



Hart's Mill Happenings

February, 2020

UP FRONT

NEW Visibility Campaign: We're thrilled to welcome Terry O'Keefe who is crafting and leading an initiative designed to get the word out about Hart's Mill on many levels. Terry hails from western NC and is currently staying at Hart's Nest. He is working with a select group to hone our message and connect with individuals and organizations near and far. **There's room for YOU to participate**—just contact [Hope](#) for more information.

Fun photos: check out **Sights from 2019** on the last page of the calendar, in case you missed it last month.

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

LAND STEWARDSHIP: The month of January was chock-full of land-related activities! On the 19th, we had a very successful **Wood Wide Web** workday, spearheaded as usual by Randy Dodd. Seven of us worked on thinning the too-crowded pines around the future bath-house area. The next day, the Land Stewardship workday drew a record crowd of participants including 3 lively children. We worked on trash pick-up in the woods, clearing around young oaks, digging footers for the bath-house, cleaning up after the previous day's work, and putting up the farm fence we had to take down for the WWW. On Last Saturday the LSC gave a presentation about our **Community Farming Initiative** and ended the day with new energy around crop plans for 2020!



HART'S MILL CALENDAR



Scene from a February past; Banner above: winter green

GET INVOLVED—VISIT A CIRCLE MEETING

*Hart's Mill is attracting fine new members who are bringing the creativity, funding, and elbow grease needed to help move this project forward. **We hope that you will feel inspired to join us in this coming year!** All of our leaders would be very happy to talk with and guide you as you become more involved. **Please contact us:***

★ **Membership & Marketing:**

Marilyn Grubbs, Amy Halberstadt

★ **Financial & Legal:** Paul Voss

★ **Land Stewardship:** Jeffry Goodrum, Margret Mueller

★ **Planning, Design, & Development:**

Anthony Weston, Katy Ansardi

★ **Governance & Training:** Maria Silvia, Hope Horton

Note: *all events are open to everyone unless otherwise indicated, and **Zoom teleconferencing & child care** are available for most Circle meetings upon request. Observers are encouraged and **RSVP is essential!***

FINANCIAL & LEGAL: It's tax time! We're working on getting our taxes completed and the K-1 schedules out to our investors. In addition we're working on developing a draft strategic plan and, of course, continuing our fundraising efforts (after all, it's a new year too with lots of big plans coming up!).

PLANNING, DESIGN, AND DEVELOPMENT: PDD is in the last stages of revising the Common House schematic design – down to a few matters of roof ornaments and room names. Look for an unveiling soon! it's not final but it's the product of a thorough and detailed process with both floor plan and elevations that convey a clear of the kind of building we are planning for the center of our community.

New initiative: Meanwhile our newest highlight is the initiative we are launching for the month of February to thoroughly reconsider, re-research, and boost our basic design and infrastructural aspirations across the board, looking at goals for carbon neutrality, self-reliance, and regenerative development might play out across key sectors such as energy use, water, food production, and materials. **We want to be sure we have the best input and make use of the latest developments when we begin architectural design development**—the next step after schematic design— and site engineering planning. Please plan to join us for the **February Last Saturday** event, where we plan to lay out our results so far. It's also Leap Day: February 29th — just the right day to crystallize a new big leap forward!

IN THE KNOW...

Have you read/seen/heard something inspiring lately that you'd like to share with the community? Please send in your recommendations to [Hope](#).

Margret's reading recommendations

In January, I read two books back-to-back which acted as an unintended roller-coaster of emotion. ***The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*** (David Wallace Wells) is a serious and seriously depressing book about what can and may well happen to this earth in our lifetime. ***Wilding: Returning Nature to our Farm*** (Isabella Tree) is an uplifting and mostly optimistic look at a huge former farm in England that was allowed to go "wild", resulting in the return of many creatures and habitats.

LAND STEWARDSHIP CIRCLE

Sunday, February 2, 2:00-4:30pm

Hart's Nest, Mebane

RSVP Margret: earthbound52@gmail.com

Visitors always welcome, in person or via Zoom

PLANNING, DESIGN, & DEVELOPMENT CIRCLE

Wednesday, February 5, 5:00-7:30pm dinner meeting

Anthony's home in Durham

RSVP Anthony: weston@elon.edu

Observers are always welcome, with RSVP

GOVERNANCE & TRAINING CIRCLE

Thursday, February 13, 4:00-6:00pm

Hart's Nest, Mebane

RSVP Maria: mariasilviapini@gmail.com

Our whole circle will be in a facilitation training workshop on the third Thursday of February (see Community Events listing), so our meeting this month is a week earlier. Come to this one and stay for Finance & Legal at 6:30pm – observe two circles and drive to Mebane only once!

FINANCIAL & LEGAL CIRCLE

Thursday, February 13, 6:30-9:00pm

Hart's Nest, Mebane

RSVP Paul: voss@hawkweed.net

Our Circle continues to invite anyone who wishes to become more deeply involved with Hart's Mill matters.

