
THE RUSTY  GOAT

A Coastal Farm and Retreat

14600 State Highway 81
Ponce De Leon, Florida 32455



A project of ReNew of Northwest Florida
16400 US Highway 331, South
Suite B, Box 275
Freeport, Florida 32439

Cultivating A More Compassionate World

ReNew of Northwest Florida was founded by Ronnie and Cindy McBrayer in September 2017, in the face of an historic hurricane season, to meet some of the overwhelming needs of those impacted. In 2020, ReNew transitioned from being a “physical relief” organization to being a “spiritual relief” organization. Our mission is focused on helping others recover from trauma, exhaustion, and difficulties that are far more challenging than rebuilding a storm-damaged house.

In the summer of 2022, ReNew of Northwest Florida purchased “The Rusty Goat Coastal Farm and Retreat,” a near nine acre parcel that is now a place of renewal for helping-professionals, care-givers, and those who would benefit from much needed rest and reconnection: Reconnection with nature; with quieter, unforced rhythms; and reconnection with one’s own soul in an unhurried rural sanctuary.

“The Rusty Goat” offers space for short-stay, no-cost sabbaticals and retreats, serving individuals, families, and groups with priority given to those who would not otherwise be able to financially afford such a time away. Our guests are teachers, clergy, healthcare providers, parents and care-givers of special needs children, recovering veterans, first-responders, and those who have been or who are on the frontlines of providing the most challenging physical, emotional, and spiritual care for others. When available, time and space is also provided to artists, writers, and other creatives in search of respite.

We provide nightly or weekly accommodation for qualifying individuals, families, and groups at no cost to the participants in a completely renovated, welcoming home. The home is completely stocked, with guests only needing to “show up.” There is an on-site pool; working gardens in season; multiple fishing and boat launch sites that are minutes away from the property; a Florida Trail access point less than three miles from the property; Morrison Springs, Vortex Water Park, and canoeing on Ecofina Creek are all less than 30 minutes from the site, and of course the beaches of the Emerald Coast are less than an hour away.

Application for Sabbatical Stay

Applicant Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Guests: _____

Number of Nights Stay: _____

Do you have transportation to and from The Rusty Goat (Please check one)?

Yes No

How did you hear about The Rusty Goat (If from an individual, please share that person's name)?

The Rusty Goat partner's with local therapists, spiritual directors, yoga instructors and others to provide personal care during guests' stays. Do any such opportunities interest you, and if so which?

Priority is given to guests who would not otherwise be able to afford a vacation or time away. Please share, if applicable, your financial limitation in booking a retreat.

Please provide three references below, who can speak to your need for a time of rest and retreat.

Reference One: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

What is your relationship with this reference? _____

Reference Two: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

What is your relationship with this reference? _____

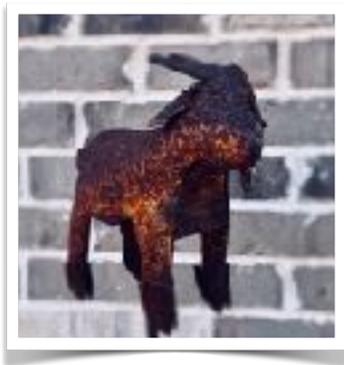
Reference Three: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

What is your relationship with this reference? _____

About Our Name



Ronnie and Cindy McBrayer (Founders of The Rusty Goat) have dear friends, Garry and Lynn Hedges, who retired to Garry's native Australia. Cindy was the recipient of many of Lynn's antiques, keepsakes, and yard implements. One such garden decoration was an old rusty goat. It was stuck cozily in the McBrayer's backyard, and the name stuck in their imagination. "The Rusty Goat" is a nod - and an invitation - to all

those who have worked tirelessly at their vocations of service; who are weary and carry heavy burdens; to those who have neglected their own well-being as they have been focused on helping others. They need rest for their souls, and there is a place in our garden just for them.