



Frog Song Farm Sanctuary

One day the absurdity of the almost universal human belief in the slavery of other animals will be palpable. We shall then have discovered our souls and be worth sharing this planet with them."
Martin Luther King

That time can't come soon enough, but until it is here, there's Frog Song Farm Sanctuary.

Most of us are accustomed with the word, "Sanctuary." There's something about the word that brings us comfort. And don't we all want comfort. Hearing the word, "Sanctuary," makes us feel like what transpires in them is of good benefit to those in need.

A sanctuary is a sacred place where those within are cared for, protected, and free from fear and harm. The term has come to be used for any place of safety. The use of a sanctuary can be categorized into human sanctuary, a safe place for people, such as a political sanctuary; and non-human sanctuary, such as an animal sanctuary.

One such haven is Frog Song Farm Sanctuary, that sits on 107 acres, in the town of Hodges, a small town in South Carolina, named after Major General George Washington Hodges, who was commander of all of South Carolina's militia.

This picturesque, breathtaking, contiguous array of sloping, multi-dimensional hills, is dotted with outbuildings, barns, and multiple segregated pastures that are home to over 100 animals. The only battles the volunteers need here for militia, are treats of something enticing, in the early morning feeding ritual, trying to get the pigs, goats, llamas, horses, all the family members that live here, in their proper areas to begin the daily routine. Breakfast is about to begin. It's an orchestra of sharps, flats, every sound all these hungry critters make when demanding their morning meals. At Frog Song Farm Sanctuary, many of the family members are elderly, and require special care for their special needs. The stories of how they arrived here are as numerous as everyone with some very tragic, yet here they are, all their needs met, and so much more. They are loved, pampered, and best of all, are

part of this Frog Song family! Here they find peace, love, their needs taken care of, everything they deserve from us.

Frog Song Farm Sanctuary is a 501c3 non-profit sanctuary where farmed animals get their second chance. The sanctuary is complete with three ponds, multiple shelters for the animals and lots of green grass for grazing (and frolicking!) The goal here is not to be the biggest sanctuary or have the most animals, but to provide the very best personalized, hands-on care for each of the animals who come to live with us. They will never again be hungry, abused, neglected, or unloved. The sanctuary is currently home to horses, donkeys, llamas, alpaca, goats, sheep, cows, ducks, chickens, turkeys, pigs, barn cats, several very spoiled dogs.

Driving into the sanctuary, off Andrews Chapel Road, down a gravel driveway, is the view that winds along well-maintained post and board fencing, reinforced with outer wire, are the pastures that all have names. There's the blind horse pasture, Beazer pasture, after which come the Goats; and the "Doo-wop's," a group of inseparable donkeys nicknamed the Doo-Wop Donkeys because they frequently, "sing" together in harmony. Have you had the distinct experience of hearing Donkey's sing? Continuing on down the gently sloping drive we is one of the pig areas, a large parcel called, the dry lot pasture, specifically for horses that are not suited for grass, a huge hay barn, main barn with multiple inside stalls connected to outer paddock areas, with gates that open into a sunny pasture where everyone from horses, donkeys, pigs, llamas and even Abe, the Turkey, get along. Each pasture has a round bale hay feeder, multiple water troughs, and lots of reminders that these animals get enough fiber! That's where the cleaning work comes in. The main house sits at the far end of the drive, with a charming ranch style, four-bedroom guest house just before it called, "The Lily Pad."

Morning chores begin around 7:30 am, and end with cleaning inside barns, pasture "raking," and wind down with evening rounds, feeding as necessary, ending around 4:00 pm with rounds and the farm favorite, piggy night-night.

Kay Williams, the indefatigable and passionate founder of this incredible place, sings a special chorus with Dixon and Abby, two pot-bellied pigs who enjoy a nightly serenade before their kiss goodnight and a sweet treat of Fig Newtons. Keep'em coming grunt the two lucky piggies. Kay reminds us of what ultimate devotion to animals looks like and what the better side of society reflects. Her husband Richard also gives so much to these animals! It's like taking care of over 100 children! Their needs come first. Gandhi reminds us that, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way animals are treated. People involved in rescue and sanctuary work see the best and worst of humanity.

A Frog Song farm favorite around here, even though everyone has a name, personality, and is part of the family, is Dixon, a pot-bellied pig with a face only a mother could love... and everyone else who meets him.

Dixon, a black pot-bellied pig, spent 11 years living with his human Dad. When his dad passed away, Dixon was left all alone and needed a special place to adopt him. We are so pleased to have him here at Frog Song Farm Sanctuary! He is the sweetest boy and brings a smile to our faces just looking at him. He is as charming as he looks!

Abby, a spotted pink and black pig, was rescued by our friends at Secondhand Sanctuary along with 4 other pigs. Abby had a significant limp and needed to be spayed, so she came to us. She is a Kunekune like Linda Lou. The plan was to get Abby well after her spay and have her join the pigs in the "big pig" pasture with Linda Lou! But she bonded with Dixon so for now, she is staying in the barn area. Abby is a very sweet and gentle pig who is very patient and politely waits for her meals.

Daisy, a potbellied pig, is quite the character. Daisy was picked up by animal control as a stray, so we know nothing about her background. She loves people and other pigs, and she has always been the pig/horse ambassador. She is known to sleep in shelter with the horses at night where she built herself a little nest in one of the stalls. She might not be a classic beauty, but she is undeniably adorable.

