



AROUND THE PLACE

October 2017

September seemed to be easing us into a long, gentle Indian summer until about ten days ago, when suddenly, almost overnight, an approaching cold front dropped the temperature thirty degrees and the first snow of the season fell up on the mountain. Although very little of our landscape and garden plants here at the School were damaged, the golden color of the aspens that was just beginning to spread up at the higher mountain elevations has been ended and the frigid temperatures have turned most of those leaves black.

The hillside west of Home Farm is beginning to develop its spectacular autumn hues of scarlet, orange and yellow as the wild roses and other native plants respond to the shorter days and colder nights. In the orchard, the leaves on the pear trees are turning deep red, and the walnut and apricot leaves have also begun to turn yellow.

The garden is slowly shutting down, too, although we are still getting tomatoes, cabbages, beets, and flowers. The more tender plants like basil, squash and cucumbers are finished for this season, and are awaiting transformation into compost in a pile outside the garden fence. The garden has been very generous to us this year. Many helpers put lots of good energy toward the garden this entire

season and the garden responded in kind. We have enjoyed delicious vegetables and lovely flowers all summer long.

Rabbit brush, which is ubiquitous in the Great Basin, is ablaze with its orange flowers right now. These plants, which provide winter forage for the jackrabbits, also provide shelter for hundreds of moths at this time of year. Walking past bushes of rabbit brush stirs up clouds of these moths during the day, then at night our windows have dozens of moths beating their wings (surprisingly noisily) against our windows trying to get inside.



We have several families of deer spending time in our orchard, enjoying the pear windfall and other

tasty tidbits in the meadows and around the springs. The fawns have begun to lose their spots as they mature and get ready for the cold winter that will be here in a month or two.

Over the past few weeks, our hummingbirds have flown south to their winter homes and many of our songbirds have left, too. However, the magpies and ravens continue to be active and the owls here at Home Farm serenade us nightly beginning at dusk.

Work on the Pavilion has continued into the fall, with the most recent phase involving building supports for the permanent floor. The crew hopes to have the floor completed before winter. A lot of work has occurred in the log cabin west of the Pavilion, too. Several major areas need to be addressed before the cabin can be lived in again. The first project has been working on the wiring in the bathroom/laundry area. That part of the project is just about done.

In addition to these major projects, on-going activities occur each day – watering the lawns, mowing, cleaning porches, taking care of office responsibilities, preparing guest rooms, working on the garden harvest, etc. We usually follow our regular Sunday class with a discussion time, which gives us a chance to ask questions and share observations relating to that morning's lesson. And each Monday afternoon a group meets in the Main House to help edit whichever lesson course is scheduled to be republished next.

We have enjoyed many visitors in this late summer period. Some of these were old friends and students and some were personal friends and

relatives of residents here. Welcoming visitors to Home Farm brings us a great deal of satisfaction. This summer our visitors seem to have been exceptionally wonderful.



We hosted a birthday party for Marj Coffman in August. Marj turned 90 last month and we invited friends from throughout the valley and from Ely to help us celebrate this momentous occasion, which was held at the Border Inn. The food was delicious and the company delightful. We are thankful for Marj's presence in our lives and we wish her all good things as she enters her tenth decade of life.

May the Peace and 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,
Late September 2017



[Donate to the School](#)

Remember: It's tax deductible!

The School of the Natural Order is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

SCHOOL OF THE NATURAL ORDER

PO BOX 150, BAKER NV 89311

Phone: 775-234-7304 Email: sno@sno.org Website: <http://www.sno.org>