

## 2011 accomplishments

Every year, we make improvements towards making Winslow Farm a special place. This past year was no different.

We completed construction on the Internship/volunteer residence to allow visiting students a place to stay during their internship.

The White Swan Gift Shoppe is now open! A post and beam constructed addition was added to the Winslow house. We offer organic local honey made by Smokey Chestnut Farm, pottery by Canyon Pottery, cards of the Winslow Farm animals by Sheepish Grin Photography, along with T-shirts, feather pens, bows for wreaths, organic candles and soaps. We also have Winslow Farm gift certificates and animal sponsorship opportunities available. Upstairs, we added a new office for Debra A White, president and founder of Winslow Farm.

Our cat shelter was insulated to better hold the heat of our pellet stoves in the fall and winter months.

We added an outdoor movie theater built by Ryan Sheldon White, in memory of Helen A. White. We have had movie showings on weekend nights, which started this past summer.

Weatherproof waterlines have been laid to the alpaca barn and Waterford's beautiful pig barn.

Also, Aaron Zurbis, who has volunteered here since age 12 and is now 17, completed his Eagle scout project. He designed a beautiful butterfly garden, with multiple species of shade plants and rebuilt our arbor for our growing wisteria vine. It is a beautiful place to sit and relax to the sound of the water fountain and smell the aromas of herbs wafting through the air.

We also redesigned our website: [www.winslowfarm.com](http://www.winslowfarm.com).

## Goals for 2012

Looking forward to 2012, we hope to raise \$160,000 to purchase 62 acres of land, including Meadowbrook Pond. It is important to prevent development and keep the land as a safe haven to release wild ducks, geese, swans, as well as squirrels, rabbits that have been rehabilitated from injury, not to mention to maintain a home for all the critters who already live there. It is our goal to also use the land for walking trails, as well as educating our patrons about the flora and fauna and the importance of keeping our eco systems in tact.

An exciting development is the fact we are currently undergoing the stringent polices and procedural application process to become licensed as a Global Federation Accredited Animal Sanctuary. This will allow us to be known as giving exemplary care to our animals for anyone who would give us grants, donations or become benefactors.

We are looking to purchase a John Deere 4 wheel drive Gator to transport

our grain and hay, fencing, wood, across the farm to other locations and also purchase a snow blower or plow for it for a cost of \$8,000.

You can help Winslow Farm in small ways too. We are in need of:

Canned and dry Purina cat food, cat beds, canned dog food, fruit cocktail, wild bird seed, wood pellets for the pellet stove in our cat shelter, donated recyclable cans and bottles, grassy hay, 3.5 cubic feet horse shavings from either Ferestien Feed in Foxboro or Pet State and Garden in Taunton, gift certificates to Ferestien Farm & Feed, Foxboro, Bay State Pet and Garden, Taunton, Munroe Feed, Rehoboth, Target, LL Bean, Home Depot, Lowes, CVS, Padula Bros., Raynham, Tractor Supply Company in Taunton, any supermarket.



## 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, either by a direct donation, proceeds donated monthly through an insurance policy, stock, bonds (Winslow Farm has a brokerage account available for the purpose of donating investment securities), 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!

# Winslow Farm Animal Awareness, Inc.



## OUTPOST 2011

Our Mission is 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



Simon & Timatao

TIMATAO & SIMON are the newest additions to the farm. Timatao is a cute three month old black goat. Originally rescued from slaughter, his new caretaker could not take care of him, so he found a new home at Winslow Farm. The same day Simon arrived, as well. He was found tethered to a short leash on someone's property. Feeling badly for the four month old goat, some farm volunteers offered to pay the owner for the goat, along with a couple of hens. Thankfully, they were taken up on the offer and Simon was saved from slaughter. Timatao and Simon now have a huge area to play in.



