The last two years bear witness to a remarkable rebirth of the D Acres project. Since our 2010 theme of Reflection and Renewal, there has been a renewed focus & reinvigoration of the mission of the organization. Staff members Regina Rinaldo & Beth Weick are the fundamental catalysts of this revitalization. Their incredible investment of creativity, determination, intellect, & commitment have provided the essential ingredients for organizational growth and progress.

In 2011 the landscape, infrastructure, programs, & peoples of D Acres continued to evolve. On the grounds we renovated treehouses, repainted the silo, and occupied our newest greenhouses (the big hoop house in the upper & the glass house by the parking lot). We also are constructing a new house for our roadside breeding pigs, who are demonstrating their propensity to transform forest to garden for the traffic on Streeter Woods Rd. During the spring we also upgraded our outhouse and solar shower facilities while this summer, 180,000 lbs of gravel was spread onsite to improve the accessibility & longevity of our walking trails. We also endeavored to improve the aesthetics & accessibility of the grounds with sculptures and demarcation of the hiking and cross country skiing trails.

Primarily in 2011, we attempted to focus our frost to frost energies on food production. There was renewed emphasis on the gardens with a further expansion of the orchards & vegetable production. We concentrated on food preservation for onsite consumption as well as drying herbs for teas & culinary spice. We exceeded all of our previous food production totals and continued working the grounds through December.

Our program diversity and service capacity grew again in 2011. Our Permaculture course continued to blossom with our 2nd Annual Permaculture Through the Seasons Design Certification Course. Steve Whitman & Keith Morris led another extraordinary educational experience with a class that met on weekends from April through November. A new facet of our educational work is a technological adventure in video production. Early in the year, we collaborated with public access television in Plymouth to produce a 40 minute video on Permaculture. In the spring, I toured to over a dozen locations in New England presenting the video and offering Q&A discussions. In addition, we have produced a wide variety of videos ranging from musical & theatrical performances to demonstrations of seed starting and transplanting available on our website. These videos document the entertainment and public presentations at D Acres as well as present sustainability education with practical, hands-on content.
There was also a substantial influx of kind, talented, hardworking individuals that continue to expand our organizational capacity. In 2011, Dustin Laverack was the backbone of our forestry program. Katie Cristiano actualized the tea & culinary herb project and displayed her talents in program development, sculpture, advertising and administrative necessities. Matt Palo has provided technical & mechanical skills while also orchestrating our drip irrigation, silk screening and video production projects. George Matthews demonstrates a capable, amiable presence as our resident blacksmith & hospitality coordinator. Scott Codey has become the resident baker, initiating a weekly Bread CSA & Multi-Farm Winter CSA distributed in Plymouth. All of these individuals have committed hours working towards our common goals. These hours have been spent not only in the gardens weeding or in the kitchen cooking. These individuals have invested diligently in the development of an agreed mission driven agenda. Through patience, determination & good will, they have manifested positive group dynamics utilizing a philosophy based on communication and trust. The year has been a fantastic experience working with this vibrant group and I look forward to our future collaborative development.

In 2012 we look forward to a continued progress of positive possibilities with our theme The Year of Local Economy: Currency in Community. This theme values our responsibility to rekindle the brilliance of a thriving local culture. We will focus on how to empower the local networks of knowledge, skills, & natural resources that create a vibrant community. Towards this end we are expanding the 6th Annual Local Goods Guide to include non-food agricultural products and handmade goods. We are also organizing a multi-farm CSA in collaboration with several area farms to provide subscribers with fresh, locally grown food throughout the winter months. There are also plans to initiate a Local Currency system in the Plymouth area to help reduce reliance on the cash based economy.

With regards to our Board of Directors, we are excited to welcome Ronda Kilanowski. We honor the service of long standing members Brian Eisenhauer and Betty Trought as they depart from the Board. The staff values the responsibility and commitment of our Board of Directors as we continue to forge ahead in our collaborative mission. In 2012 we will foster relationships and highlight our cooperative efforts by holding a 15 year reunion of the D Acres community. We are inviting past participants for a weekend of activity on Oct 26-28, 2012. During the weekend, in addition to hosting community food, music and dance events, we will also provide a forum for the alumni to generate ideas and offer feedback designed to enhance and invigorate the future of D Acres.

2012 will be another year of progress and we encourage you to be active participants. We encourage you to visit our expanded and accessible grounds throughout the year to tour the gardens, commune with the animals, or jaunt in the woods. We appreciate hungry guests at our monthly food events such as Final Friday Potluck/Open Mic, 1st Sunday Farm Feast, & 1st Friday Pizza and a Movie.

Throughout our existence we have committed to providing service through hard work and wise financial management. We will continue our pledge to efficiently utilize the generous resources of time and money that is donated to this organization. As always, there are numerous ways to contribute, as a member, as a volunteer, as a workshop participant, or community liaison. Do what you are able! In whatever way you choose to demonstrate, we are thankful for all of your contributions to a sustainable culture.

