

The School of the Natural Order, Inc.  
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# RESONANCE

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May / June 2009

## AROUND THE PLACE

Yesterday afternoon, in the midst of setting out tomato plants in the garden, Jane Murray stood up, stretched, and listened to the sounds coming from different parts of the Home Farm property.

“There sure is a lot going on around here,” she said.

Her statement sums up the past several months here at Home Farm.

Thanks to the arrival of spring, much of this activity has involved the gardens and grounds, of course.

Jane and Marj Coffman carefully planted and then tended literally hundreds of seedlings, including annual and perennial flowers, many types of cucumbers and winter squashes, several varieties of peppers, and tomatoes. Once the seeds germinated, each tiny plant needed to be transplanted into its own larger individual container, and then all of these sets continued to be watered, examined for disease, set outside to harden off, and finally, was ready to put out into our gardens.

The garden is full of these transplants now, and we can look at each plant and marvel, first of all that from one tiny seed so much abundance will flow during the course of the summer, and second, that

each transplant represents such devoted time and care.

We have expanded the garden space this year with plantings of potatoes and corn in the middle section. Due to a lack of rabbit- and deer-proof space, we haven't planted either crop for over ten years, so we are looking forward to a delicious harvest of these vegetables in the late summer.

The lawns and landscaping have received their share of attention, too, with compost, fertilizer, mowing, and plantings of flowers. The lawns are bursting with vitality. The flower boxes around the Main House are filled with columbine, Dutch iris, tulips, gaillardia, and echinacea. The Centrum flowerbeds have been expanded to accommodate perennials like hollyhocks, daisies, and delphiniums, and the Centrum planter boxes are filled with colorful annuals.

This spring has been quite mild, so we are hoping that our orchard trees survived the early April frosts and will produce a good fruit harvest this year. The art trailer, nestled under the old apricot trees, has been a focal point for regular activity, with work crews continuing the upgrade of this space several times each week.

Much is going on in the pond and pasture as well. The birds love both the

water and the meadows, and there are many healthy grasses growing in the pasture. The first mowing has already occurred. Deer often congregate in the meadow, and several weeks ago three elk were sighted there, grazing early one morning.

The roofing crew has finally been able to complete the Centrum roof. It looks wonderful! Many roofing work days needed to be rescheduled this spring, due to rainy and windy weather, but the finished roof is truly a lovely sight, and should last for many years. We thank all who contributed to this project, and to Rex Leonard, who headed up the roofing crew over the past six months.

The library area in the Centrum is also undergoing a major renovation. Lynne Hoffman, our librarian, has been cataloging new and donated books, but we had many more books than we had space available for them. So Lynne boxed up all the books in the south library room and moved them into a corner of the classroom. Rex began building shelving that makes optimum use of the available space. Now the shelving is completed, and we are anticipating moving the books back onto the shelves within the next few weeks.

Lynne used this opportunity to sort through the books as she boxed them, culling out duplicates, and setting them aside for the book sale that the School is planning to sponsor during Snake Valley Days at the end of July. This event, planned by Nevada and Utah residents of Snake Valley, is designed to raise money to help defray legal costs associated with the effort to prevent Las Vegas from taking Snake Valley water and exporting it south to

Clark County for its own use (also known as "the water grab").

Two major construction projects continue on the northwest hill above the farm. Robert Cozzie continues the work he started last fall to prepare the site for his home. Much work is also being done to ready the Weese mobile home site, including basics such as installing septic, water, and electrical service, as well as pouring the concrete footings and general excavation and grading. Their mobile home is due to arrive the first week in June.

We continue to meet each Thursday evening after dinner for our general semantics class. First the group studied semantics lessons from Vitvan's *Cosmology*. Now we are reading and discussing an article on dialogue by theoretical physicist David Bohm.

Another group that meets regularly is the housing committee. This group, made up of interested residents here at Home Farm, reviews and prioritizes maintenance and building projects. Members have also spent some time discussing future growth here at the School headquarters and have begun considering elements that would be appropriate in a master plan.

We are looking forward to our seminar this year, and hope that some of you can make the trip to share this special time with us.

And now, may the peace and the power of the Infinite Spirit, which passes all understanding, hold us and keep us in the love of the Christed consciousness while we are seemingly separated one from another.

—Susan Wetmore, May, 2009