Jack is blind in one eye, and his face and right ear will always bear the scars from a dog mauling prior to his rescue by Polk County Animal Control where he landed after being found wandering and injured. He is the sweetest, most gentle pig in the world who refuses to let his tough pre-rescue life color his rosy color of the world. He has a heart of gold. We have no idea of age, so we celebrate his birthday each year on the day he arrived to the Sanctuary!

Piggy Sue's owner died in November 2023 leaving her alone in a backyard pen. In March, the house burned down damaging part of Piggy Sue's enclosure. Her owner's niece, Leanne promised her uncle that she would make sure that his beloved pig was cared for. Piggy Sue has been a great addition to the barn pasture and loves her freedom to roam! She is 12.

Polly, who we think looks like part panda/part pig, joined the FSFS family on February 13, 2024. Polly was living with her four piglets in a ramshackle, filthy pen when animal control intervened. Her four piglets went to good homes and Polly joined us. Unlike many animals who come from such a horrible situation, Polly has been a sweet, easy-going girl from the minute we met her. She is an incredibly gentle pig who loves people and seems grateful every day for the freedom to roam the pasture.

Scarlet, the pig, has some congenital deformities in her front legs which give her a profound limp when she moves around. She's somewhere around 10 years old. Pigs are prone to arthritis anyway and given her age and her limp, she's almost certainly got some arthritic pain, so we medicate her twice a day for that. (Can't tell by a limp like with our other pigs because she arrived with one.) Despite all of that, Scarlet likes to roam around the pasture and frequently naps right up by the fence, closest to our house, so that she can keep an eye on our comings and goings. She is very outgoing and just loves people. She and Polly are best friends.

Now for into some other animals who live here.

Handsome Aladdin, 30 years old, was rescued from a kill auction and came to us with his bonded companion, Jasmine. Poor Aladdin bears the physical scars from years of abuse. He arrived here, blind in one eye and we subsequently had to have that eye removed. Nevertheless, he is a gentle, loving horse who is completely devoted to caring for and protecting his blind-companion horse and his new blind friend, Nova. Aladdin is an Arabian and, even though he's older now, he's still got a prancing gait that is poetry in motion. He is as sweet as he is handsome.

Benny and Scott lived their lives together and when their owners got too old to care for them, they found a home for them together. Unfortunately, things didn't go as planned and Scott ended up at our sanctuary. He was absolutely devastated to be separated from his lifelong BFF and stood at the fence calling for him all day long. We reached out to their original owners who went to the people who currently had Benny, and we reunited them at our sanctuary. Their joy at being reunited is palpable and they are never far apart.

Cupcake is a 20-yr old miniature dwarf horse. She lived in North Georgia - alone and neglected - for most of her life. She is a survivor. When her owners finally decided that they no longer wanted her, they reached out to the heroes of our story - Doramy and Lauren.

Lauren immediately called her vet who examined Cupcake and started the physical healing process. Doramy and Lauren fed her a soft mash of food and began showing her what life is like with loving care, good food and kind people. Cupcake has shown herself to be a feisty little lady and has found a special friend at Frog Song Farm Sanctuary! She and Henry, a full-sized horse, have become an item around the barn pasture! It's not uncommon to see Cupcake Walk under Henry's belly.

Sweet Mystique, one of 9 llamas enjoying their surroundings in the barn pasture area, is living in her "bonus time." Although they can live up to 20 years, the average life span of a llama is 15. Mystique turned 23 on February 2nd. She has lived many happy years with her llama herd, but she has always been the quiet one, the one most likely to be found just sitting under a tree in the shade, pondering the world around her. And she has always been skinny as a rail - an absolute bag of bones covered by a thin layer of skin. Yet Mystique has just continued to live, to eat, to love her friends. She has never eaten much or moved quickly but she just kept plugging along. She's not sick, she's just old - a frail, senior lady llama. And then, on May 28th, we found her down, sprawling on her side in the blazing sun. I honestly did not believe that she would last the hour, much less the day. But she's Mystique - a frail little old lady with a tough inner core that never ceases to amaze us. We cooled her down, got her up and brought her to the barn and she rallied. Meanwhile, in the stall across the aisle, there was a tiny, scared, tripod goat named Charlie without a friend in the world. Rather than leave them both alone, we put them in a stall together. Charlie blossomed and Mystique found a purpose in nurturing Charlie. Her eyes got brighter, and her steps got a little easier. They are lovely to watch together. But this is Mystique's bonus time, and I think she knows it. She won't get to see Charlie grow up but she is giving him a legacy of love that is shaping his view of the world in a dramatically positive way. She's preparing him for a life without her. She has introduced him to her llama friends now that we've moved them into the barn pasture and watches with quiet delight when he meets the other goats at the fence but, most importantly, she has shown him that people can be trusted. We are grateful for whatever bonus time we have with Mystique and marvel at the life-changing miracle that she has given little Charlie - all of which began on the day that we thought she would die. And that's the magic in animals.

Again, please visit www.frogsongfarmsanctuary.org for a full list of family members and stay with us on Facebook for updates.

Thanks for meeting us and we wish you a warm, safe, meaningful, humane holiday season!

From all of us at Frog Song Farm Sanctuary!