Josh Trought, “Conductor”

Dedicated to the memory of communitarian friends:
Craig Disbrow, Hank Melanson, Evie Spodnik

Board of Directors
Gary Walker: Chairman   Ronda Kilanowski: Treasurer  
Bethann Weick: Secretary  
Brian Eisenhauer, Bob Richer

Staff
Joshua Trought  Regina Rinaldo
Director  Kitchen Manager
Bethann Weick  Farm Support

Residents
Katie Cristiano, Scott Codey, George Matthews, Matt Palo

Become a Member! REFER A FRIEND!

Members save 25% on D Acres workshops and classes, 10% on hostel fees, and are honored at the Member Bring a Friend Dinner on April 14, 2012 and Member Celebration dinner on October 27, 2012.

Name: __________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________
Membership:  ____ Student, Senior, Low Income ($15)  ____ Individual ($25)
             ____ Family ($35)  ____ Business ($50)  ____Sustainer ($100+)
Additional donations are appreciated.
Please contact us if you are interested in estate planning.
Which would you prefer? ____ snail mail  ____ email  ____ neither
Mail this completed form to:
D Acres of New Hampshire, P.O. Box 98, Dorchester, NH 03266
Please keep us updated with any changes of address, phone, email address.
Thank you!

We greatly appreciate your support through donations and contributions.

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Turtle Ridge Foundation

Businesses/Organizations

Baker River Watershed Association
Cafe Monte Alto Coffee Roasters
Goodsearch
IDSP-Pakistan
Malone, Dirrubbo and Company, P.C.
PAREI

D Acres is a Community Supported Non-Profit.

Your support and enthusiasm, your sharing of dishes and musical talents, your membership and service and especially your smiling faces are what make this project possible!

The Mission

of D Acres is to improve the human relationship with the rural New England landscape through farm-based research, education, and demonstration of sustainable farming, cooperative community, and healthy living.

2012

is the Year of

The Local Economy:
Currency in Community

2012 Projects include:

❖ a winter multi-farm CSA
❖ the 6th edition of the Local Goods Guide
❖ the launch of a community based currency
❖ our 3rd year of hosting the “Permaculture Through the Seasons” Design Course

Monthly Events at the Farm

First Friday: Pizza and Movie Night
First Sunday: Farm Feast Breakfast & Open Trails
Second Thursday: Knitting Circle
Third Thursday: Cooking with the Seasons
Last Friday: Potluck & Open Mic
Last Sunday: Volunteer Day
Education at D Acres in 2011

11 Resident Learners
1,758 Volunteer Hours
861 Farm Tours
3,555 Visitors
77 Workshops
43 Community Food Events
37 Piglets
40 Gallons of Sauerkraut
3,980 Eggs
2,500 Pounds of Potatoes
1,750 Hostel Guests

Our trails are open all year round for recreation. Come anytime to visit the forest and the farm!

Alumni Weekend
October 26-28, 2012
Come celebrate 15 years of D Acres!

A special Thank You to our outstanding volunteers:
Donna Abell, Nick Anderson, Rich Angell, Steve Ash, Steph Aubert, Sean Auclair, Sydney Bennett, Martin Becze, Matt Bracken, Brendan Coffey, Alex Corey, Jim Cross, Martin Decato, Maria Diaz, Ben Dube, Joanne Ducas, Michelle Dunn, Tyler Durham, Brian Eisenhauer, Merck Farm and Forest, Felix, Kristin Fleischmann-Rose, King Arthur Flour Employees, Jenn Forbes, Phillip Forest, Max Fransen, Allison Furbish, Karen Ganey, Marcus Gardiner, Geoff Goodhue, Angus Gorman, Ken Gould, Johannes Griesshammer, Ryan Harvey, Meika Hashimoto, Jo*el Heathcote, Charlie Howes, Jackie Jolles, Ronda Kilanowski, Paul Kile, Cookie Kinder, Makayla Kingsley, Koren Korenko, Dawn Lemieux, Ann Leoding, Ada Leoding-Matthews, Aige Marshall, Kevin Masse, Gary Matthews, Faye Miller, Marion Mills, George Morrill, Martha Morrill, John Morrissey, George Packard, Joan Packard, Plymouth State University Students, Bob Richer, Chuck Rinaldo, Theresa Rinaldo, Jacob Rogers, Gabe Roxby, Olivia Saunders, Emily Schindler, Chris Schrott, Sharon Seabrook, Dannie Simon, Brooke Stapelton, Sterling College Students, John Thompson, Jonathan Tremblay, Betty Trought, Bill Trought, Louise Turner, Joe Vachon, Jesse Veverka, Bev Walker, Gary Walker, Sarah Wall, Elizabeth Waste, Michael Wilson, Bob Weick, Maria Weick

D Acres on the Web
www.dacres.org  d-acres.blogspot.com

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