

# 2009 OUTPOST

Winslow Farm Animal Awareness, Inc.

Our Mission: to provide a high quality "stay-for-life" animal sanctuary, dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and care of mistreated and abandoned animals; to promote the prevention of animal mistreatment through quality educational programs and events, and to advocate the preservation of wildlife habitat.

## Meet Our New Friends

**SUNNY** was a gift for a woman who had cancer, whose one wish was to have a goat. Happily this woman is now in remission but is now no longer in a position to care for this sweet little goat. Sunny is about a year old and is white and orange, a little bit shy and still adjusting to his new life at the farm.



*Sunny*

**ATHENA** (aka Woolie) has quite a story. She was marooned on the 495 & 95 median strip and lived there on her own for 18 months. No one really knows how she came to be there. A kind-hearted samaritan, Linda Farber, put in a five month effort to have the sheep rescued. There was great concern she would wander into the busy interstate traffic. Finally on a cold January day she was rescued and

brought to the Boston Animal Rescue League for evaluation. Athena was then boarded with Gulliver, the goat, and developed a very strong bond with him. Arriving at the farm, Athena was very nervous and shy. Today she is still shy but will now eat from Debra White's hand. She has begun to feel comfortable enough to join the other sheep at the farm but still is never far away from Gulliver.



*Gulliver & Athena*

**GULLIVER**, a large Toggenburg goat, was running loose in Middleboro for almost 6 months. One day he saw his reflection in a glass door. Thinking he was seeing another goat, he smashed into the door breaking the glass. It was decided that Gulliver needed to be caught. During his rescue, he was very upset, reared up, fell and broke his horn. He was brought to the Animal Rescue League of Boston to heal. The Rescue began the process of regaining his trust and was very successful with Gulliver. He arrived with Athena, the sheep, in late February at the farm. Gulliver has proved himself to be quite a character and has become Athena's friend and guardian at the farm. They both reside together in the special needs barn.

**NAPOLEON** is a pot bellied pig. His previous family was unable to find someone to care for him while they were on vacations and he was brought to Winslow Farm. Used to living in a confined space, Napoleon roams around the farm. He travels around visiting all the other animals. His most striking feature are his warm intelligent eyes.



*Napoleon*

**PANDY** is a 10 year old border collie. She had lived with her family for those ten years until they decided to abandon her to the shelter because she was digging holes. She was brought to live at the farm. Pandy has not dug any holes while living here but she does get a lot of exercise playing throw and fetch with all the visitors to the farm. Pandy has a gentle nature. She is extremely intelligent, well behaved and enjoys taking walks with Murray, the other canine resident.



*Pandy*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Meet Our New Friends .....	1
Letter from the President.....	2
Friends We'll Miss .....	3
A Place of Their Own .....	4
Haunted Happenings .....	5
A Renaissance Fair.....	5
The Oddest Couple .....	5
Transformed .....	7
Featured Animal.....	7

*(New Friends continued from page one)*

**MORGAN** is a long haired, beautiful orange cat. His caretaker became homeless and Morgan now lives at Winslow Farm. When he arrived, his fur was extremely matted, Stone Dog Inn donated a special cat grooming and shaved off all the matted fur taking great care for the cat's well being. Morgan's fur is growing back and he looks wonderful and healthy.



*Morgan*

**BELLA** is a playful grey and white feline. Her original caretaker was allergic. Bella enjoys running around the top of the cat shelter and knocking her toys off and onto the floor. She is very friendly.



*Bella*

**HEIDI** the cat came to Winslow Farm because her caretaker became ill and had to be taken away from the home. When Heidi first came, she was very nervous but cautiously friendly. She has pretty black and white markings and is often seen cat-napping in a sunshine-filled nook in the cat shelter.



*Heidi*

**WATERFORD** is a Tamworth pig. He comes from Maine and belonged to a little girl who won him at a pig racing contest held at a local fair. The family took him home but he grew till finally it became a challenge to care for the pig. Winslow Farm offered to take the, by then, nearly 300 pound one-year old pig. A large pen was created for him on the property, along with his own new house. Waterford consumes a great deal of produce every day. He is expected to stop growing at three years. He has become a favorite at the farm with his lovable character and his very vocal greeting to all visitors.



