

Spring 2001

A Newsletter from
Poplar Spring
Animal Sanctuary

Holly, at right, is a Jersey cow that came to Poplar Spring in 1997.

POPLAR SPRING Post



Animals Rescued after Years in Chains

Can you take a goat?" The call came from our local humane society. "She was removed from a neglect situation, and she's with the vet right now." Although our barn space was extremely limited, we always try to save room for abuse cases. I told the officer to bring her by, and went out to set up a stall.

When the van arrived, I walked up carrying a rope, planning to lead the new goat to the barn. But it was soon evident that she could not walk, or even stand on her own. The humane officers pulled her out on a stretcher, and explained that her "owner" had been keeping dozens of animals chained outside for years without shelter. The goat had been down for several days in below freezing temperatures, and had been unable to get to food or water. A woman on horseback had spotted her, and reported the situation to the police.

Emaciated and exhausted, she could barely lift her head. We carried her to a nice warm barn, filled with fresh straw, and propped her up between two bales of hay. She sniffed us nervously and we stroked her neck, telling her she was safe now.

The vet report noted that the goat was severely dehydrated and had evidence of urine scalding on her legs, from being forced to lay in her own waste. Given that her hind legs appeared to be non-functional, the vet felt her prognosis was poor, and gave her only a 50 percent chance for survival. We were left with instructions to try to walk her with the use of a sling every 3 hours. The officers reported they were planning to

confiscate the remaining animals in a few days, which included another goat, a young cow, and 20 horses. We agreed to assist with the rescue, and to take the remaining goat and cow. The new goat, who was now weakly munching on fresh hay, was named Kerry, after the police officer responsible for saving her.

morning, when she finally uttered a very weak "maaah" as a greeting, we knew she was on the road to recovery.

The same day that Kerry began to recover I was able to see for myself what conditions she had been forced to live in. Apparently the owner had lived illegally for years on park property, collecting and



Weak from starvation, Kerry needed the help of a sling to stand and walk.

Over the next few days we spent many hours nursing Kerry back to health. At first she refused to drink, so we injected fluids under her skin, and put water into her mouth with a syringe. We pulled her up with the help of a sling several times a day and helped her to slowly shuffle around. The strength began to come back into her legs, and on the third

selling animals. Out of sight and far from any road was what looked like a large junkyard full of trash, ancient tractors and campers, and two teepees made of tarps. Spread out and in the middle of all this trash were a goat (now named Camille), a cow (Violet), and dozens of horses and ponies, all tethered by heavy *continued on page 3*

Animal Profiles—Beulah, Caroline, and Stewart

Beuolah and her friend Caroline came to Poplar Spring in the Winter of 1998. These one year old dairy cows were rescued from a farm in North Carolina where they had almost died of starvation. Animal control officers, investigating a complaint of cows wandering in the road, found not only broken fencing but dead and totally emaciated dying cows. A few of the cows were so far gone they had to be euthanized on the spot. The remaining herd of 27 were confiscated and sent to temporary homes. Beulah and Caroline, who were only a few months old, were two of the lucky survivors.

Stewart David, a volunteer at the NC shelter called to ask for our help. We explained that we were full, but when we heard that the Humane Society was unbelievably considering selling the animals for slaughter, we decided we had to make room for two more. Stewart and his wife Terri worked hard and found homes at Sanctuaries for all the other cows, and the owners of the dairy farm were charged with seven counts each of animal cruelty, fined, and can never own cattle again.

