

Ferrets 2018



Cover photo of "Moose" © 2017 LegalizeFerrets.org | Photo by TheModernFerret.com · Follow Moose @the.modern.ferret

LegalizeFerrets.org

A 12 MONTH CALENDAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY YVONNE RIDER

Additional photographs contributed by ferret owners who endorse the legalization of domestic ferrets in California

Thank you for supporting our efforts
to **legalize ferrets** in California!

Do it for the little guy!

Ferrets in California

Really early on...

Ferrets used for rodent control and not really considered pets.



1933

All mustelids banned in California. Ferrets are in the mustelid family. Nobody cares.

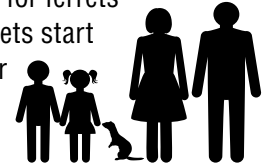
1970s

...and before. Domestic Ferrets being used in laboratories. They are subject to the same influenza virus as humans— and are docile— the perfect laboratory animal. (bad for them!)



1980s

... and after, ferret breeders discover a secondary market for ferrets— the pet trade! Ferrets start to become popular as pets.♥



1982

Beastmaster movie comes out— starring adorable ferrets Podo and Kodo and some human and other animals. The popularity of ferrets as pets increases dramatically...



1988



California Department of Health Services publishes a report, *Pet European ferrets: A hazard to public health, small livestock and wildlife*. Considered the *Reefer Madness* of the ferret issue— this report was written by Constance Kizer, an expert in rabies in bats with little knowledge of ferrets.



2000

California has more pet ferrets **27%** than any other state. The pet industry says Californians buy 27% of the nation's ferret supplies. Pretty significant considering ferrets are still illegal in California.

1982 and slightly later. Ferret bans in the few states that maintain them are repealed. Livestock is not destroyed; babies are not eaten. California and Hawaii are the holdouts.



1990s

In the mid 1990s, and again in 2000, pet ferret advocates attempted to convince the California Fish & Game Commission in public hearings to adopt regulation changes to legalize ferrets as pets. In recent years, ferret organizations have been pursuing ferret legalization in the California legislature. From 1994 to 1999, four such bills were introduced.



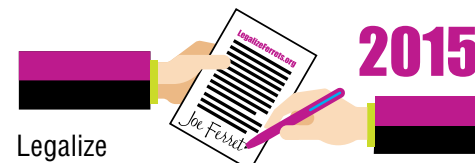
2004

SB89 passes the legislature which would grant ferrets amnesty and authorize an Environmental Impact Report. If the EIR showed ferrets posed no threat, ferrets would be legalized. But— on the last day Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed SB89 and dashed the hopes and dreams of California ferret lovers. 2004 – 2015 California ferret lovers unable to find any sponsors in the California legislature.



2015

Legalize Ferrets.org launches ballot initiative to legalize ferrets, collecting only 10,000 signatures of the 91,470 needed to trigger a legislative hearing.



2016

Feb 19, 2016— Ferret lovers rally outside the office of assemblyman Marc Levine, chairman of the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee asking for his support. After the rally invited inside to talk to the Chief of Staff. Once the news cameras left, Levine's staff have never returned a phone call.



2017

- PETITION 1** Fish and Game accepts Petition for regulation change. LegalizeFerrets.org submits petition to remove ferrets from prohibited species list. **Fish and Game says "No"**. Staff recommends denying the petition. Given that the proposed action would effectively eliminate the Commission's authority to regulate ferrets, and... there is a possibility that escaped ferrets might do significant damage to wildlife.
- PETITION 2** LegalizeFerrets.org submits second petition asking the Commission issue permits for ferrets **Fish and Game answers it will not issue permits for wild animals.**

Yes, we know ferrets aren't wild animals.



The audience laughs. F&G Pres Eric Sklar says "Yes, we know ferrets aren't wild animals."

Then **why** are they **still banned?**

Legalize Ferrets.org
Do it for the little guy!

Adrenal Disease and Deslorelin

The Bad News: Domestic ferrets are prone to developing Adrenal Disease (AD). In fact, until recently upwards of 1 in 2 ferrets will suffer from AD by the age of five.

The Good News: You can now prevent AD in Ferrets with a drug called Deslorelin. Currently marketed for use in Ferrets in the form of a slow releasing implant, Deslorelin stops the stimulation of the ferret's adrenal glands by control centers in the brain.

