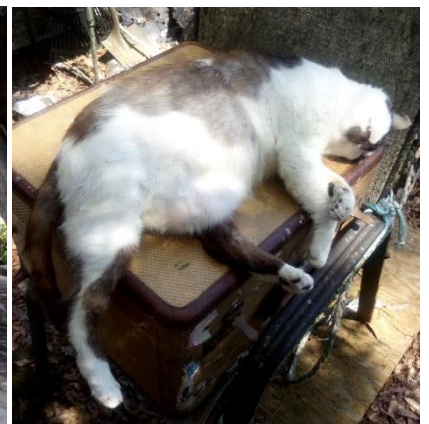


HAPPY SUMMER TO OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS!!

With warm weather upon us & longer days to enjoy the new season, we enter the early part of summer with a hope for balmy skies & gentle rains. In celebration of that wish, we open this month with more beautiful flowers from our daily excursions around the farm.



Within the inspirational brilliance of our foliage, I could not resist another contrast. My plan to share only sleeping photos of Bhinkhi was thwarted when I took the center shot of him facing my camera. You will just have to trust that I take pictures every day of this cat *sleeping!* EVERYWHERE! However, I must also note that between his numerous naps, he is a most amazing hunter. Sleep is not his greatest fortitude!



Last month we asked about our wisest matron... well, of course that would be Sage. Not only because of her name, but she was born wise & has held us together in so many ways, beyond 20 long years.



Many people say they have a 'lead mare'. Over my lifetime as a professional horseman, I have found the majority of those have a dominating mare, rather than a true lead. Since an equine herd is matriarchal, a mare is usually at the helm, but she & those she chooses to work with, are gentle rather than bossy. A bossy horse of any sex is often a bully, spoiled or rude in response to how they are treated by their people. An actual lead mare is somewhat rare in domestic terms. Sage, is one of those very special ladies. Never mean, but never wrong in her actions. A perfect mother, herd-mate or companion to many species, her depth is astounding. My guide, my trusted matron, & my best friend. Shelsea, as her formal show name, is a kind, wise, solid & discerning horse who is also my rock. Happy summer to you, my heart.



An American Cream Draft is a rare breed of horse. Bloodlines in any purebred breeds of any species must have parameters to maintain, even improve the foundation each breed is based on. Along with a rare horse breed, we have a rare canine breed as well. We asked, 'what is Maremma'? AKA the Maremmo-Abruzzese Sheepdog is a large, white, guardian who ancient shepherds used in Italy over 2000 years ago! Imported to the US in the 1970s as a working dog, unfortunately too many purchased as pets end up in rescues from lack of understanding the type of care these animals need. Our Tonkah, was abandoned.



There are always responsibilities connected with the care & comfort of animals. When we buy or adopt any critter, we should know what their species as well as the individual needs. Dog, cat, rabbit or pony, they all eat differently. If new to the type, always check with vets or properly trained professionals as to their care, but individuals may vary greatly & often, only *they* can let you know what to do for them. For example: a cat who prefers to do 'doggie things', a dog who is insulted if offered a toy, a horse who would rather follow a favorite human over joining his herd-mates, or a pig who ran away from a nice home to live with horses! What they ingest can be just as diversified. Minor adjustments can make certain what they want & what is offered are safe to eat. We give our small animals organic, wholesome 'treats' with their general health in mind, while our fowl & equines love their salads! Horses & donkeys can eat a wide variety of fruits & vegetables, but a few simple precautions can ward off trouble. For example, we cut our celery to sever the strings, make sure fruits are not pitted, cut big carrots into smaller pieces for youngsters or elders who may not chew as easily, take stickers off bananas or vines off grapes (chickens love those vines). Have fun experimenting, just note: no-one except us (lol), should have chocolate!



I promised more information about our friends at Bighorn! Over 2 decades of using their products has made our lives easier & certainly more comfortable. We use every item they offer but I hope in my lifetime, never to be without a form of oral YewTip & the salve. Short of claiming miracles, I have witnessed the most amazing improvements in 2 & 4 leggeds. For myself, my YewTip Capsules lessen my pain from 3 car accidents. For several of our horses who were plagued with melanoma cancer, their YewTip Tincture & topical salve brought a quality of life far beyond anticipated. Buy your own favorites! <https://bighornbotanicals.com>; yewtips1991@gmail.com; (406) 847-5597



The Kid came to us not because of abuse or neglect, but because he developed a dangerous neurological issue & his owner wanted him to have the specialized care we could offer. The picture on the right was taken in his South Florida home many years before his medical challenge became evident. The picture on the left was taken in our Central Florida location about 6 years later. Obviously his 'mom' made the correct decision to protect his comfort. Although he was never 'cured', this outstanding Warmblood recovered sufficiently to romp & play with pasture-mates as well as settling back into light riding.