*Waterford*

**JOE & SAM** are two tortoises given to the farm. Joe is the larger tortoise and is happy to see visitors (who may be bringing him something good to eat). He was attacked by a rat while camping in a cabin with his original family and suffered damage to both his front and back leg. He still manages to maneuver around easily. Sam is smaller and shy. They have their home in the back of the Resource Center. These tortoises need warmth and so are currently in the foster care of Carol, one of our volunteers, for the colder months of the year.



*Sam & Joe*

## A Letter from Our President

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2009 edition of Outpost. Each year Winslow Farm grows in large and small ways. One thing, however, never changes and that is the emotional support I feel, is crucial for the care of our animals. Yes, we provide food, shelter and medical care for them, but their mental well-being is something that we, meaning myself, the volunteers and even our patrons, also focus on to keep them happy and well-adjusted.

As many of our visitors know, Winslow Farm takes in abused and abandoned animals. Our challenge is providing these animals with a safe environment. Nothing warms my heart more than when I see a volunteer or a patron interacting with one of our adoptees. This positive one-on-one goes a long way towards the emotional healing of that particular animal, not to mention is beneficial to the human on the other end.

I encourage all our volunteers to view their time here not as "work", but as an extension of doing something they enjoy doing, and taking it that extra mile, if you will. By rotating the tasks at the farm, all the volunteers are familiar with each animal's needs and are aware if one them needs some special attention. It is just as important they receive some attention and affection as well as having their daily needs looked after. This is something we all are aware of providing them even though it may take extra time.

Waterford, for example, our large Tamworth pig, resides on the far end of the property. Every day he's given a chance to roam the

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larger corral. It's important to make sure he feels he is part of the farm and bonds with the other animals. So after visiting our two horses, Moon and Pumpkin, when he does return to his pen, he is content and not isolated.

Pumpkin has been Moon's companion for almost two years now. She enjoys spending time with the other animals on the farm too. Stormy and Shiloh are her particular friends. Periodically, we open the gates so all the horses, goats

and llamas can spend time together. This has been beneficial for Moon, our blind horse, as well, because while overly nervous (understandably) with the other animals, he has begun to be much calmer when the others are around, now becoming used to their presence.

Horses were made to run in the open as a herd and not stand around in corrals. We make sure that our horses get this exercise. Moon is walked several times a day, while the other horses run together and some will jump fences. It alleviates stress and creates a challenge for them by establishing a pecking order. Even the emus join in on the run and the fun!

We have many birds on the farm besides the emus. We are careful to note which chickens get along and which are afraid of a particular group. We segregate them so they are in their own comfortable flock. The geese are guided down to Meadowbrook pond for an enjoyable swim occasionally, although they mostly

enjoy hanging out by our resident tortoises, Joe and Sam. Joe and Sam also get to enjoy the special benefits of being taken into the flower garden every now and again. While some of our rabbits may also visit the flower garden, more importantly they don't live in cages and are free to burrow in the ground. This is a natural way for them to keep their teeth and nails trimmed as well as giving them a chance for exercise.

While these are a few examples of the healthy living we here at the farm try to provide to our animals, you, as a visitor, are also contributing to an on going healing process. It's as simple as providing a pat to a cat or a hug to a goat. You have my heartfelt thanks!

*Most Sincerely,  
Debra White*

## Friends We'll Miss

We like to pay tribute to the animals that passed this year and say a final goodbye to those whom we very much miss.



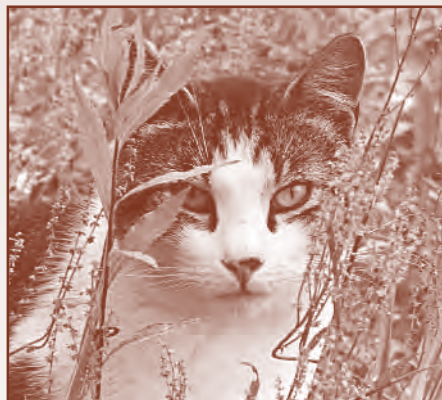
*Zeb & his sweet smiles*



*Issiah & his strong spirit*



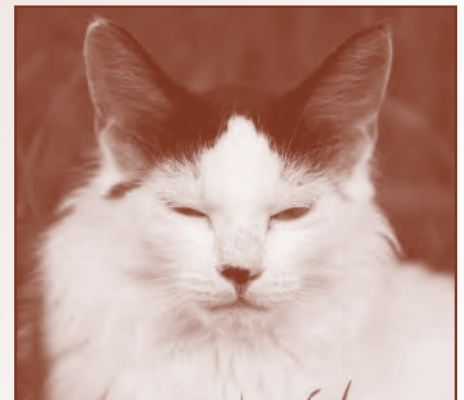
*Mandy (Mandolin Moon) & her gentle whiny*



