QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1, WINTER/SPRING 20/21

# Steampunk Farms Rescue Barn

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





# SURPRISE!!! (PREGNANCY, THAT IS) PEARL'S A MOM...AGAIN!

WITH ONLY 1 WEEK FOR US TO PREPARE, PEARL DELIVERED A 100 LB BABY

On February 4, 2021, our former dairy cow turned runaway, Pearl, delivered a baby boy. Her farmer had told us she was not pregnant at her surrender, but just 7 months after her arrival, we noticed enlarging udders, and signs of impending labor. After consulting with our vet, we were able to expect a baby in 10-14 days, but Percey surprised everyone when he made his appearance just 7 days later!

Like humans, cows are pregnant for 9 months. Dairy cows are typically impregnated annually to keep their milk supply maximized. Sadly, most dairy cows have had multiple babies taken from them immediately after birth, and there was concern that Pearl wouldn't know to tend to this newborn. Though Percey's long legs and contracted tendons made our assistance necessary to help him stand, Pearl was an attentive and loving mom. Watching her raise her son has been a pleasure, and we're looking forward to seeing their beautiful relationship grow!

#### WINTER'S MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS!



KONA: A FRIEND FOR JAZZY!
When the Devore shelter
contacted us about an older horse
with arthritis facing euthanasia,
we brought ~30 year old Kona to
spend her final days with love,
companionship, and antiinflammatories for comfort.



FERAL HEADQUARTERS
Feral cats are often euthanized in shelters in Southern California. In an effort to alleviate the suffering of these beautiful animals, while also helping to control the rodent population in our barn, we've started building a multi-stall living area for cats to thrive in. We've rescued 9 cats so far in 2021.



BUBBLES & BERNIE
Doubling our cow resident
population, we welcomed two
cows rescued from auction as
drop calves in 2015. They joined
us from the same auction that
Samuel was saved from in 2017.

#### OH, THE ADVENTURES WE HAD!

#### WINTER ALWAYS BRINGS A SLEW OF CHALLENGES TO THE FARM...

When our first snow fell in very early November, we feared that winter would be long and harsh. To our pleasant surprise, the rest of November, and all through December and January, was quite pleasant - almost warm at times! Then came February and March. Storm after storm dropped snow after snow. Deliveries were delayed, vet visits rescheduled, and everywhere turned to rivers of mud. We spread straw in the muckiest areas, built new shelters for the animals, and graveled the sinkholes. To help with projects, email steampunkfarms@gmail.com or message us on Facebook!





Another challenge we faced was a 3-week shipping delay of our new, large animal houses due to a pandemic-related steel shortage. In that time, we had 2 very cold and wet storms. To make sure everyone had adequate protection, we created temporary shelters with cattle panels and heavy duty tarps. When the shelters finally arrived, we found they couldn't be delivered to the sanctuary because melting snow had washed out the dirt road. Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages to see how the problem was finally resolved!





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

Donations make rescue possible, and the gifts we received through the Winter months were no exception!

Pumpkins are one of our favorite treats. They are nutritious and delicious, and loved by every species. This year, thanks to many helpful volunteers who collected and transported pumpkins, our residents enjoyed meal after meal of tummy-tickling goodness!

Last year, we noticed that out chicken coops didn't get much sun in the winter due to the shadow cast by the barn. We researched and planned the construction of new coops that would be suitable for every season. After finalizing the design, we were able to fundraise for 4 complete coops with a 5th one in progress. All of our chickens are now having fun in the sun, and thriving in their economical, but effective, hoop coops!

**HOGS & KISSES! XOXO** 

## HOW WE CELEBRATED!



## <u>In Memory of Penelope</u>

We met Penelope after she was rescued from a live market on February 11th. She was emaciated, with anorexia, open wounds, physical abnormalities, and most significantly, severe respiratory distress. We consulted with 3 different vets, but supportive care and hopeful thinking was the best anyone could offer. Penelope began improving after starting antibiotics. Her appetite returned, she made friends, and she loved napping in the sun, but exactly 3 weeks after arriving, she quickly declined, and passed away on March 6th, held tightly, and surrounded by love.



# **SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT!**

These are just some of our friends looking for sponsors. Automated sponsorship donations can be made using PayPal, Facebook, or Patreon.

Email steampunkfarms@gmail.com or message us on Facebook for more info!