Dr. Robert Wagner at the University of Pittsburgh first looked at using this drug over ten years ago and found it to be safe and effective in the treatment of many cases of AD. In 2008, as part of Dr. Wagner's research program, Dr. Rene Gandolfi at Castro Valley Companion Animal Hospital started implanting Ferrets in California. Since that time, Deslorelin has been used not only in the treatment of AD but for prevention as well.

The implant is a simple and safe procedure, costs a whole lot less than surgery, and best of all, you get a happy and healthy Ferret. That's Good News.

I recommend every ferret over three years of age get an annual implant. Based on ferret hormone cycles, neutered female ferrets should get an implant sometime in February, and neutered males a bit earlier in the year (January) before Spring gets underway and those hormones start flowing.

If you have trouble remembering all that, let's make it a tradition—

February is Get Your Ferret a Deslorelin Implant month.



Dr. Rene Gandolfi



Margaret



Pepper



Bumi & Aki



Lincoln



Riku



Bonkers & Petula



Chip N Boots



Noodles



Shelby



Gons, Marvin, Kai & Wee



Silver Smith



Indy & Kobey



Jinx



Needle & Lita



Marvin



Kudzu



January 2018

Do it for the little guy!









SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <i>Pepper</i>	1 Full Moon New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Last Quarter	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16 New Moon	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 First Quarter	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Full Moon	DECEMBER 2017 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY 2018 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	 <i>Wee & Marvin</i>





February 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>JANUARY 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>MARCH 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	 <p><i>Shaydel</i></p>	 <p><i>Spankydoodle</i></p>	1	2	3
4	5	6	7  Last Quarter	8	9 Groundhog Day	10
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15  New Moon	16 Chinese New Year- Year of the Dog	17
18	19 Presidents' Day Washington's Birthday	20	21	22	23  First Quarter	24
25	26	27	28	 <p><i>Penny</i></p>	 <p><i>Bear & Moe</i></p>	 <p><i>Pearl</i></p>





March 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>FEBRUARY 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p>	<p>APRIL 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	 <p><i>Kain & Digger</i></p>	 <p><i>Bumi & Afi</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>Full Moon</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Last Quarter</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>New Moon</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>First Day of Spring</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>First Quarter</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Good Friday Passover Begins</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Full Moon</p>





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																		
1 Easter Sunday	2 <i>National Ferret Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7																																																																		
8  Last Quarter	9	10	11	12	13	14																																																																		
15  New Moon	16	17	18	19	20	21																																																																		
22  First Quarter	23	24	25	26	27	28																																																																		
29  Full Moon	30	<p>MARCH 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		1	2	3			4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	16	18	19	20	21	22	23	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>MAY 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	18	20	21	22	23	24	25	27	28	29	30	31		 <p><i>Gigi & Jinx</i></p>	 <p><i>Moe</i></p>	 <p><i>Possum & Maggie</i></p>
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May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>APRIL 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p>JUNE 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	1	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo
6	7 Last Quarter	8	9	10	11	12
13 Mother's Day	14	15 New Moon	16 Ramadan Begins	17	18	19 Armed Forces Day
20	21 First Quarter	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day	29 Full Moon	30	31	 Willy  Sheba	





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>MAY 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>JULY 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	 <p><i>Sheldon</i></p>	 <p><i>Noodle</i></p>	 <p><i>Indie</i></p>	1	2
3	4	5	6  Last Quarter	7	8	9
10	11	12	13  New Moon	14 Flag Day	15	16
17 Father's Day	18	19	20  First Quarter	21 First Day of Summer	22	23
24	25	26	27	28  Full Moon	29	30





July 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																			
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6 Last Quarter	7																																			
8	9	10	11	12 New Moon	13	14																																			
15	16	17	18	19 First Quarter	20	21																																			
22	23	24	25	26	27 Full Moon	28																																			
29	30	31	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="background-color: #800040; color: white; padding: 2px;">JUNE 2018</div> <div style="background-color: #800040; color: white; padding: 2px;">AUGUST 2018</div> </div> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> </table>			1	2					3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	 <p style="text-align: center; color: #800040;">Kai</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; color: #800040;">Ms. Melt</p>
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																			





August 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>JULY 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	 <p>Mia</p>	1	2	3	4  Last Quarter
5	6	7	8	9	10	11  New Moon
12	13	14	15	16	17	18  First Quarter
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26  Full Moon	27	28	29	30	31	 <p>Honey Bee D. Weasel</p>