*Thomasina & his love of butter*



*Moses & his travels around the farm*



*Louie & his playful, mischievous nature*

## 2009 & 2010 Projects



2009 saw further new improvements to the farm. We added a goat addition to the barn. The full story is located on the right. One major addition has been the playground built in the Winslow woods. We wanted to show our appreciation to all our faithful patrons who regularly bring their children to the farm. It's located in a safe area for toddlers to enjoy play and their parents to enjoy some down time in a natural setting.



We are looking to upgrade the David Sheldon White Resource Center next year. In our quest to educate about animal issues, we would like to open the Resource Center to lecturers and educational seminars. Debra White is currently conducting farm affairs in her home. The new addition to the center will also accommodate an office space for her as well as a meeting place for farm business.

The other key improvement will be the complete re-fencing of the farm to prevent any animals from going astray from the farm.

## A Place Of Their Very Own



*Mark with helpers, Angelina & Sammy*

Our wonderful goats at Winslow Farm now have a place of their very own. Their new digs, an addition to the horse barn, was built this past spring. Prior to the addition, our goats shared space with our horses. As more goats were rescued and brought to the sanctuary, the space grew smaller and a new addition was necessary. Two volunteers, **Jen Jenkins** and **Mark Kacprzicki** saw the need, stepped up and offered to build it. They worked every weekend, for a countless number

of weekends, regardless of rain or heat, to complete the addition for our goats. We cannot thank them enough for their dedication to the project and to Winslow Farm.

The new addition provides the goats with a large open area, designed especially for them. There is room to play and rest and lots of areas to climb, climbing being a natural and important activity for goats. When visiting Winslow Farm, be sure to ask for a tour of the new addition.



*Apache & Pinto*

## October And Haunted Happenings



There is something truly special about October at Winslow Farm. The smell of falling leaves and wood burning, the pine needles that lovingly adorn the ground, the bright orange pumpkins whose color pops against the Autumn background and the comforting smell of animals wafting in the crisp, cool air.

October also brings our annual Octoberfest. This year featured our Haunted Woods and Spooky Carnival. The Haunted Woods, an

adult walking trail, featured live actors in scary Halloween costumes poised to strike at the brave souls who dared to walk the dark path through the woods at night.

The Haunted Woods were created and operated by **Richard and Gia Saulnier**, a most creative couple, who devoted a tremendous amount of hours to design and set up the trails, organize all of the volunteer 'spooks' and keep the trail running throughout the month.

The Spooky Carnival was geared toward children, with a decorated path and games. There was truly something for everyone.

We extend a huge 'Thank You' to Richard and Gia and to all of the volunteers who participated in all of the Octoberfest activities.

If you haven't had the chance to visit Winslow Farm for Octoberfest, be sure to put us on your calendar for next year.

## A Renaissance Fair To Remember

This past June, Winslow Farm went back in time, to where minstrels played, storytellers filled the square, where bands of pirates, including Captain Jack Sparrow himself, flirted with the fairest of wenches and where Shakespeare gathered crowds for both discussion and merriment. This was the second annual Winslowshire Renaissance Fair.

This year's event was even larger and grander than last year. Vendors of everything Renaissance stretched down the entire nature trail and beyond. Passing through, the language of the Renaissance could be heard everywhere. Actors, singers and dancers put on shows throughout the weekend, entertaining the enormous crowds that filled the farm.



*Sariah*

Winslow Farm would like to thank **Richard and Gia Saulnier** for arranging the fair from start to finish and all of the volunteers that worked tirelessly to make it a real success. We can't wait to see what next year's Renaissance Fair will bring and we certainly hope you will join us. For a peek at what you may have missed, log onto [www.winslowshire.com](http://www.winslowshire.com).