It was with great surprise that we noticed one day, almost 6 months after her arrival, that Beulah's udder had grown very large and full. We called the vet, and she confirmed our fears; Beulah was indeed pregnant. This was not good news—Beulah was only a year old, and the vet feared her pelvis was too small to accommodate a large calf. She suggested a caesarean, which could be very risky for both mother and baby. We decided to take Beulah to the University of Pennsylvania's large animal hospital where she would have the best chance of survival. The doctors there opted to wait and let her go into labor; a week later, Beulah gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, without surgery or complications. We named him Stewart after his rescuer, and brought him home to Poplar Spring. ■

Since this was Beulah's first calf, she was not exactly a model mother. When Stewart was a few weeks old, and we began turning the two of them out with the other cows, Beulah would wander far away from the barn, and baby Stewart



Stewart (right) and his mother, Beulah

would follow her, become tired, and lay down to take a nap. She would then leave without him, returning alone to the barn with the other cows at the end of the day and looking at us as if to say, "What baby? I don't know anything about a baby." A few nights spent frantically searching in the tall grass with flashlights convinced us that they needed to be contained in a smaller area until Stewart could keep up with the group.

We placed them in the enclosed sheep and goat pasture for a few months, which worked well, and Stewart grew healthy and strong. He is now almost two years old, and is taller than his mother with large horns, though he still nurses from her occasionally! Stewart and Beulah are wonderful animals, and enjoy getting scratches and treats. Although Beulah was wild and terrified when she first came to the Sanctuary, she now knows that people will no longer hurt her, and has responded by becoming very tame and friendly. And Stewart, who has never known anything but kindness, will be able to live his entire life grazing and relaxing with Beulah, Caroline, and their many other rescued cow friends. ■



OUR MISSION IS TO:

- offer care, rehabilitation, and permanent sanctuary for rescued farm animals
- provide protected habitat for wildlife
- furnish information to the public regarding farm animal and wildlife issues
- promote compassion and humane treatment for all animals



A Newsletter from
Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary
P.O. Box 507
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Animals Rescued

continued from cover

chains that prevented their movement outside of a small circle. There were no barns or shelter of any kind, and the animals had been forced to endure snow, wind, rain, and the blazing heat of summer, without any protection from the elements. Some of the animals had empty bowls near them, and they were all very thirsty and drank immediately when offered water. As the horses and



Camille (top) and Violet were tethered by chains with no water or shelter.

ponies were removed first by Days End Horse Rescue, I stood near the still chained goat, Camille. Despite the commotion around her, she exhibited no interest or excitement, and continued to lay there dejectedly with her head on the ground, apparently unable to hope that her life was about to change. Once her chain was cut, however, Camille sprang up and walked eagerly onto the trailer with Violet the cow.

Back at the Sanctuary over the next few weeks, Kerry the goat continued to grow stronger. She began to be able to stand on her own and soon was gingerly walking and stretching her legs. Meanwhile, Camille and Violet were

WILDLIFE NEWS AND NOTES

What's Wrong with Hunting?

Although many people believe that lethal methods are the only way to reduce the number of deer, hunting is actually a very poor way to prevent overpopulation. When large numbers of deer are removed from a herd, competition for food, water, and space is reduced. With plenty of food to go around, more does will get pregnant, and often produce twins and triplets. Many hunters also selectively target bucks, to produce a "trophy", which leaves more female deer to reproduce. Humane alternatives such as deer contraceptives have been used successfully in many areas. Hunting is not only cruel, but actually *increases* deer populations. ■



Patricia Cappos

Many deer wounded by hunters die a slow and painful death, such as this deer found by Second Chance Wildlife Center with a broken arrow in her jaw.

A Hunter's Poem

A hunter shot at a flock of geese
that flew within his reach.
Two were stopped in their rapid flight
and fell on the sandy beach.
The male bird lay at the water's edge
and just before he died
He faintly called to his wounded mate
and she dragged herself to his side.
She bent her head and crooned to him
in a way distressed and wild
Caressing her one and only mate
as a mother would a child.
Then covering him with her broken wing
and gasping with failing breath

She laid her head against his breast
a feeble honk...then death.
This story is true though crudely told
I was the man in this case.
I stood knee-deep in snow and cold
and the hot tears burned my face.
I buried the birds in the sand where they lay
wrapped in my hunting coat.
And I threw my gun and belt in the bay
when I crossed in the open boat.
Hunters will call me a right poor sport
and scoff at the thing I did.
But that day something broke in my heart
And shoot again? God forbid!