MENU

Local Call
Appel Local
10c

September 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>AUGUST 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	 <p><i>Weezie D. Weasel</i></p>	 <p><i>Darrien the Daring</i></p>	 <p><i>Catie</i></p>	 <p><i>Lily</i></p>	1
2 Last Quarter	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9 New Moon Grandparents' Day Rosh Hashanah Begins	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14	15
16 First Quarter	17	18 Yom Kippur Begins	19	20	21	22
23 First Day of Autumn	24 Full Moon	25	26	27	28	29
30						












October 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <i>Bear & Emmy</i>	1	2 Last Quarter	3	4	5	6	
7	8 New Moon Columbus Day	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16 First Quarter	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24 Full Moon	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31 Last Quarter Halloween	SEPTEMBER 2018 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		NOVEMBER 2018 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
						 <i>Smokey</i>	





November 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>OCTOBER 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>DECEMBER 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	 <p><i>Marlowe Bay</i></p>	 <p><i>KitKat D. Weasel</i></p>	1	2	3
4	5	6	7  New Moon	8	9	10
Daylight Savings Time Ends						
11	12	13	14	15  First Quarter	16	17
Veterans' Day	Veterans' Day (Observed)					
18	19	20	21	22	23  Full Moon	24
				Thanksgiving Day		
25	26	27	28	29  Last Quarter	30	 <p><i>Bailey</i></p>





December 2018

Do it for the little guy!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>NOVEMBER 2018</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p>JANUARY 2019</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	 <p><i>Brittany</i></p>	 <p><i>Jeremy & Joey</i></p>	 <p><i>Yogi</i></p>	 <p><i>Kobey</i></p>	1
2 Hanukkah Begins	3	4	5	6	7 New Moon Pearl Harbor Remembered	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 First Quarter
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Full Moon
23	24 Christmas Eve	25	26	27	28 First Day of Winter	29 Last Quarter
30	New Year's Eve 31	Christmas Day	Kwanzaa Begins			





2018 Not Legal – but More Respected

We spent a lot of 2017 in front of the Fish and Game Commission. **After 7 years of waiting they finally read our Environmental Report. And they had objections:**

- Ferrets had a small chance of going feral and attacking native wildlife
- Removing ferrets from the prohibited species list would remove them from Fish and Game jurisdiction

So how about issuing permits for ferrets as they did prior to 1985 for neutered male ferrets? **"Fish and Game doesn't issue permits for wild animals as pets."** And the room broke out in laughter – domestic ferrets are wild animals?

Shortly thereafter the truth came out. At least partially. **"It's more complicated than you'd think"** Fish and Game President Erik Sklar responded. You (the ferret community; i.e. us,) would be required to fund a full blown Environmental Impact Report, we'd tell you it would cost \$250,000. But when it was all done you would more likely be billed \$600,000. Then there would be the lawsuits. **Ferrets would still be illegal and we'd all be poorer.**

"You need a legislator" he concluded. Legislation is not subject to Environmental Reports. "Would you say that publicly? Indicate that the Fish and Game Commission favors legislation to solve this issue?" After a week he said "No, take my comments off the video of that Fish and Game meeting."

I think he knew quite well our failure in attracting a legislative sponsor for the past ten years. **He thought he had us. But we're determined, resilient – and more and more people know and like ferrets.**

And an idea came to me: Ask the city council of my home town La Mesa to declare themselves a "Ferret Sanctuary City." A package was dropped off to all five members. And perhaps we hit pay dirt.

One city council member in particular took on the cause. City Councilwoman Kristine Allesio is an exotic pet lover – though she loves Savannah Cats. And she is knowledgeable and sympathetic to our plight. We soon discovered another animal lover on the city council, city councilman Bill Baber. The two of them have come over to our side. One more needed.

Asking the city of La Mesa to be a Ferret Sanctuary City is asking a lot. I can obviously feel the sympathy but a little discomfort. As of this writing my guess is they are more comfortable declaring La Mesa a Ferret Friendly City. We hope that shakes a legislator lose. Maybe someone will introduce the bill. If not, we'll move on to the next town.

The tide is turning. I realized we won when people actually laughed at the Fish and Game Commission for calling our fuzzies "wild animals." **2017 was a good year for ferret legalization. Maybe, just maybe we'll win the battle in 2018.**

Thank you for your support!

LegalizeFerrets.org

PO Box 1480 | La Mesa, CA 91941-1480 | 619.303.0645