## The Oddest Couple



*Spring & Waterford*

On any given day at Winslow Farm, just past the special needs barn and to the right, one might get a glimpse of the oddest couple of friends we've seen.

That area is where Waterford lives. Waterford is a Tamworth pig, at the time of this writing, weighing about 375 lbs. Waterford grunts and snorts and has quite a personality. He loves to talk and loves to eat. It's enjoyable to see his big body running in the corral atop those cute pink legs.

Waterford's massive girth and weight can be a bit intimidating to some, but apparently attractive and unassuming to others, especially to his new best friend Spring, a gray female cat who has been at Winslow Farm for eight years.

Spring is a very sweet cat, with a lovely personality. She was smitten with Waterford from the beginning and spends most of her time with him. Spring sleeps in the loft above Waterford in his shelter and after her meals, where she is fed with the other cats, races back to take her place with her best bud. They often enjoy the sun together, lying next to each other. The two are inseparable.

Their relationship is inspiring to us and it's fun to imagine what conversation might be like between these two.

## Wish List

We appreciate any help you can provide:

- Canned and dry cat food
- Canned dog food
- Wild bird seed
- Wood pellets for the pellet stove in our cat shelter that may be dropped off at any time in our driveway or in the foyer entrance
- Donated recyclable cans and bottles
- Donated hay and shavings from either Ferestien Feed in Foxboro or Pet State and Garden in Taunton
- Donations toward the purchase of 3.5 acres of land for preservation and to accommodate more living space for abused and abandoned animals. Currently we need to raise \$50,000.



*Forest & Golddust (son & father) frolicking in the snow*

Petey the goat, has up until now, bedded down in the goat barn. She followed Debra into the cat shelter one day and discovered it was more to her liking. Now at four o'clock every day, she makes her way to the cat shelter and waits to be let in. She climbs onto the bench in front of the pellet stove and sleeps with the cats.



*Everyone gets along at Winslow Farm*



*Paco reaching up to get those tasty high leaves*

## Transformed

Hello,

My name is Merri and I have been a volunteer at Winslow Farm Animal Sanctuary for about four years now. During that time I have had some of the most amazing experiences of my life. I believe I have been truly privileged to have been able to get to know all the amazing animals I have known while working at Winslow Farm.



While volunteering at the farm, I have seen many changes in the animals and people there. One of the most amazing changes has been in a blind horse, Half Moon, also known as Moon. He has been at the sanctuary for about three years.

Moon is completely blind and 30 years old. When he came he was just recovering from pneumonia. I was very little, only in the middle of 5th grade. He was so scared and nervous when he came; it was heartbreaking to watch him walk around in circles again and again.

We began to grow very close. I knew all the things he did or didn't like and how to calm him down.

One summer when he was very healthy and relaxed, I got on and rode him. He only had a halter and rope on, instead of the normal bit. Also, he had no saddle on, we just went bareback. Anyone could see his face and know immediately that he was ecstatic. We would run together, both feeling as if we were flying. Since then we have only become even closer.

So I wanted to share these changes in Half Moon with you. Here was a horse that was neglected, sick, alone, scared, and on top of all that blind, and he has still learned to trust. I love him, and I will never forget the feeling of flying together, or simply standing in silence."

- Merri West

## Sheep Shearing



John & Heidi with Athena

Every year we have the sheep sheared in late May or early June. It is necessary to do this for the sheep because their coats get so matted and dirty over the winter months. They also need to be rid of those hot, heavy coats for the upcoming warm months. Debra found the best sheep shearer in the business, John Buffington. He is gentle with the sheep and takes care not to nick them. He has been doing the shearing at the farm for twelve years now. He has come to know each sheep well and is sensitive to their fears. We were concerned how Athena, practically feral, would do, but she managed beautifully.

## Featured Animal

**CLAUDIUS** is the Winslow Farm swan. He was brought to us by a vet who had treated him after the large bird had been attacked by a fox. He suffered a damaged foot and lost half of his wing. Named after the roman emperor, he has lived here at the farm for four years.