WOOD WIDE WEB WORKDAY

Sunday, February 16, 10:00am-3:00pm (includes BYO

lunch break at the Cedar Pavilion), Hart's Mill Land

RSVP Margret for info: earthbound52@gmail.com

*The WWW is a forest stewardship initiative led by Randy Dodd that where we thin designated tree stands and tackle invasive plants. **No experience needed!** If you plan to participate **please let Randy know an arrival time beforehand** so that you can find each other. doddDOTrandyATgmailDOTcom*

PLANNING, DESIGN, & DEVELOPMENT CIRCLE

Sunday, February 16, 6:00-8:30pm dinner meeting

Anthony's home in Durham

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST TO EXPAND YOUR SOCIAL & CULTURAL HORIZONS

Is something happening that you want our members to know about? Please send your listing to Hope by the 25th of each month.

Racial Equity Institute Training

Sponsored by Organizing Against Racism (OAR)
We **strongly recommend** these 2-day trainings as a way to begin a shared conversation about racism and social/environmental justice at Hart's Mill. **They fill up fast!** Check the OAR website (OARalliance.org) for details and registration.

Introduction to DRAWDOWN, Saturday, February 15, 1:30-3:30pm, Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship • 4907 Garrett Road, Durham, 27707, NC, [Click here](#) to register for this FREE event
The Pachamama Alliance-RTP and ERUUF Earth Justice invite you to learn about **practical, current solutions to global warming**. It's helped thousands of people move from fear and despair to hope and action on the most urgent challenge of our times. In this two-hour workshop, you'll see both the **possibility of reversing global warming and your important role in the process**. Through videos and group activities, you'll learn about the latest research on how it is possible to actually reverse global warming. We'll talk briefly about the top 80 solutions identified to reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases and how they fit together to form a comprehensive plan to reverse global warming by 2050.

Integrative Facilitation Training Program, with Laird Schaub and Maria Silvia, continues on February 20-23. There's still time to join this **ongoing training for those interested in serving our community in this most potent and selfless way!** For more information about this program, contact [Maria Silvia](#)

Compassionate Connection (aka Non-Violent Communication or NVC) February 26, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Unity Center of Peace, 8800 Seawell School Road, Chapel Hill. Suggested donation of \$10. For more information, contact Marilyn Grubbs at marilyngrubbs@gmail.com.

RSVP Anthony: weston@elon.edu
Observers are always welcome, with RSVP.

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING CIRCLE

Thursday, February 20, 7:00-9:00pm (or visit via Zoom)
Amy Halberstadt's home in Durham
RSVP essential to Marilyn: marilyngrubbs@gmail.com
Visitors are welcome, either in person or via Zoom

WORK DAY ON THE LAND

Land Stewardship Circle
Saturday, January 22, 1:00-5:00pm, plus potluck
RSVP Jeffrey: seeingstarsfarm@gmail.com
Meet at the Cedar Pavilion at 1:00 for tasks and instructions and gather for a 5:00 potluck around the fire circle. These workdays are a great way to get to know each other while working cooperatively in beautiful surroundings. For questions or directions, please contact Jeffrey.

PLANNING, DESIGN, & DEVELOPMENT CIRCLE

Wednesday, February 26, 4:30-6:00pm, via Zoom
RSVP Anthony: weston@elon.edu
Observers are always welcome, with RSVP

GENERAL CIRCLE

Thursday, February 27, 6-ish potluck; 7-9:30pm
Hart's Nest, Mebane
RSVP to Hope is essential: hopematrix@fastmail.com
We welcome observers, in person or via Zoom.

LAST SATURDAY with PLANNING, DESIGN, & DEVELOPMENT

Saturday, February 29, 3:00-6:00pm
Hart's Nest, Mebane
RSVP Anthony: Weston@elon.edu
Come participate in our newest initiative to thoroughly reconsider, re-research, and boost our basic design and infrastructural goals across the board such as carbon neutrality, self-reliance, and regenerative development. We want to be sure we have the best input and make use of the latest developments when we begin architectural design development—the next step after schematic design—and site engineering planning. We'll lay out our results so far. It's Leap Day—a day to crystallize a new big leap forward!

SIGHTS FROM 2019

Can you identify these scenes? Match up the photos— left to right across each column—with the captions at the bottom. Then check out the blog post links to read more!



Top down, left to right: Witchgers on a [nature walk](#); butterflies and milkweed; black trumpet mushrooms; Margret gives a hayride; [farm team daikon radishes](#); [foraging with Kim Calhoun](#); black bean harvest; turtles in the marsh; hawk bath; coyote; [box turtle](#); wheeeeelbarrow ride; cardinal flower; [black bean stomp](#)

Many thanks to all who have snapped the photos on this page, namely Margret Mueller, Joe Cole, Bailey Hollingsworth, Paul Voss, Hope Horton, and our trusty Trail Cam.



Top down, left to right: Margret's starfruit salad; harvest festival fun; the coolbot moves in; snowy pump house; celebration at Catrina's; [soils testing stage](#); [flex-house prototype](#); beet seeds; farm team [red-white-and-blue potatoes](#); [treehouse](#) built by Anthony, Bailey, and Gaius; Amy sifts [black beans](#)

