



HAPPY VALENTINE!!

Super special is the birth month of my mother, our co-founder Lynn Peck, board member Abra, the day I got my soulmate/very first horse Amik, & a chance to send a Valentine to all those I love!







Whether winning in a show or viewing life from a peaceful pasture, our critters love it all!



















Pretty markings, keen attentive attitude & a nice fanny did not stop Stelah's breeders from riding her too young, causing such severe ulcers she might not have made it if a sensitive horsewoman had not felt sorry & bought her simply to end the abuse. Thin & surely, she moved into Florida to join our herd. No longer shy, sick & sad, this sweet mare has become our largest 'photobomb' horse to date. Although most love their pictures taken, Stelah can recognize a camera from acres away & settles in for her close-ups!







Snacking with family or enjoying gentle human admirers, Stelah must still... put herself in the midst of all!







L - Kharmhin, named after Carman Maranda, a story for another time, suffered terrible neglect. Though the photos of his damaged ears will not be shared here, later this year they will be found on our website

for those who would like to know the rest of his story. The horrible condition he was in & his miraculous recovery are quite a contrast. In this photo he had been fully healed about 2 years. R- Halla, named for Hans Winkler's famous German jumping mare who was 1954 & 1955 World Champion, 1956 Double Olympic Champion with Team & Individual Gold Medals & again 1960 Olympic Champion. I bet you can guess that she loved to jump! (rabbit & horse!) Center – we called this fellow Ben Brush. He used to visit our domestic rescued rabbits so they could chat about the pros & cons of human intervention. He continued to visit for many years. The caged photos do not do our bunnies justice. Taken during our evacuation due to hurricane Irma, though quite safe throughout the storm, they missed their huge hutches, liberty time in their yards & physical play access to 18 of their favorite cats, 6 roosters & 12 hens! For added safety, all were kenneled tightly into one house with cats, rabbits & fowl crated alongside each other - no-one even skipped a meal. WE were a nervous wreck, but the little guys were certain when the skies cleared, they would return to big yards & safe houses... & they did!

We do take healing & happiness very seriously, but the fun & silly stuff balance all kinds of trauma. The animals have their own way of participating in our giggles. For example, Mhiltin-Lee our Catahoula Cur, is a ham, constantly photo bombing his own portraits! He is really handsome (or so I think) but insists on sticking his face directly into the camera causing numerous strange distortions. So, for fun – meet Mhiltin











During warm weather, the dogs swim in our pond. Mhiltin (fondly called "The Puppy"), LOVES to scoop his nose into any available algae leaving the reward on his nose all the way back to the yard, seldom shaking it off! Normally he makes it nearly impossible to get pictures of him because of his incessant 'mug' shots unless he has algae on his nose, then he shies from the camera. I spent most of the summer trying to get a good picture of his 'green mask', as Moose calls it. Finally got a good one!

Well, the two are actually connected! This is a lovely dressage mare enjoying a Bowen treatment by our co-founder Lynn Peck, DVM MS, clCAK. The thing about doves is one of my silliest memories of Lynn. As we were acquiring our forever farm, the sellers considered donating 100 doves to our sanctuary. Although we had the means to care for them, Lynn was concerned about the sheer number of birds. When she asked how we would control their population, I stifled incredulous laughter & reminded we could "collect the eggs!" This was the only time I ever got a sheepish look from her. It became quite a topic of tease. Lynn & I had many such "Ah-ha" moments between us... sharing each other's minds, opening further doors of perception for us, our friends & clients but mostly, for our animals.







As a co-founder, attending veterinarian & veterinary advisor, Lynn had planned to share our facility with a myriad of students while teaching a holistic approach to the animal world. Instrumental in obtaining our Forever Home, Lynn had planned courses in Animal Bowen, Applied Kinesiology, Kinesio Taping, among others. Her passing within days of taking possession of the farm presented us with the challenge of continuing her legacy according to her wishes. It is with her spirit of teaching, healing & compassion that we dedicated our Holistic Healing Nexus to her. This is the spirit with which we began 'All Holistic-Hearts for Animals'; fondly known as AH-HA! Throughout our friendship, I called Lynn "the ultimate scientist". Every day, she endeavored to understand the roots of what she was doing as her path took her deeper & deeper into holistic medicine.

In Celebration for 15 years as a non-profit (following 40 years of out-of-pocket rescues) Equestrian Spirits is launching 2 specialized Fundraisers. AH-HA technically began in 2016 while Lynn & I were searching for a forever home. We had big plans for educational courses taught by Lynn & other gifted veterinarians like Gerald Wessner & Tom Cameron, with the hope of sharing expertise on holistic healing with our local community. Upon Lynn's passage within the week of obtaining our farm, those plans were set aside, as were the beginnings of MA-HA (Momma C-Hearts for Animals). My mother supplied personalized & specialty items for my animals since I was a teen. Many donors do not recognize the need for some less obvious, yet urgent, items of care for residents. Collars & halters with leashes & leads help to move animals safely one place to another, as do shipping gear for equines & carriers for smaller creatures. Meals & drinks are offered from tubs, bowls or troughs, living areas are protected by hutches, fences, gates, bedding or laundry supplies; & then there are... the TREATS! Never one to leave out the sweetness of life, Mom also kept us in treats through the decades. She wanted a way to carry on her love & support for our mutual passion, so with her recent passage, my heart yearned to finally begin MA-HA alongside Lynn's dream. What better time to launch their wishes within their mutual birth-month. So many thanks, to 2 very special women...



Your challenge for March: what language is this & who the heck is Charley?







Vhalintinoh was born on February 14th, I was blessed with Amik the day before Valentine's Day while Mhara, Khara & Corey all chose their birth celebration to match my Mom's. AH-HA will provide herbs, oils, remedies & various medical modalities while MA-HA offers the comfort of blankets, linens & Yummies.







The faces of many friends look towards the coming months. With beautiful memories, wishful thinking to help those we have yet to meet, daily maintenance or improvements in our lives, we hope many of you will join us in making every day – all about the joys our animals give us back. Please consider donating to AH-HA (All Holistic-Hearts for Animals), MA-HA (Momma C-Hearts for Animals) 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 & health care needs.





Once again, I pause to thank some super special people

who aid our animals & our very existence! Since my early racetrack days in Maryland, I have used many products offered by a great company & an even greater group known as Finish Line. In January we were honored by a visit from their rep Gary, & although a red carpet would have been silly on our grass covered ground, Beckie & I did give him 'The Tour'! My tours are not the usual 'look at this, look at that...' Instead, we traveled among the very creatures Gary's company helps us care for. He met Whilo, Kefi & Sage who love their Air Power. Sky, Brooke & Saint insist on Performance Builder & 4 of the 8 who get Feet First in every meal all gathered around our cart while I shared their stories. All 12 horses in our big field came to meet Gary, smell & touch him in their gratitude. Iron Power, EZ-Willow Poultice, Immunex, 2 flavors of Electrolytes, Total Control Plus, & of course U-7 Gastric Aid which helped to save Stelah's life in 2004, are just a few of a long line of excellent natural supplements that we use every day!



www.FinishLineHorse.com (800) 762-4242 (check out dog & cat items!)

You will have to wait until next month to find out about Downtown Dawgs so... we'll see you then!



May the spirits who guard us, be pleased with our intent... & let each heart, travel free

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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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