We thought the name Claudius as fitting for our regal bird. His beak is twisted from lead in his original water environment. Claudius, the emperor, had a speech impediment as well as a club foot and/or weak knees. In spite of all the struggles he had, Claudius became a successful emperor and our own Claudius overcome his own physical challenges too. Although he can no longer fly, he manages extremely well otherwise.



His pool is cleaned every week by Sean, our resident bird expert. Immediately Claudius hops in, preening his feathers and paddles away. He shares his pen with two rabbits. Every morning, he journeys out of the pen and makes his daily visit to the pheasants and doves. He also enjoys the company of two call ducks.

This summer, we took him down to the pond to see if he would enjoy swimming there. He did, but eventually came back home. Debra White quoted from *Jonathan Livingston Seagull's* writer *Richard Bach*, "If you love someone, set them free. If they come back they're yours; if they don't they never were." And so it is with Claudius. After his brief foray, he is now very content with his life, his pool and his friends.

## Awards

Debra White, owner and founder of Winslow Farm received several awards this year from the following: The Norton Grange #218, Community Citizen's Award and Norton Board of Selectman, for outstanding service to the community and mankind. The Massachusetts House of Representatives for dedication and service to the people and animals of her community. Certificate of Appreciation from Oliver Ames National Honor Society for inspiring students to excel in academics, leadership, service and citizenship.

## School Internships and Tours

Students from Rhode Island High School with an interest in animal care, visited the farm this year. Also the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine from North Grafton has a premed camp called Adventures in Veterinary Medicine and they toured the farm as well.



## NECN Features Winslow Farm

In October, Vicki Croke of NECN (New England Cable News) contacted Debra White, President of Winslow Farm, interested in doing a story about the sanctuary.

The piece aired on Sunday, October 25, during a show called "The Secret Lives of Animals", which is hosted by Vicki.

The Winslow segment told the story of how the farm came to be and beautifully captured the love that Debra has for each and every animal. Vicki interviewed Debra and filmed at various areas and told some of the stories of the many animals at the farm.

We cannot thank Vicki Croke and NECN enough for creating such a beautiful piece about Winslow Farm.

For anyone interested in seeing the video, it is available for viewing at [www.necn.com](http://www.necn.com).

## Acknowledgements

We would like to give special recognition to those who have lent their time, talent and donated products to Winslow Farm.

**Liz White** and **Russell Frizzell**, of Bay State Envelope, for their generous donation of envelopes as well as the printing of the return envelope included with this newsletter.

**Judee and Larry Harrington** for their continued support and help at Winslow Farm.

**Annie D'Agostino** for her planting and tending of the flower, herb and vegetable gardens around the farm.

**Jen Jenkins** and **Mark Kacprzicki** for their construction of our goat barn addition.

**Richard and Gia Saulnier** for another successful Renaissance Faire and the running of this year's Halloweenfest.

**All the Volunteers** for their tireless help throughout the year. This group of volunteers includes all ages and backgrounds. They take on tasks that include raking out stalls, feeding, or helping out at the gate and so much more. With their support, they have helped make Winslow Farm a happy home for our wonderful animals.

## Year End Giving

As the cost of veterinarian care, quality feed and general maintenance continues to rise, it is only through the generosity of individuals like yourself that Winslow Farm can continue.

Gift giving can be made in many ways: a direct donation, proceeds donated monthly through an insurance policy, stock/bond option, or pension/IRA distribution.

In preparing your will, estate plan or living trust, please consider including Winslow Farm as part of your charitable interests. It is important that you contact an

attorney in preparing your will, trust or estate plan to ensure your wishes are carried out. Winslow Farm's Board of Directors suggests you use the following language in order to avoid any confusion: "I give (specific amount of property, percentage or residue) to Winslow Farm Animal Awareness, Inc. having its principal offices at 37 Eddy St, Norton, Massachusetts, 02766 for its general purposes to harbor and provide a stay for life sanctuary for abandoned and abused animals." Tax ID #043278765.

Please contact Winslow Farm if you need more information on any of the gift giving options. We thank you for your help!

## One More New Friend

Yukon is a beautiful friendly white bunny with brown markings. He was found in the local landfill with the bottom of his feet having urine burns. He was found by a kind man when Yukon ran up to him. He now has found a home at Winslow Farm. Here he joins Ike, Harry and Jack our other rabbits.

