccination, health evaluation and treatment of the domestic ferret.

- Provide correct and current scientific and medical information on health issues concerning the domestic ferret.
- Encourage, act and evaluate research efforts in to health issues consistent with the purposes of the organization.
- Act as a resource and support for health professionals in their activities to promote and foster health in ferrets and good public health practices.
- Evaluate and establish criteria for standard Care/Maintenance of Ferrets. Serve as a liaison with Health Care Professionals in the United States and neighboring Countries.

- Respond to correspondence from the public on matters pertaining to this committee's expertise and responsibilities.
- Contribute a minimum of one article per year to the American Ferret Report. Internet access is required for this position.

Legal and Legislative Committee: Investigate and pursue current legal issues concerning ferrets and ferret ownership.

- Assure that current and future legislation will not unjustly discriminate against the domestic ferret as a companion animal.
- Address discrimination and issues concerning the domestic ferret as manifested in current and proposed anti-ferret laws, legislation, ordinances, status, codes and policies.
- Serve as a liaison with states and individuals pursuing free and unencumbered ownership of ferrets. Support efforts toward legalization of domestic ferrets in all states, countries, territories, and municipalities of the United States.
- Support efforts to change any discriminatory policies regarding ferrets. Respond to correspondence from the public on matters pertaining to this committee's expertise and responsibilities.
- Contribute a minimum of one article per year to the American Ferret Report. Internet access is required for this position.

Membership Committee: Process new memberships and renewals. Promote membership and involvement in AFA activities. Internet access is required for this position.

- MEMBERSHIP LIAISONS: We need people from different geographical area of the USA to serve as regional contacts. You will help keep the AFA up to date on the needs of AFA members in your part of the country.
- SOCIAL MEDIA: Keep up to date on ferret social media sites (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and provide information as required on behalf of the AFA.. Must have access to the Internet or other service provider(s). Please note that you will be representing the AFA and all information you provide must be in accord with AFA policy.

Public Affairs Committee: Define and establish the AFA's relationship to the public, the press, the community, social media, other clubs and the AFA membership. Coordinate publicity and advertisements for AFA events. Internet access is required for this position.

- Promote public awareness and acceptance of the domestic ferrets. Promotion of all AFA meetings, activities, positions and special events, issues and concerns developed, supported or initiated by the AFA.
- Serve as a liaison to the Press. Respond to the public and press inquiries. Contribute a minimum of one article per year to the American Ferret Report.
- Promote membership/donor level drives, fund-raising events and similar activities.

Shelter Committee: Responsible for supporting the rescue community through programs and guidelines geared toward the needs of rescuers and their efforts.

- Develop, publish and maintain guidelines for general shelter operations.
- Promote for sale the shelter guidelines. Keep current the latest list of shelter/rescue organizations in the United States and Canada via the AFA website.
- Serve as a liaison between Shelter/Rescue organizations and the AFA. Promote goodwill to the Shelter/Rescue organizations on behalf of AFA.
- Promote AFA membership and benefits of joining the AFA to non-member shelter/rescues.
- Respond to correspondence from the public on matters pertaining to this committee's expertise and responsibilities. Internet access is required for this position.
- Contribute a minimum of one article per year to the American Ferret Report

Shows and Special Events Committee: Organizes AFA Ferret Expos and other events hosted by the AFA. Also coordinates AFA display for shows and expos attended by AFA. Volunteers must be willing to participate in shows and expos. You do not need to show ferrets but you must attend the event(s). You must be comfortable talking to the public and answering questions. (See also Booth Staffing under Educational Committee)

- **CHAMPIONSHIP FERRET SHOWS:** Volunteers are need well in advance of the show to help with publicity, obtaining raffle donations, soliciting advertising, and getting vendors to purchase tables for the show. On weekend of the show, help is needed to set up tables, and judging area. People are always needed to staff tables on the day of the show and also to pack everything up once the show is over. This is definitely a long day and many volunteers are needed to make each show a success.
- **RAFFLE:** Would you like to organize the raffles held at the next AFA ferret show? Responsibilities include soliciting donations, organizing the raffle table, and selling raffle tickets at the show.
- **SHOW ADVERTISEMENT:** Solicit and coordinate advertisements for ferret shows and the show catalog. Internet access is required for this position.

Fundraising: Work closely with the Public Affairs to develop and maintain fundraising events, projects and programs to benefit the AFA. Internet access is required for this position.

- Help obtain advertisements in AFA publications, sponsorships and donations for the AFA funds and projects. Contribute a minimum of one article per year to the American Ferret Report.

Newsletter: Publishes the AFA 's newsletter, the *American Ferret Report* (AFR). Prior experience on a newsletter is not necessary. All positions require a firm commitment of time and effort. Internet access is required for this position.

- ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER
- SALES AND DISTRIBUTION COORDINATORS
- FORMATTERS
- EDITORS
- DESIGN AND LAYOUT
- WRITERS
- ARTISTS/PHOTOGRPHERS

Products: Provides ferret related products to the AFA members and general public. Sales are conducted through mail order, Internet, and ferret related events. Evaluates new products; product development. Internet access is required for this position.

- **PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT:** Need product team to develop a signature line of AFA items (mugs, tie tacks, pens etc.)

Web Page: AFA website can be found at <http://www.ferret.org>

- **Web Design:** People interested in overall site design (navigation, page design, etc.)
- **Page Updates:** People interested in updating the data portion of the site. Skills needed are HTML, CSS, good testing skills across browsers, FTP.