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Ing.-büro für Forschung und Entwicklung

Dear WWOOFers,

we send "Pinokkiohof in the snow", a photo from 12/12/12 around the world and would like to greet all of you from the heart for the new year.



The long evenings by candlelight leave the memories of you, the working together, your help revive- each of you has left its mark on our farm. Thank you!

To live and work is also the love. That was the credo of Eddie from France, as he moved further in spring. With Pete from Cottbus they have braved the harsh winter in the warmth of Pinokkiospeicher and piled up a large timber stock in the shed for the current winter. In May, Maria from Leipzig helped us to create the vegetable crops. Our goat Ruth felt also in love with her immediately and allowed her to milk.

Sarah from California came in June just in time for haymaking. Also on Tessa's back she looked good.

A Syrian family from Berlin we have invited in early July to a turbulent week. The first potatoes were dug and the last beans were put in the earth and there were a lot of potato beatles to remove.

Then Francisco from Spain arrived and Michael and Julia from California were joining him. Together we straggled in the summer heat and reaped the fruits of our own labour. Apples, tomatoes, zucchini, potatoes, etc. in many varieties were our daily food. Every day I think of Michael when going to get wood for the kitchenstove out of the barn, of his visual delight swinging the ax skilled.

When going into the barn to get there vegetables, feed the cats, I always look at the fresco on the Kuhstallwand and remember the excitement of Francisco and Julia in the design of this mural. The small window is framed by a formula of Francisco and the words "work life – love is a source of strength".

In the October holiday Laura and Sophie helped us, two students from Cottbus.

Terra and Terrence, the foal of Tessa were spoiled very much.

Karine, a French woman from Berlin joined us. She also coped with the horses. Her nightly piano play remains us a pleasant memory.

Jeremy and Theresa from Berlin were here at full moon in October.

Antje, Roy, Falk and Almaz, our children and their partners came to visit us just so we drove with horse and cart in the woods looking for mushrooms, for eating them in together in the evening. Theresa loved to play piano at night and together we tried even to play a duet. Jeremy practiced from time to time in chopping wood by carrying the rubberboots that Eddie has left here in spring for other WWOOFers. Now, one boot has got a crack indeed but prevented also a major injury.

In November Resi, an Austrian from Berlin, came to visit us- a wonderful person. She immerse herself in our village and farm life, and rewarded us and herself with a wonderful apple strudel and a solo on her flute for Martinmas

Sarah from Mainz was here a few days in the end of November. Lots of fruits wandered through here hands in the food dehydrator. In the hurry of departure, she forgot her Kefirpilz. It now delivers good service, grows and prospers.

There is still so much stories to tell... and there is so much more to thank the young and old people who live here, who love nature and horses and are always there when we need them. Maxi, Mareike, Dasha, you all had come to know them, and Ann-Kristin with her large family of animals, to name a few...

What about our animal family?

Terra now has a new home. We believe that she feels fine and will learn a lot. Terrence will surely get well soon new owners.

We hope that we are able to make a couple of forest works to replenish our wood supplies with the help of Falk and Tessa.

Ruth, our loyal goat, every day gives us more than one liter of milk.

She stands outside on the steps of the small kitchen window looking relaxed in the white landscape.

Sheep Schnuckie we have brought to a herd of Heidschnucken at Schwarzkollm in June. There she is determined to be happier.

Hahn Pino strongly increased his flock of chickens this year. Three chickens hatched 16 chicks. So days still will begin with a boiled egg. Now and then, of course, eggnog is beaten ... and nibbled.

Our cats Luna, Dicky, Flora and Cora have acquired a thick winter coat.

Our dog Mary enjoys agility through the snow maze, "where is the ball" ?

We hope that you all are in good health and on your track, and if Bloischdorf will be on your path once again you are always welcome.

A Merry Christmas and a happy new year 2013

Frank and Barbara are wishing together with all the inhabitants of Pinokkiohof. <u>www.em-hof-pinokkio.de</u>