—Lemuel T. Ward

kept in a separate area, where they could be treated for the many parasites they were found to have. On the day when all three were released from their quarantines, it was truly a sight to see. These animals, who had not been able to move more than a few feet in any direction, were all running, jumping and playing with abandon. Violet the cow ran like a racehorse to the far end of the pasture to meet the other Sanctuary cows, who greeted her with gentle sniffing, then leapt around excitedly with

her. Kerry and Camille had an emotional (for us) reunion. Apparently in their former life they were close friends, as on seeing each other they jumped up in the air, put their heads together, and then nuzzled each other with affection. They have been inseparable ever since.

It is moments like this that make all the hard work of running a Sanctuary truly worthwhile. The owner has since been charged with 23 counts of animal cruelty and will hopefully never put animals in such a terrible situation again. ■

In Honor and In Memory Of

Thank You to all those who remembered a special person or animal with a donation to Poplar Spring. This is a wonderful way to honor someone special, and help

animals at the same time! Special thanks to Dr. Monique Maniet of Veterinary Holistic Care for her many donations in memory of her client's companions. ■

"The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man."

Charles Darwin

In Honor Of

Ann Chynoweth and Richard Patch
Becky Crane
Peggy Dennis and Eric Sackett
Kathy Hilburn
Shari Kalina and Phil Murray
Meghan McCleary
Terry, Kim, and Colin O'Hanlon
Susan Wong

Elissa Free and Bill Nooter
Mrs. Manju Dalal
Lorin Evans
Parker Evans
Dave Kuemmerle and Hilary Jones
McDermott Family
Rich Peppin
Ellie Yun

John Chynoweth
Linda Nishioka
Linda Evans and Rob Parker
Hilburn Family
J. Myers
Marianne Merritt
Linda Segal
Smith Family

In Memory Of

Edward Yanne	Paul C. Merritt	Shirley Hunter	Arthur Delo	Hershey	Sweetie Pie
Muffie	Alice	Dutchess	Speckle	Alexis	Molly
Sampson	Fuego	Tabitha	Delilah	Ralph and Tyler	Sir Aries
Smokey	Kai	Columbus	Jasmine	Waldo	Champion
Kitty	Daisy	Black Kitty	Camille	Gray	Pollux
Tigger	Canin	Cassie	Buddy	Willie	Happy
Porkie and Bess	Bob	ZuZu	Susie	Queen Sarver (Dingle)	
Marsal	Sherlock	Penny	Spunky	Lady	Chelsea
Gigio	Gizmo	K.C.	Tiger	Zinnia	Rags
Sasha	Cameo	Magic	Tiffany	Sinta	Upsee
Jacques	Lou	Brandy	Boomer	Mamason	Tigra
Reilly	Li	Shuji	Szarvas	Marie, Dolores, and Celine	
Casey	Lizzie	Mr. Pink	Alex Pogo	Mona	Mel
Fonz	Scooter	Bradley	Oliver	Maggie	Chester
Maverick	Bailey	Elle	Suzi	Moxie	Kea
Ming Foo	Tuppence	Peaches	Luca	Mandy	Calie
Chessie	Ginger	Garfield	Rocky	Spice	Spike
Chloe	Yasmine	Mimi	Kaiser	Shadow	Kelly
Toshya	Nanoochka	Bronwyn	Misha	Ruffles	Cushy
Snickers	Bud	Samantha	Tito	Princess	Cissy
Pumpkin	Tesha Marie	Allegro	Jazz	Kuma	Alouette
Gatsby	Buddha	Mochi	Empress	Muffin	Niiko
Cleveland	Haley	Delta	Gizmo	Eunice	Pandora
Buster	Little Red	Christopher	Shannon	Bandit	Kuching
Schnapper	Trappie	Buster	Jesse	Kenya	Isabelle
Max	Wacky	Mindy	Rikki	Sam	Ben
Gus	Emily	Maine	Belle	Bo	Rajah
Georgia	Holly	Becka and Joey	Lisa Marie	Satchmo	Angus
Gimlet					

Barn Again!