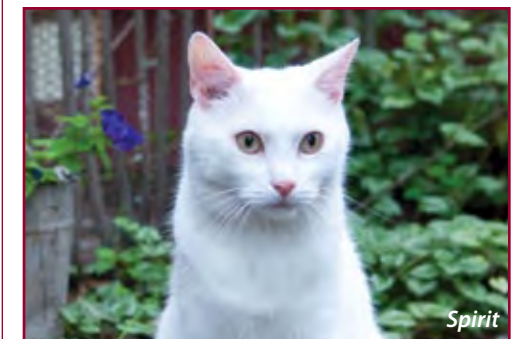
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DUMBLEDORE was found on the side of the road, along with a paralyzed mother bunny and three babies after being thrown out of the car. Unfortunately, the mother and two babies did not survive the trauma of being thrown out of a car. However, Dumbledore and his son, Merlin did survive. They now have a safe home.



Dumbledore



Spirit

SPIRIT was adopted from a cat shelter. No one wanted to adopt her because she seemed unfriendly. She was in a cage for over a year and when someone would reach in and change her water and food, she would hiss, being cage stressed. She now has the freedom and space to roam where she likes.

(New friends continued)



Ashes & Smokey

ASHES & SMOKEY are both young Canada geese, who apparently were abandoned by their geese family. Ashes has a damaged wing and can never fly. It's unclear why Smokey was left behind. Ashes loves hanging out and following the volunteers while they are doing their chores.



Sinclair

SINCLAIR & ROUSSEAU are two blonde roosters. Someone threw the pair over the farm fence one night. They are a handsome sight on the farm grounds. Sinclair enjoys being around the special needs barn and sleeps with Athena, the sheep. Rousseau is usually sitting at the Winslow House or can be found in the front of the farm.



2.

## President's Letter



As the years pass by, one by one, I have learned by observation and experience what to look for with the arrival of each season.

Springtime is joyous, as the sun starts to melt away the snow and the ice. It is a pleasure to witness the animals regain their footing, as they embark on their daily treks around the farm.

Winter is our biggest challenge. This past winter had been one of the toughest on the animals. We had so much snow that some of our barns, which never had flooded, did indeed flood. Trenches needed to be dug, by all those on hand, to divert the snow and water. When it rained, there was no place for the water to go, but into the barns. We, however, made sure none of the animals went to bed wet.

When rain on top of snow froze, the corrals and walkways became sheets of ice. This was especially hard for the webbed footed creatures because they would slip and slide. The cloven footed animals could traverse a little better. It was more dangerous for the horses, as they could easily slip, fall and break a leg very easily. To prevent this, while someone fed the animals, another person used the front loaded tractor to sprinkle the corral areas with compost. The animals were then liberated from their stalls, free to stomp and gallop to their hearts content.

During winter, I keep a close eye on the birds. They need to be kept from those blowing, cold winds to prevent frostbite. Our cats are a bit more self sufficient. Some prefer to be in the lofts on hay bales of our barns, where they take advantage of the body heat rising from the livestock. Most of our other cats will congregate in the cat shelter, where two pellet stoves run from October through the middle of May, keeping them warm. Our older goats are also brought into the cat shelter at night, warming themselves by the stoves. The sheep have their warm, woolly coats and huddle close together. The pigs curl up inside blankets. The dogs lay by my wood burning stove, as I retire for the night, but are eager to join me in the early morning hours, following me on my daily chores.

The daily routine of feeding the animals at the farm can be daunting under the best of conditions, to put it mildly. There are 238 animals to feed, observe, water and clean up after, three times a day. I am grateful for the dedicated staff, who are always on time in rain, snow, ice or sleet! This winter, my volunteers and myself all had the flu, so I especially want to thank everyone for toughing it out for the animals.

Each year, the farm makes improvements to prepare for the winter ahead. We recently upgraded our tractor, with a larger loader and a back hoe for trenches.

Thank you to all our patrons and followers for coming to the farm for tours, booking birthday parties, sending donations through the mail and through foundations. All of this helps so much towards the excellent care and upkeep of the animals!