**CORKY** - Corky is an  $\sim$ 800lb boar who joined our farm-ily in December 2020. He is too large for our regular vet to safely neuter, and lives in a bachelor pen with other boys. He spends his days flipping water bowls and digging through mud. He also loves food, and is looking for a sponsor to buy him grain, alfalfa, and treats. For \$35 a month, you can help keep this boar-tastic boy happy and healthy!



**POGO** - Pogo is a part Angora goat that was brought to us at just a few hours old after he was abandoned by his mother. He was bottle-fed until he was old enough to join the herd. Pogo had an atrophied testicle that bled significantly after his neuter, and he gave us all quite a scare during his recovery. We are glad to see Pogo back to his playful self, and for only \$10 a month you can help feed this silly boy!



**GRACE** - Grace is a Jumbo Cornish Cross chicken who arrived in January 2021. She had been rescued off a slaughter bound truck, and though she is only a few months old, she is twice the size and weight of a healthy chicken. Soon after her rescue, she met and bonded with a rooster who had recently arrived. Grace and Nate are now BFFs who love to cuddle and bask in the sun. A monthly donation of just \$5 helps to keep Grace healthy, sheltered, and entertained.

## **LOOKING FORWARD...**

Spring brings healthy greens to graze upon, longer days to spend basking in the sun, and, sadly, the hatching of pests and parasites. Our goals for April, May, and June are to build another chicken hoop coop and additional shade structures, dig wallows, and get preemptive control of flies and lice for our residents' health and comfort!

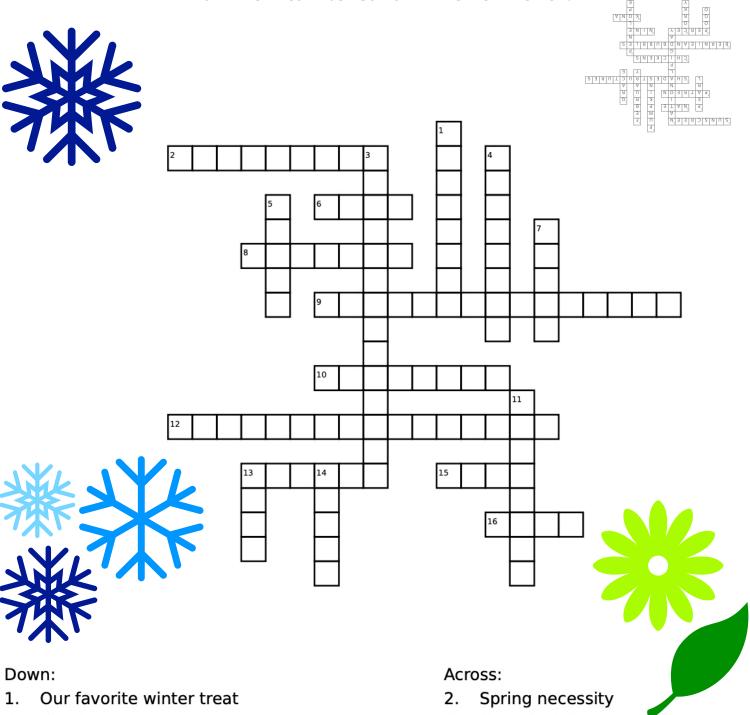
### **SPRING WISH LIST!**

• SUNSCREEN FOR PIGS (SPRAY OR LOTION)
• IVERMECTIN (INJECTIBLE, TOPICAL, GEL)
• WIDE BRIM HATS FOR VOLUNTEERS
• FLY MASKS (DONKEY & HORSE SIZES)
• SHADE SAILS
• OUTDOOR FLY TRAPS
• FLY SPRAY

CHECK OUT OUR AMAZON WISH LIST FOR EASY SHOPPING!

### STEAMPUNK FARMS WINTER/SPRING CROSSWORD

All answers can be found in the newsletter!



- 3. March 1
- 4. Very stormy month
- 5. Dairy runaway
- 7. A jumbo Cornish hen
- 11. A live market rescue
- 13. Part Angora bottle baby
- 14. Boar-tastic boy

- 6. Grace's BFF
- 8. A sponsorship platform
- 9. Spring season construction goal
- 10. Hoop coop residents
- 12. A bovine duo
- 13. Surprise arrival
- 15. Number of cats rescued in 2021
- 16. Our newest equine resident