



# D Acres of New Hampshire

## Organic Farm & Educational Homestead

www.dacres.org

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2004

**Spring?** Could it be? The bees say yes! They survived the winter and have been seen buzzing about! The snow is gone, the trees have been pruned, our boots are muddy, daffodils abound and the sun stays out until after 7 pm! That means, of course, that it is time to send out word to our favorite friends and supporters, and tell y'all what we have been up to!

Winter found us pursuing many of our own interests. Micki returned from her trip to northern India where she spent 3 months living and working on a piece of land in Sajong village, Sikkim. The focus of her stay was to help a local family develop organic veggie and ethnobotanical education gardens. As always, friendships made, and memories of a magical Buddhist kingdom are her most precious souvenirs. Sam was living in a Winnebago in Pennsylvania designing specs for his furniture line. Jenn was pursuing her dream of becoming an ethnobotanist in the jungle of Costa Rica!

Josh and Abby were **taking care of business** in Dorchester, creating structure for the new nonprofit, designing our summer schedule, scheming ways to

get the word out about D Acres of NH, and working on their bread recipes. They are still hoping that the right person will come along to take over the bread operation, but until then they are delighted to spend time on a task that has edible results!



As staff returned from their travels, each was incorporated into the baking operation. Now our Sunday and Wednesday evenings together in the kitchen are bonding events, as we juggle 7 recipes at once, struggle to find the Tablespoon measurer and thank the designers of the Community Building for creating a LARGE kitchen for us!

### Around the farm...

It has been nearly a full-time job managing the applications that have streamed in since January. We are very excited about the folks that have decided to join us this summer in our **work-trade and apprenticeship programs**. Several people have committed to working and learning at D Acres in April and May. There are ten people that have told us they will be arriving in June (several staying throughout the entire summer). It looks like we will need to use the really big skillet when we make dinner every night for 15-20!

In February we officially began our **hostel service**,

offering rooms and meals to folks that fancy a night or several on the farm. Since posting our offerings on [hostel.com](#), we have received reservations from a variety of people. Father and Son visiting Plymouth State University; romantic getaway weekend for young couple; ski trip to Tenney Mountain, everybody seems to enjoy their stay! We love it because we have a captive audience for discussions about the state of agriculture today, our mushroom cultivation plans, or whatever else comes up as dinner conversation!

In March we began our [Friday Film Series](#). Twice a month we open up our Yoga room to the public (free!) to show an interesting variety of films. We now have the capacity to show films in surround sound projected in high definition on a 20 foot wide screen. Our goal is to provide an opportunity for our friends and neighbors to join us in learning about an [environmental issue](#), [a social injustice or movement](#), [a different culture](#), or [simply a work of artistic beauty and inspiration](#). We are excited about the series, because it is an opportunity for staff, on-site learners and visitors to access exceptional films that otherwise might not receive notice, as well as equally important mainstream cinema.

Choices for the month are listed on our [monthly events e-mails](#). If you would like to receive these e-mails once a month (and you are not already receiving them), please send us an e-mail at [dacres@cyberportal.net](mailto:dacres@cyberportal.net), and we will gladly add you to the list.

Our woodshop has been buzzing with activity, as Sam and Josh construct [furniture and beautiful crafts for sale](#). Sam has just completed the prototypes for his line of furniture, and is looking into printing services to reproduce his catalogue. (If you, or anyone that



you know is interested in donating printing services to a young ambitious nonprofit, please give us a call!) Sam is also working on [custom furniture](#) for folks that are looking to harmonize their living spaces, and planning his summer tour of the craft show circuit.

Our [Sustainable Forestry](#) program is speeding up as we try to get as much wood as possible in before mud season begins! The oxen are a bit wary of the ice covered paths, but they are very excited to stretch their legs and get down to the real business of pullin'



logs! Anthropomorphism perhaps, but they really seem to enjoy it!

Micki is busy getting plants started in the basement. It's a beautiful thing to look outside and see a blanket of snow, but wander down to the basement and see tray after tray of [tomato](#), [pepper](#), [greens](#), [onions](#), [eggplant](#) and [leak](#) plants sprouting up mightily under the

lights!

Jenn has been working hard to prepare for this

year's mushroom cultivation projects and the related workshops planned for May and August. She has also been planning for the arrival of school groups (field trip to the farm!!), as well as designing the childcare program.

In late February the staff brought **three Dorset sheep** (2 ewes and a ram) over from Lil' Bit Farm on Route 118 in Dorchester. They are happily sharing grazing land with the sister goats, and busily lambing. April brought us two little ones (a ewe and a ram)! We are all excited about learning the arts of shearing and assisting in the birthing process. We are also planning for the arrival of **60 chicks and 6 Khaki Campbell ducklings in May, and 6 pigs in June!**

**Monthly potlucks** continue at the farm. On May 2nd, 50 folks (ok, 49 people and our cat Willie) were mixing and mingling in the kitchen, touring the woodshop, sneaking down to the garden to see the lambs, and juggling in the yoga room. There's a time for work, and then there's a time for lazily chatting with neighbors and trying out everyone's favorite

recipe! Please join us for our next full moon potluck on June 4, or July 2!

We would like to take this time to thank our donors!



We were awed and delighted by the response to our first membership drive in December/January. Our new status as a publicly supported nonprofit is a responsibility that we take very seriously. Our supporters, employees, interns, neighbors and customers are the body of

stakeholders in whose interests we act. All of your voices are very important to us as we strive to fulfill the mission that brought our Board of Directors together. **Member driven input (your questions, suggestions and recommendations) are a vital part of our development, and serve to make us a better organization.** We truly appreciate your continued advice and guidance. Thank you so much for all your support!

If you are not yet a member of D Acres of New

## Are you a member yet??

Members get a reduced rate on workshops, our quarterly newsletter and access to our clubs and promotions. why not join D Acres of New Hampshire today? See back side for details...

Hampshire, please consider becoming one! Membership rates for 2004 are listed on the form below. If you are looking for other ways to support D Acres of New Hampshire, please take a look at our Wish List, posted at [www.dacres.org](http://www.dacres.org), on the Support Us page.

Along with this newsletter we are sending out our much requested **Calendar of Events for the 2004 season**. Our intention was to customize it to your refrigerator. So put it up there! If you are interested in any of our offerings, don't be afraid to give us a call. And to our far away friends and supporters, plan now! You don't want to miss the Pig Pickin' party on August 28<sup>th</sup>, the social event of the summer!

We would love to write more, but there's work to be done! We look forward to seeing you all this summer!

Peace,  
The Spring Crew



(Abby Micki Josh Sam and Jenn!)

Detach and mail to D Acres of New Hampshire, P.O. Box 98, Rumney, NH 03266  
Please make checks payable to D Acres of New Hampshire

## Membership & Donation Form

Not a member yet? Please check one of the following for your 2004 membership & fill in the information below:

**Student - \$10**     **Individual - \$20**     **Family - \$30**  
 **Supporter - \$100**     **Sustainer - \$500**     **Patron - \$1000**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of donation: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like a membership sent to a different address (family member, friend or colleague!), please write in their address below.