Most Sincerely,  
Debra White

## Howie, our Gentle Giant and Cotton, his Saviour



Howie

I received a phone call early in the spring from Steven Rubin, with whom I went to high school. Steve told me he had two goats and one recently passed away. He was so concerned because Howie, the one remaining goat, was severely depressed and actually slept on his companion's grave the first day. By the second and third day, he ate very little and was listless. I told Steve he should be with other goats, as they are herd animals and need companionship.

However, getting another goat for Howie was not an option at the time. Without hesitation, I told him I would be happy to adopt Howie because I knew they could die of a broken heart or give up. Steve made arrangements to rent a truck to deliver Howie to Winslow Farm. Within a few days, he arrived.

Whenever I saw Howie I could not believe the size of this guy! I remember Steve, on the phone, jokingly saying

Howie was the biggest goat on earth. This boy weighs in at 180 lbs. When he got off the nicely bedded truck, his head came to the bottom of my chin. I am only just under 5' tall and that is gigantic for a goat. Later it was commented on, by both my vet and the USDA inspector, they had never seen such a large goat as Howie.

Soon after he got off the truck, I led him around to judge his temperament so I could judge where he would best fit in at the farm. It was clear he received much love from Steve and his family. He was very gentle and responsive to being talked to and having his back rubbed.

I let Howie have a large stall to himself the first night and then watched to see which goats associated with him by day. As I watched Howie walk, his stride seemed peculiar to me. I wasn't sure if it was because he was so big or that he was having trouble walking in general. Sure enough, he had swollen knees.

Each night of his first week, I rubbed horse liniment on knees and this seemed to help a bit. Upon the second week, he was not improving much, so he was given anti inflammatory medication. There still was not a lot of improvement, so it was time to get expert advice by one of our veterinarians. He was started on Adequan injections, this being a intramuscular agent for degenerative joint disease. The medication did help him somewhat.

It also appeared he really needed to have his hooves trimmed. I had a heck of a time with this because he was so big and he could not support his weight while standing on three legs. I waited for him to lie down at night and would chip away at the hooves.

With all these treatments, it seemed he should have been walking better at this point. I asked the doctor if we could give him a sedative and X-ray his feet and knees. At the same time, we could trim his hooves better while he was sedated. I was determined to

get those hooves trimmed properly. It turns out from the x-rays that poor Howie has ruptured ligaments. There is not much we can do for this, other than giving him pain and joint medication. However, as I write this story, Howie is much improved with his walking.

Having had a lot of experience with goats, I know they can get into serious sparring with each other. While there were a few altercations when Howie arrived, soon everyone was friends.

As it turned out our young goat, Cotton, who was featured in our 2010 newsletter, has not left Howie's side. They sleep in the same stall together and eat together. It is somehow fitting the two goats have found comfort in each other. Cotton had such a traumatic start as a little one, coming to us after losing his mom at a slaughter house, as well coming close to being slaughtered himself, at two weeks old. Howie was still in mourning over the loss of his companion.

Recently, they travelled to Norton High School, where they were invited to entertain the children. It was a quite a sight that neither goat needed to be tethered. They walked with us and Cotton even ran with us down the length of the softball field!

~ Debra White



Howie & Cotton

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## Noelle, Pesca, Karolina

In November 2010, I was told there were 15 alpacas in New Hampshire who were going to be euthanized as of December 1. This seemed peculiar given their status in the world of fiber. Knowing their wool can bring top dollar without even being spun into yarn, I thought these creatures must be in some real trouble. I placed the word out to my network of animal people, outlining their plight, to see if anyone could take these gentle souls. It turned out three people were interested, as well as myself, to at least make the trip to New Hampshire and meet them.

For me, going anywhere over night has never happened in 17 years. I left many lists and phone numbers with instructions for my young, but competent volunteers, who assured me everything would be okay. I was proud to have my volunteer staff cover every detail with eagerness.

