



HAPPENINGS AT THE SANCTUARY

POPULATION 500+

229 CHICKENS **31 COWS**
112 PIGEONS (+) **15 SHEEP**
53 DUCKS (+) **8 GOATS**
9 GEESE **2 ALPACAS**
3 EMUS **1 PIG**
2 TURKEYS **13 OTHERS**

In addition to these occupants of coops, barns, and aviaries, *scores of rewilded pigeons and dozens of rewilded ducks* rely on the sanctuary for habitat and feed. Countless *wild turkeys and deer* find refuge from hunters in the portion of our property we maintain as wildlife refuge.

In Memoriam Sugar

Sugar was one of the first sheep to come to the sanctuary, arriving with her mother and aunt in 2012. Initially a skittish lamb, she grew up to be a respected elder in the sanctuary community. At first afraid of other sorts of animals, Sugar soon took the lead in offering rides to roosters on icy days. She would carry them all around the grounds!

Chelsea

The little red hen called Chelsea had a huge personality. She came to the sanctuary many years ago after being seized by authorities from a breeder of birds for cockfighting. Fierce and feral, Chelsea was always getting into scrapes due to her recklessness. She settled down only after making friends with a hen called Lena and then became Lena's guide when she developed cataracts. Chelsea is survived by her friends Lena and Tennessee, who miss her very much.

Equinox

Equinox came to VINE as a newborn calf in 2013 along with his mother Solstice. When she died, other dairy survivors stepped up to mother him. He grew up to be a serious and self-assured adult who routinely played the role of look-out while other members of the back pasture community grazed under his benevolent gaze. He is survived by his best friends Maddox and Melody, who had been his boon companions since they all were calves.

We pledge to be as bold as Chelsea, as generous as Sugar, and as protective as Equinox as we work to maintain the community they helped to co-create.

On-Site Highlights

A sanctuary should be a safe place for *everybody*. We put that ethos into practice every day in a variety of ways. This year, our efforts were recognized by a *Spirit of the ADA* award from the Governor's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities. But we're not resting on our laurels! We've got too much to do to make our multispecies community better each year, share the knowledge we've gained, and use our unique standpoint as an LGBTQ-led animal sanctuary to help create a more gentle, equitable, and sustainable world for everybody!



New Arrivals

New arrivals this year included Seymour (left) and his partner Audrey as well as Sunny and Rain (right). Both pairs had been rescued by authorities from very bad situations. As always, roosters arrived regularly, and we welcomed a group of Kaporos survivors this fall. Also as always, it was other sanctuary residents who did the most to make newcomers feel at home.



Spotlight on Caregivers

Of course, our hard-working animal care team labors mightily every day, but now we want to highlight the nonhuman caregivers of the sanctuary. Known for her high-spirited (and sometimes trouble-making) hijinks when she was younger, elder dairy survivor Maizey (left) has recently shown a knack for caregiving, first befriending a lonely newcomer and then demonstrating very gentle affection for disabled children visiting the sanctuary. Other longtime residents who co-create the ethos of the sanctuary by caring for others include Rosie the goat, Max the alpaca, and Nahli the turkey. Herd matriarch Rose the cow not only welcomes and comforts all newcomers but also grooms all goats.



Infrastructure Upgrades

What do a goat walk, a sheep retreat, a bird infirmary, and a combined shade and exercise area for chickens have in common? They're all innovative new features of the sanctuary created with imagination and upcycling. The new goat walk allows our bearded friends to be "above it all" as they prefer. The retreat gives elder sheep a place to rest away from the hub-bub. The exercise area enriches a foraging yard with insufficient shade.



Vital Volunteers

A visiting scholar built the goat walk in the evenings after spending days writing. A longtime volunteer pieced together scrap lumber for the new bird infirmary. Attendees at one of our public days painted the new play area, and visiting animal law scholars refreshed nesting boxes displaced by the goat walk. Every week, on-site volunteers clean coops, haul and unload sacks of feed, and distribute donated fruits and vegetables. Off-site, remote volunteers make our humane education programs possible. Flip to read about them and our other education and advocacy projects!

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

SPARKING CHANGE

This spring, VINE proudly received the **Radical Spark Award** from the nationally prominent feminist organization, San Francisco Women Against Rape. The award recognizes individuals or groups who “fearlessly confront hard truths and chart new paths toward justice.” Attendees at SFWAR’s 50th anniversary gala feasted on vegan food. In presenting the award, SFWAR lauded VINE’s compassion, courage, and commitment to ending all forms of violence. Writing in the event program SFWAR Executive Director Janelle White said that “We often say that to end rape we must end oppression. Speciesism and its illogic – the same illogic that fuels white supremacist capitalist patriarchy – must be taken on firmly by those of us engaged in anti-rape work.”



SHARING KNOWLEDGE WIDELY



At the sanctuary, we learn with and from animals and then do our best to share that knowledge widely. Within one week in March, our cofounder spoke at an event at a small town public library *and* at a conference for scholars in Sweden. One week in June, we brought a vegan Olympian to our own public library *and* did a workshop for LGBTQ+ animal advocates in New Zealand. Four books published this year, one in French and three in English, include stories or ideas from VINE. Our monthly book club meetings brought activists, scholars, and writers from around the world into conversation with each other.



PROMOTING VEGANISM UNIQUELY



Because people vary in their identities, personalities, and interests, there’s no one best way to promote veganism. We focus on the communities we know best—LGBTQ+ people and people with disabilities—as well as groups we are most likely to be able to move. For example, as a home for so many survivors of egg factories and dairy farms, we are in a good position to reach vegetarians who just need a little help to get to vegan. We make an especial effort to reach people who are not-yet-vegan wherever they are, awakening their empathy with sanctuary stories and helping them put their own ethical commitments into action.



INSPIRING & EDUCATING YOUTH



Our virtual Barnyard Buddies program for **elementary school students** went out to classrooms in Alabama, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Vermont as well as Ontario, Canada this year. Our on-site summer program, Pasture Pals, rolled out a new and improved set of lessons. Both of those programs were sponsored by Dr. Bronner’s Magic Soap and made possible by a team of volunteers. In addition to those Humane Education programs for elementary school students, we hosted an on-site event for **middle school students** as well as a week-long program for **high school students**. As the year draws to a close, we’re in the midst of organizing an online community for **LGBTQ+ youth**.

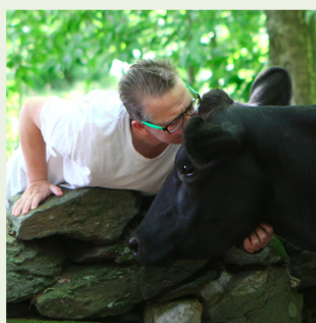
400+ EVENTS

- 419 humane education programs
- 18 online educational events for activists
- 12 on-site tours & volunteer days
- 13 talks & tabling at in-person events
- 10 other events

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MESSAGE FROM PATTRICE



Above, you can see the rainbow that suddenly appeared over the sanctuary on a very grey (in many ways) day in November, reminding us that the many colors of nature persist. I hope that this review has cheered you, because **you helped to make all of this happen!** Whether you have donated, volunteered, cheered us on on social media, or attended events, you are a member of the VINE community, and **we value you**. If you can spare us an **end-of-year donation**, we promise to put it to good use in 2025. Speaking of which, **stay tuned** for a full year of inspiring and informative 25th anniversary events!