A beautiful 70 year old carriage barn has been saved from demolition, and has now become a large, shady shelter for rescued animals. Formerly part of the historic James and Macie King farm in Germantown, Maryland, the barn was slated to be torn down to make way for a soccer complex. With the help of Dolores Milmoe of FARM (For a Rural Montgomery), and local preservationists, the County allowed Poplar Spring to have the building dismantled and moved to the Sanctuary. While the barn itself was donated, estimates for rebuilding the large 30 by 50-foot structure were prohibitive. Two Maids, Inc. and the Ahimsa Foundation very generously awarded grants for a new animal shelter, but much more funding was needed. For many months the barn was just a very large pile of wood, which we feared we would be forced to sell as scrap pieces.

A miracle occurred when Dave and Jan Bundy, who read about Poplar Spring in their local newspaper, called and offered to fund the remaining 80 percent of the barn reconstruction. Thanks to their incredible generosity, the Sanctuary will now be able to help many more animals who desperately need a home. ■



An old carriage barn becomes a new shelter for animals.

Help the Environment and the Sanctuary

Poplar Spring has "adopted" Mt. Nebo Road for a two mile section directly outside the Sanctuary gates in Poolesville. In exchange for County road signs that prominently display our name, we must pick up trash along the road, a minimum of four times a year. If anyone is interested in coming out personally or in bringing a group to help with this clean up effort, please give us a call. More than 75 percent of the trash we find are bottles and aluminum cans, so it's a great way to recycle while beautifying a country road and publicizing the Sanctuary. Even one hour of help once a month would be greatly appreciated! ■



KID'S CORNER



◀ By Ginny Dawson
Age 4



► By Dakota Springston
Age 8



Visit our newly
redesigned Web site:
www.animalsanctuary.org

Someplace Special

There is always something special happening at Poplar Spring. The Sanctuary hosted many tours throughout the year, and educated thousands of visitors about the plight of farm animals and wildlife. More than 100 rehabilitated animals, including ducks, geese, squirrels, groundhogs, and opossums were released on the Sanctuary's protected grounds, and several new chickens, guinea hens, goats, and cows were rescued. (See page 1 for a recent rescue story) Here are a few highlights from the past year:



Joey the steer helps teach kindness to animals.

For the third year, working with the Washington Humane Society's humane education program, the Sanctuary offered tours and educated dozens of children from Birney Elementary School in Anacostia, and other D.C. public schools. The students were given classroom lectures on being kind to animals, then visited Poplar Spring as the culmination of their course. For many of them, it was their first time up close with a cow!

In October, PSAS held our third annual Open House and Fundraiser. The weather was beautiful, and over 600 old and new friends came out in force to support the Sanctuary and enjoy the friendly animals, delicious food and drinks by Thyme Square and Honest Tea, a silent auction, and great live music by Dave Kitchen and the Demolition. This year we were honored to have John Robbins, author of Diet for a New America, as our keynote speaker. John

gave a very inspirational talk, and demonstrated with our own Alice the turkey how our instinct is to pet, and not eat, other animals. Candy Cane the clown once again entertained the children and adults, and thanks to everyone's wonderful generosity, an amazing \$33,000 was raised for the rescued animals. A huge thanks to all the businesses and volunteers who donated items, time, and talent, and to all the generous friends and supporters who helped make this day a great success!

In November PSAS and PIGS, A Sanctuary, co-hosted our annual Thanksgiving celebration with the Turkeys. One large barn was borrowed from the cows for the day, and everyone was invited for our delicious vegan potluck. Alice and Ann Marie the turkeys were the guests of honor, (Olivia the turkey was busy laying an egg!). Despite the cold weather we had a great turnout, and turkeys and humans enjoyed sampling all the wonderful dishes.

After receiving a classroom presentation and touring the Sanctuary last Fall, thirty-one first graders at Sandy Spring Friends School recently decided to help the rescued animals in a huge way, and presented Poplar Spring with funds totaling over \$3,200. This amazing amount was raised by holding a sponsored 'spell-a-thon' organized by teacher and PSAS dedicated volunteer, Linda Reese. Great job, everyone!

