Steampunk Farms Rescue Barn

LEARNING FROM YESTERDAY. TEACHING FOR TOMORROW. SAVING LIVES TODAY.





A BATTERY ARRIVES!! (OF HENS, THAT IS...)

From the dark of a commercial egg facility, to the light of freedom and love.

We welcomed 26 new, feathered residents in May. They came from lives in cramped cages, with their beaks cut short to reduce mutilation of themselves and cagemates. They've already laid over a lifetime's worth of eggs each, depleting their resources, and stressing their tiny bodies, all before their second birthdays. Now, they are receiving nutritional supplements, sunlight for physical and psychological health, and the love and companionship they were previously denied.

For the first two weeks, they slept with lights aglow to prevent crushing each other. Having never built strength in confinement, or learned social etiquette, lights kept them from congregating atop each other to sleep all at once. Now weaned from their nightlights, they are much stronger, and developing natural behaviors and relationships.

They have long journeys to full health ahead of them, and sadly, some are sure to succumb to reproductive diseases they are predisposed to from selective breeding for egg production, but we are honored to show them love and freedom, and give them the very best chances to live long, happy lives.



OH, THE ADVENTURES WE HAD!

Erratic weather and flies made Spring a challenge!

If there was one thing this Spring delivered, it was rapidly fluctuating temperatures. With freezing rain and 90 degree days, all in the course of a single week, Spring brought extra farm chores at every turn. The tortoises were moved outside, then inside. Then outside, inside, and back again. The Angora goat shearings were prioritized, then postponed. Even the animals were confused, losing winter coats, just to need added straw for warmth!





It's no secret that pest control is a common challenge on a farm. We typically prepare in advance with non-stinging, "fly predator" wasps for natural control, compounded with traps, sprays, and masks. However, the increased rain we saw throughout Winter and Spring gave way to uncharacteristically moist ground, and an explosion of flies like we've never seen before. Vigilant manure control is one piece of the puzzle, however, flies readily breed in damp areas, and eliminating mud wallows from pig areas is simply not an option. We're left with daily monitoring of traps, frequent spraying of our most sensitive residents, and a few double orders of fly predators. You can help keep us all safe and comfortable by shopping our Summer Amazon Wish List!





DONOR CORNER - WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Donations make rescue possible, and the gifts we received in May and June made life better for everyone!

When the mercury soars, there's nothing better than a shady spot for an afternoon nap. Thanks to the incredible response to our shade sail request, there's room for everyone to escape the heat! Planting of our Earth Day shade trees has also begun; watch for updates on social media, and a full story in the next newsletter!

The worldwide pandemic and shutdown affected us all, and our hay and grain suppliers were not exempt. To help ensure that our residents would not go without, we needed to make a bulk purchase of food supplies, and your support made that delivery possible. In addition, we are continuing to pursue greater self-reliance for the future. Stay tuned for progress updates on our important fodder system project!

HUGS & KISSES FROM ALL OF US!

HOW WE CELEBRATED!



DAHLIA, THE GIRL SCOUT GOAT!



In these strange, and possibly disappointing times for kids unable to attend graduations, promotions, and advancement ceremonies, Dahlia wanted to bring smiles to Girl Scouts via virtual meetings and celebrations. We visited with 14 troops in May and June, answering questions about her disability, special needs, friends, and more. If you'd like to have Dahlia attend your troop, group, or family meeting, send an email to steampunkfarms@gmail.com, and we'll get you on her calendar!

SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT!

These are just some of our friends looking for sponsors. Get exclusive photos and updates on your rescue for a donation of just \$5-\$100 per month! Automated sponsorship donations can be made using PayPal, Facebook, or Patreon.

Email <u>steampunkfarms@gmail.com</u> or message us on <u>FB</u> or <u>IG</u> for more info!



Samuel - \$75/mo - Samuel was a "drop calf", the name given to a baby cow born on a dairy farm. He was never allowed to meet his mother, instead taken to auction for disposal. Most drop calves do not survive due to lack of their mother's vital first milk, but Sammie was a true fighter. This adorable boy would love to have a sponsor of his own!



Maddie - \$35/mo - Maddie was born on a commercial meat farm in Kansas. By pure luck, a young man driving by felt compelled to save a life, and the farmer chose a baby at random for him. Maddie bears a docked tail, revealing her birth destiny. Lucky for all of us, however, the rest of her life has been full of love, friends, and safety.



Roscoe - \$5/mo - Roscoe lost an eye in a fight before we met him. He survived his injuries, and did well in a mixed flock. Earlier this year, he began losing vision in his remaining eye, and he was brought indoors for special care. He is now a happy boy with his own small flock of hens to protect. Can you be Roscoe's hero with a monthly \$5 donation?

COMING SOON* FROM CLEANPUNK FARMS SOAP COMPANY

SHOP: CLEANPUNKSOAP.SQUARE.SITE

JULY

Bailey's Banan-za Clarabelle's Creamy Coconut Pepe's Pineapples Cilantro Howard's Havana Heat Thomas & Romeo's Yucatan Fiesta Tubby's Tropical Locks Hair Care Rory's Rockin' Melon Ball Maddie's Midwest Mango Seamore's Sandy Shores Tashi & Hiro's Japan Cherry Blossom

August

Dixie & Lilo's Southern Charm Cookie's Nice Cream Chopper's Chill Out Mojito Wanda's Wild Watermelon Hook & Nubs's Silly Soap Bonnie & Clyde's Grape Escape Pickles' Lemon Dill

September

Mike's Mediterranean Mint
Big Boy's Berry Pies
Salty's Lime Margarita
Tommy's Soothing Oatmeal
Tallulah's Sweet Southern Magnolia
Lorelei, J, & Hadassah's Three French
Hens



* availability subject to change

LOOKING FORWARD...

Summer heat is upon us! These are the days of early morning breakfasts, late evening dinners, and mid-afternoon naps. We are beginning to prepare for California's infamous "Fire Season" by clearing brush from our perimeter fences, and July and August will be filled with property and infrastructure checks to allow for prioritization of pre-winter projects. Stay tuned for various volunteer opportunities in the coming months!

SUMMER WISH LIST

·SHADE SAILS

· SUNSCREEN (SPRAY OR LOTION)

· VITAMINS/SUPPLEMENTS (SEE "EVERYDAY" AMAZON WISH LIST FOR DETAILS!)

 \cdot PUSH BROOM HEADS (FOR SCRATCHING POSTS!)

· OUTDOOR FLY TRAPS

· FLY SPRAY

· HOSES & WATER TROUGHS

Check out our seasonal <u>Amazon Wish List</u> for easy shopping!