Upon arrival to the farm, we were greeted by five dogs, all wagging their tails and excited to see us. We were also greeted by the owner of the alpacas. We were brought to a herd of females. Their coloration ranged from white, black, chocolate brown to sable. This was the first time I saw an alpaca so close.

They are aloof, but curious animals who hold their own by staring you down, not moving an inch. I gently



said hello as I stood in the middle of their pack. One by one, they would make a humming noise to each other. I was taken by their sheer beauty and grace as they walked away.

The farm seemed deserted, as I walked around noticing chickens needed their waters filled. The animal corrals were in great need of raking and cleaning. I almost wanted to grab a pitchfork and a rake to start cleaning.

I was told by the woman, who owned the alpacas, she has been leasing this property, but the owners of the property wanted to retire to Florida and sell the farm. I was felt bad for her.

I was troubled the alpacas were shorn very short and some were shivering, with only a three sided building to protect them from the cold mountain wind. They all appeared extremely thin as well. We decided to take these beautiful creatures and give them better living conditions.

When I returned, I told my staff the details of the trip. I said we had only three weeks to build a barn and secure a safe corral for them. "So what else is new?" was their calm response.

I ordered a beautiful sugar shack shed, as there was no time to build one for them. We dug all the post holes to put a split rail fence up around their building. Everything was ready in time,

but the alpacas did not arrive on their scheduled date. The mountain road was too treacherous for a horse trailer to travel because of the recent snow fall. It took three more weeks before it was safe enough for them to travel safely.

Finally the day came when the large horse trailer pulled up to the farm. Noelle, Pesca and Karolina came hopping off. They were curious about their new surroundings. It was clear they had not been touched by people and were feral. Their first animal visitors were our three male llamas. Paco, Halo and Gabriel walked up to their corral and went to sniff noses. However, they were very quickly dispelled by Noelle, Pesca and Karolina in unison by spitting at them! Those three boys never returned and never looked at those three gals again.

It's been almost a year since the girls arrived. They feel very comfortable in their new home now. They love to wander through the nature trail, chewing on leaves and grasses. It is quite a treat for our visitors to encounter the three gentle alpacas, while enjoying a stroll through the woods. ~ Debra White



## Katelyn and Alex

Hi. My name is Katelyn Douglas. I'm 13 years old and in the 8th grade. Hi. I'm Alexandra Canonica. I'm 15 and I'm in the 9th grade. We are best friends. We've been volunteering at Winslow Farm for almost 5 years now; we love it!

Our favorite thing to do together is to ride the horses. Katelyn's favorite horse to ride is Stormy and Alex's favorite horse is Lunar. We really like to ride them out on the new trails.

While we have been at the farm, we have learned to do various things, like giving the sick animals shots, driving a tractor, and how to care for all the different animals. As we have been working with these animals for so long, we have learned so many things about them, like how our mule, Cloud Dancing loves when you rub her ears, how Bella, the cat, loves to play with her toys, how Waterford, the pig, enjoys a nice belly rub, or how Enya the sheep loves her back scratched. We could go on and on about what each animal enjoys.

When we get home from school, we go straight to the farm. Once we get there, we start to clean stalls, get the animals' food ready, then start to feed and get them in for the night. On the weekends, we do tours and sometimes offer pony rides. Then we will take the three Great Danes out for a nice run on the nature trail and go swimming in the pond with them.

We really like what we do! In the winter, we make sure all the animals are kept nice and warm, whether it means putting them in a heated space or putting their blankets on. In the summer, we make sure the animals have either a pool or a fan to cool off in.

This summer, we got together with the town of Norton and were able to rescue 9 goats and 35 chickens from neglect and abuse. We believe that to make our community better, we have to rescue every animal that deserves much more. Recently, we just went on a mission and saved a 4 month old baby goat, named Simon, who was chained up to a tent on the side of the road all alone, crying, along with 50 chickens. Simon was going to be sent off to a slaughter auction the next day. Today, Simon lives happily with another little goat, Timatao, in a large open space. Now he runs around happily! We hope one day you will come and visit us to meet all of these amazing animals!