A happy story but there is more! You see, thanks to the progress Kid made, his 'mom' decided to send us a cat! This cat did not come from a kind home like Kid but deserved the same quality of care, so our friend bundled him up, trekked to our farm bearing numerous kitty gifts (treats, litter, foods, supplements, recent medications from his vet after being neutered, dewormed & put on a far healthier diet than what he had lived on 'in the street', & cash for the feline expansion we were working on.) Named Hobeau due to his previously vagabond lifestyle, this silly gentleman came with enough gifts to help us complete improvements to the cattery he was about to share. Once revamped, we titled our facility 'Kid's Khatteri' where Hobeau & his new feline family found time & comfort for their frolics. So now you know the short version of why a cattery is named after a huge horse!!



FYI: for devote followers – Hobeau & Rhokkhi are the same cat! In time, his 'Tale' will be revealed.

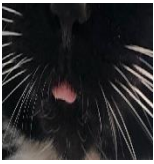
Happy Nearly Birthday Ozara!!!!



In 2019, our super-woman co-founder De, decided it was time for another dog. Being a lifelong Boxer enthusiast, her choice of breed was automatic. Finding the right dog, however, proved to be a challenge until our loyal, trusted friends at Triple J Ranch let us know some Boxer puppies were available! From 1st glance, Ozara had the look of a Service Dog. As a 12-week-old baby, she was already keen, attentive, gentle, affectionate *and* discerning.



Ozara in Hebrew means Treasure; & that she is!! Having some unusual challenges, De planned to train her own Service Dog. The term handicap, to us, translates more to handi-challenged. All of us are different anyway, but in De's case, she became drastically sight impaired rather suddenly as an adult. Searching for a puppy who could be her heart companion & as well as a dependable, versatile service aid, led to many dead ends until... she met Ozara. Her early public outings, only several months old, took her to Sea World for a medical convention, an AKC Invitational Dog Show, trips between our 2 farms, shopping sprees & board meetings at busy restaurants, all simply flowed one to another. Ozara learned rapidly & eagerly. The top right picture is De & Ozara's mode of transport to their monthly appointment with Dr Peggy Fleming. 6 miles from home, De can no longer drive & in the Florida heat & sometimes torrential rains, walking seemed ridiculous. SO – an investment in a mountain bike that would not fall over easily in poor terrain & an ingenious 'cart' carries the duo to & fro. A very Happy sixth Birthday Ozara! May your travels continue into the far reaches of your 'mother's' needs...



what the heck is this & what's in a name? You will have to wait until next month to find out!

Rescues happen year-round but early summer brings on the 'empty nests' of bunnies & fowl who only months before, were brought into new homes as cute, cuddly pets. Many of these little fellows remain in their safe & loving lives.... others, often come to us.



a beautiful family with no place to go until they were brought to our door by a neighbor of the family who expelled them. There are many proper forms of rehoming; kicking domestic chickens out to fend for themselves, is not one of them. This set were lean & nervous when we met but due to their youth, they came around rapidly. Years ago we were asked to take in a flock of aging Rhode Island Reds recently cured of mites. Outgoing & friendly, they loved to greet visitors!



Meet Zheddah, in my house... helping me unpack as we moved in. Her injury was severe enough to need long term confinement. Once she returned to health she actually began laying again! Unusual, considering her elder years. In my house, or in my yard, feathered families are safe here.



By popular request I have added a second page of our flowers. In answer to the questions: yes, they are all taken on the farm; yes, they are all taken within the month each newsletter is published; & yes, they all just grow on their own. We used to have several beautiful gardens but the plants have gone wild with the freedom they found when our 'gardening time' became obsolete. We have begun the revamping of two areas, one (as loyal readers have seen) is BoB's Garden, of which he has complete say-so on design & my Fairie Garden which is a memorial to loved ones who await on the 'other side'. Thank you for asking!!



This is not contrived nor photo shopped, just a moonlit night.



Please consider donating to **Kid's Khatteri Rescue Fund** or **Save the Animals** by visiting our website: www.EquestrianSpirits.ORG. All proceeds go only to the animals as our board is unpaid. Donations cover food, medicines, items like blankets, bandages & various health care needs.



any house can be a home, when there is love inside... may your hearts, travel free

Newsletter for Equestrian Spirits, Inc. 501(c)(3) EIN: 35-2384797 (863) 368-0775
www.EquestrianSpirits.ORG P.O. Box 237 - Morriston, Florida 32668

Very sincerely, and in the spirit of all who have gone on before me... many thanks for your interest - Laurie L. Wolf
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