The holidays were a time for the animals to celebrate, too, thanks to the



John Robbins speaks at third annual Open House.

Tom Kutsera



Ann Marie the turkey samples Thanksgiving buffet.

Marie Gleason

fabulous holiday party hosted by Jon Lovvorn, Marianne Merritt, Nancy Perry, and Kirsten Rosenberg. Guests enjoyed feasting on delicious vegan sweets and eggless SilkNog, had a great time dancing and chatting with "Santa", and contributed over \$2,700 to benefit the rescued animals. ■



First graders at Sandy Spring Friends School present funds raised for Poplar Spring.

Help Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary by Becoming a Farm Animal Sponsor!

Are you someone who would love to bring a farm animal home but just don't have the room? Then a sponsorship of your favorite animal is the answer! For a small monthly donation you can help support the animal of your choice—your sponsorship will help cover food, bedding and veterinary costs. You will receive a framed photograph and your animal's story, along with the opportunity to visit in person. Sponsorships also make a unique gift for friends and relatives! With your support we can continue to rescue even more animals who desperately need a home.

Monthly Sponsorship Rates

Chicken.....	\$5.00
Rabbit	\$7.00
Turkey	\$8.00
Goat.....	\$15.00
Sheep.....	\$15.00
Pig	\$20.00
Cow	\$25.00
Horse.....	\$30.00

If you would prefer, sponsorships can also be paid on a quarterly or yearly basis.

Thank you for helping us to save animals!

Please make check payable to Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary.

Please mail your completed sponsorship form to:
Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary
P.O. Box 507
Poolesville, MD 20837

Phone: 301-428-8128
E-mail: info@animalsanctuary.com
Web: www.animalsanctuary.com



Yes! Please sign me up!

Please print all information clearly.

I would like to sponsor a _____ (type of animal).

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Check Enclosed for \$ _____ Monthly Quarterly Yearly

Charge \$ _____ to my Visa/MasterCard Monthly Quarterly Yearly

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

This is a Gift Sponsorship

Name of Recipient _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I would like more information on: Volunteer Opportunities Gift Donations

Volunteers and Interns Wanted

If you like working with animals and have some free time, come help out at the Sanctuary! Volunteers are needed to assist with feeding and caring for the animals, mowing, trimming, and fencing around the farm, and administrative tasks such as filing and data entry.

Please call 301-428-8128 for a volunteer application. Come out to the farm, have a great time, and help the animals too.

For college students and adults, internships are now available year round. Interns work 40 hours per week for 4 to 12 weeks, and along with the above duties, will learn all aspects of running an animal advocacy organization. A small stipend may be available. Call the Sanctuary for more details and an intern application. ■



**Poplar Spring
Animal Sanctuary**
P.O. Box 507
Poolesville, MD 20837

Address Service Requested



Bucky the goat thinks Pickles the pig makes a comfy pillow.

Don't Get Locked Out

For all those planning a visit or tour to Poplar Spring, you must call and make an appointment in advance. The gate will be locked at times when the Sanctuary is not staffed. For those who sponsor animals—you are welcome to visit any time, but please call at least 24 hours before your visit to let us know you are planning to come. We don't want anyone to get locked out, but for insurance reasons, we cannot have visitors if a staff member is not present. Thank you for your cooperation. ■

Upcoming Events

For the fourth year in a row, Poplar Spring will again participate in the Montgomery County Farm Tour on Saturday, July 28. The Sanctuary will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and along with meeting all the friendly farm animals, visitors can enjoy hay rides, ice cold lemonade, veggie burgers and hotdogs, and shop for PSAS merchandise in our gift shop. We will also be holding a yard sale to benefit the animals. If anyone has any good quality items they would like to donate, please contact us. ■

WISH LIST

Funds
Gift certificates from Southern States
(for animal feed and supplies)
Flat bed trailer

Good quality hay
Weed whacker
Digital camera
Stamps

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 480
Poolesville, MD 20837