~Katelyn Douglas and Alexandra Canonica

## Connor Johnson

It is with much pride, I have been given the opportunity to watch our junior volunteers develop their personalities and characters, as well as gain confidence, as they go through experiences here at the farm. Connor Johnson started volunteering at age 10. He is now 14 and is a 6'1" tall, competent young man. He is quiet in nature, always level headed and has a strong commitment to this farm. Connor comes two nights after school and Sundays. This year, I had him shadow our various carpenters. I even showed him a thing or two about putting fences up making sure things were level and accurate.

What a journey he has had in his four years of volunteering. He had taken on cleaning of the barns, grooming and feeding the animals, helping to trim hooves and horns, touring our patrons through the farm, being filmed on local stations, learning the cost and responsibilities of taking care of 200 animals, working as a team member, as well as developing personal relationships with youngsters to seniors.

As our carpenters and maintenance men dwindled down, it was Connor who came to the forefront. I let the reins go little by little and asked him to do various jobs that required more of a challenge. When we bought our new John Deere tractor/loader, Connor expressed an interest in running it. I thought back when I was a teenager driving various vehicles around the yard and agreed to Connor's request. Connor is now heaping compost piles, digging trenches for water to flow and is anticipating moving a lot of snow when the dreaded winter snows arrive.

I am looking forward to many years ahead with Connor by my side. Thank you Connor! ~ Debra White



## Home Sweet Home

I knew that my long awaited retirement would be a joy. However, I didn't know it would be this satisfying and rewarding! Volunteering at Winslow Farm has been one of my best choices in life. I interact with many different types of animals, make new friends, who love being here as much as I do, and stay active and healthy.

My days begin with healthy physical exercise. First, I clean the yard and sometimes the stalls in the barn. This is a very important task in keeping the grounds clean and sanitary. Afterwards, I have time for individual grooming. This is my hands-on activity where I build personal relationships with the animals. Sometimes, this is not easy. For instance, It took 6 months to gain the llamas' trust to let me touch them. But now, they love grooming, often coming to me when I have the brush in hand. Another example is the pony Shephard Moon, who suffered a



traumatic life at the hands of previous owners. She and I have been slowly building a bond over the past 12 months. Last year, she would thrash her head and stay away from me. Today, she nuzzles my hand when I call her, looking for a treat. On good days, she allows me to brush her. My heart jumps for joy!

Later, I prepare the afternoon food for sheep and goats. This consists of chopping vegetables and fresh fruit to fill a large green bucket. The final product looks like one big salad. It looks good enough to eat!

Of course, there are endless projects from which to choose to fill my day. I can work in the flower or vegetable garden, tend the chicken and ducks, or work with the donkeys, sheep, or alpacas. My favorite other activity is giving tours to individuals, small groups or youth classes. Everyone who visits is enthusiastic and curious. They want to know the life story of each animal.

When friends ask what I do now that I am retired, I have unique and interesting stories to tell. Whether it's the mule, Cloud Dancing, unlatching a gate, letting many horses out, Napoleon, the pig, falling on the ground to be scratched, or our mama duck appearing with a new brood of ducklings, life is never dull. I look forward to each visit, thinking mostly of the animals who have touched my heart, and of the satisfaction of being part of something truly important.

