

Hager Homestead Newsletter

January 2022

Building the first 55+ cohousing community in New England



Announcing: Construction Has Begun!

As this is being written, Hager Homestead is being built!
The workers braving the Massachusetts winter are from
Nauset Construction.

Find Out About the Project!

Hear about our plans, timeline, and how to reserve a home.
Limited pre-construction homes available in
the
only 55+ cohousing community in New England.

We have a few openings in our two Zoom Info Sessions that
we announced earlier this month

Sun., Jan. 30, 6-7 pm EST

[Click to Register for Sunday](#)

Mon., Jan. 31, 5-6 pm EST

[Click to Register for Monday](#)

Table of Contents

- The Priority List
- Where we have been. What we have done.
- What we have (sadly) NOT done
- Book group, virtual scone cooking lesson & dog news
- Inspiration from one of our members

The Importance of our Priority List!!

Why You Should Be On It

What if you're not ready to live with us yet, but would like to in the future?

When we have a home for sale at Hager Homestead—as we do now—we offer it first to the current member/owners, and then to members on our Priority List. That's why, if you're interested in Hager Homestead, your best chance to someday live in our community is to 1. attend an Info Session, 2. become an Explorer, 3. then move onto our Priority List.

We have Info Sessions this weekend on Sunday and Monday evenings. (See above announcement.)

Scroll to the bottom of this newsletter to tour our site, or follow this link to our [website](#) for information on how to become an

What We've Been Up To

Museum of Fine Arts

Last month's newsletter showed seven of us dining together at a local restaurant. Those were the days. We're back to hibernating again, except for a few excursions. Diane and one of the two Barbaras took in the Museum of Fine Arts' Quilt exhibit.



Christmas with Family

Tom and Brenda spent Christmas in Tennessee with their daughter's family. Tom read the boys, *The Night Before Christmas*.



What We Have NOT Been Up To

To give him full credit, Mike has traveled more than most of us during this fraught time -- here he is, apparently sopping wet, in an Ecuadorian rain forest looking for birds. He has a long list of cancelled trips due to coronavirus: Morocco, Hawaii, and Ethiopia.



Other Activities:

- A few of us started a **book group** this past week. Our first book: Suite Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky. Our list of prospects came from the January 19, 2022 issue of Atlantic Monthly.

- Victoria gave the Acton Barbara (we have two Barbaras) a **virtual cooking lesson** on Zoom: how to make orange cranberry scones. Extremely good.



Dog News



- Last week Micki's dog, Ella, was humiliated by a too-thorough clipping. Worse, in her state of unfamiliar nudity, she began shivering uncontrollably, Micki quickly layered her in every stitch of dog duds available. Ella, (left) suffered the additional shame of looking ... well, not really fashionable.

Inspiration...

from one of our members

Frieda, a member of our community and the author of the reflection below, is a Unitarian Universalist minister.

What Does it Mean to Belong to a Community?

I believe it is our need to connect closely with others in friendship.

But what makes our relationships in a community meaningful?

The answer: we share our lives intentionally; we listen to each other. We commit ourselves to know each other and be known, to work together to create a community that nurtures and challenges us.

The process of building a community begins with the courage to be ourselves and continues when compassion or empathy for others overrules our prejudices and reactions. And community begins to be fulfilling when we allow ourselves to change, when we allow others in the community to challenge our outworn behaviors and ideas.

To be committed to a community requires patience, tolerance, and the capacity to forgive. As someone observed, “These are gifts learned in *real* community.” We're loyal to our community because we want the great gift of personal transformation. We're loyal to what the community could be—the values it stands for, even when we sometimes fail.

Perhaps we can also see that membership in a community is a process rather than an event. We grow into membership as we grow in understanding the purpose, the covenant, and the work of the community and when we allow it to challenge us and nurture us.

[Tour Our Site!](#)

Visit Hagerhomestead.org and scroll to the bottom of the '[About Our Project](#)' page for a video tour of our future home



Behind Hager Homestead: Construction Moonscape

As for the religion and love of art of the builders, it is much the same all the world over, whether the building be an Egyptian temple or the United States Bank. -- Henry David Thoreau, [Walden](#)

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