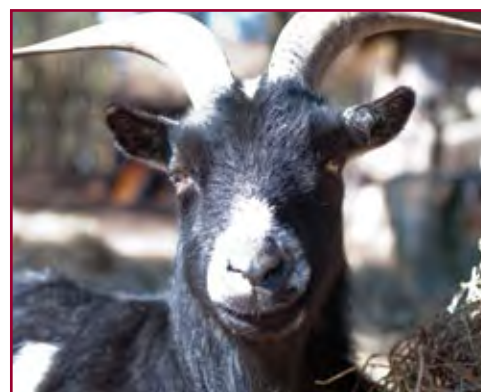
~Janet Plumb



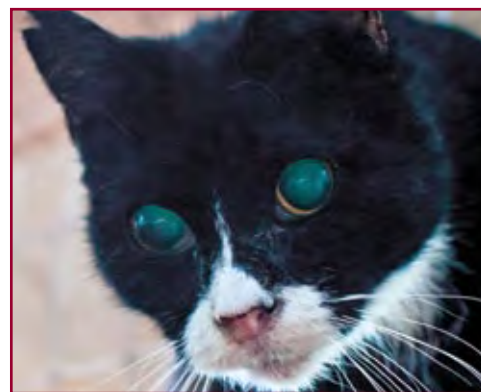
## Friends We'll Miss



Pinto and her love of companionship.



Hansel, 18 yrs old, and his love of treats and the warmth of the cat shelter.



Natasha and her perseverance dealing with her blindness.



Theodore, 15 yrs old, and his protective nature for the other birds.

## Tribute to Half Moon

Passed December 27, 2010



Dear Moonie:

It is hard to believe it has been almost a year since you have passed. I remember when we first found you standing in the cold January rain. Your temperature was 106 and you were suffering from pneumonia. We took you to the hospital for medical treatment. You were so brave. Although you could not see, you walked that new terrain with full trust that you would be cared for. Despite the fact that you were critically ill, you refused to give up hope. We could not give up hope either. You pulled through like a trooper and thereafter started your new life at Winslow Farm.

You made such an impression on so many people. Visitors to Winslow always ask for you. The volunteers still speak of you often. We still refer to your barn by your name. I think

of the many ways you impacted me personally. I think the greatest lesson you taught me was to look at the whole picture and to not get caught up in the unimportant details. Even when there was a raging snowstorm outside, you were calm and comfortable, as long as you had a fresh pile of hay. You always impressed upon me that what was important is that everyone was healthy and safe; that was what really mattered.

You showed everyone that having a disability was only a minor inconvenience to you. When your loving caretaker, Merri, would ride you, you radiated with pure happiness. You exuded trust and appreciation for the experience. I still feel your presence with me always. Moonie, you were one in a million, and my life is so much more meaningful because you were a part of it. I miss you and will love you always! ~Heidi Medas



## Isabella



Isabella when she arrived.



Isabella now.

Isabella, our white turkey, was saved from slaughter by a Massachusetts School of Art student. The student rescued Isabella to demonstrate for their school projects just what conditions these poor birds suffer.

She was a sad sight when she arrived. She had a mutilated beak to prevent her pecking other turkeys. Her toes were also cut off so she could not defend herself in tight quarters with hundreds of other turkeys.

It is very sad to watch her try and eat her grain, because it is hard for her without much of a beak. When you bear witness to watch this precious bird struggle, how could anyone in good conscience support the meat industry?

We need to keep Isabella separated from the other birds because she is unable to defend herself. However, during the warmer weather, we let her have the run of the perennial garden.

## Animal Clinic

The Winslow Farm Animal Clinic was officially opened this year. This was made possible by the generous donations made by the family and friends of the late Dr. Stanley Simon, a prominent surgeon from Providence, R.I.

Upon Dr. Simon's passing in 2010, to honor his advocacy for animals rights, his wife, Sandy, requested contributions be made to Winslow Farm Animal Sanctuary. Sandy and Dr. Simon visited the farm and she told me later that it was a wonderful experience for him. He loved animals and was compassionate about the work being done for the care of the Winslow Farm animals. Sandy specified that the money donated would be used towards a dedicated onsite animal clinic.

The clinic is used by veterinarians and farm staff, enabling them to treat the animals at the farm.

## Welcome Stand

For many years, Winslow's welcome stand was visitors' first stop upon arrival. It was the very first building on the sanctuary, which was originally a cranberry saltbox building. Debra White had it moved to the farm on a flatbed trailer from a farm stand.

Sadly, it was destroyed when a tree fell on it during hurricane Irene. Winslow Farm is seeking donations in order to rebuild a new stand.

