

Peacehaven

News from the Farm

Winter 2012



Peacehaven
Community Farm



A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Our work at Peacehaven aligns with nature in a multitude of ways and each season offers unique gifts. As I walk across our rolling hills and see the changes as autumn gives way to winter – the clear blue sky, the brilliant sunlight, the trees laid bare, the hush that overtakes the animals, the first snow yet to come – I think about our world going underground to renew itself and prepare for spring.

The seasons provide a wise metaphor for the movement of life and, for me, winter's gift is that of clarity – a season where the things



“ Everyone has
a gift, and
the farm is a place
where all those gifts can
be received and
put to good use. ”

that I am most thankful for can be seen more clearly. The season of Thanksgiving is a favorite of mine and my family. It's also a favorite season at Peacehaven and offers us a chance to celebrate the many gifts that have helped bring Peacehaven to life. A core ethic at Peacehaven is that everyone has a gift and the farm is a place where all those gifts can be received and put to good use. Those gifts take many wonderful shapes and forms and each one helps to build and shape Peacehaven into a place of community and growth for us all.

The gifts we give thanks for have allowed us to grow our programs at the farm and welcome hundreds of volunteers from our community to be a part of the life at Peacehaven. Your financial gifts through our Seeds of Hope annual campaign provide critical funding that allows Peacehaven to serve folks with disabilities and their families. Those gifts will be matched with support from Guilford County and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Greensboro and will be put to special use next year when we begin building our first home, Susan's View, and welcome our first residents. It truly is a time to be thankful.

This issue of our newsletter will highlight some of the folks who have shared and are sharing their gifts with Peacehaven. So many of our volunteers and supporters use their gifts and talents in ways that make a powerful and lasting impact. As you read their stories I think you will get a sense of why we are so excited – and thankful!

With clarity and thankfulness,

Buck Cochran

2 The 2012
Peacehaven
Honor Card

3 Volunteer
Spotlight

4 Laying the
Foundation
for Susan's
View

We are a living, breathing, growing community that extends far beyond our gardens and pastures...a diverse community of people blessed with unique talents and gifts that have come together to create something big...something important...something that improves and transforms our world.



Artist Sandra Cates

The 2012 Peacehaven Honor Card

Peacehaven — it is easy to see that we are a farm with no shortage of jobs — from shoveling dirt and planting seeds to harvesting vegetables and collecting eggs. There is a job for each person that joins us for our weekly workday and your combined efforts over the past three years have transformed 89 acres of fallow earth into a vibrant, sustainable farm.

the gift of talent

As grateful as we are for this transformation, we are infinitely more grateful that Peacehaven is so much more than just a farm — we are a community. A living, breathing, growing community that extends far beyond our gardens and pastures...a diverse community of people blessed with unique talents and gifts that have come together to create something big ... something important ... something that improves and transforms our world.

This year's honor card not only features our beautiful barn that is central to life on the farm, it is an example of the beauty of community and the many gifts that

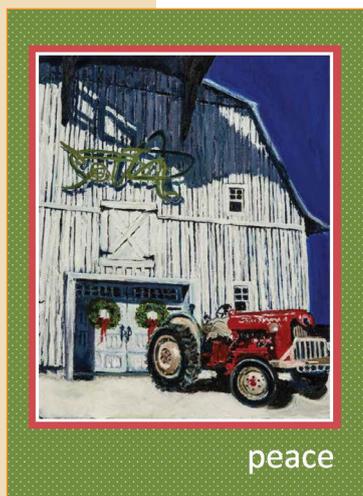
have been shared to make Peacehaven possible. We are deeply grateful to **Sandra Cates**, the artist that painted this year's image, for sharing her talent with us. She has an extraordinary gift of art, however, her generosity and happy spirit are the gifts that most transform our lives and we are thankful that she is part of the Peacehaven community.

We are thankful for each person's gift that makes Peacehaven possible — for the gifts that transform our world, our farm and us.

Our Honor Card is available for a minimum donation of \$5. It is available at the following locations:

- Peacehaven Community Farm
1458 NC Hwy 61, Whitsett
(call 336.449.9900 first)
- Sacred Garden Bookstore
215 West Fisher Ave
- Various congregations throughout the city:
 - Covenant Presbyterian
 - Westminster Presbyterian
 - 1st Presbyterian Weekday Preschool
- Design Archives, 342 South Elm Street
- www.peacehavenfarm.org

2012 Peacehaven Honor Card



peace

Meet John and Carolyn ...

Volunteer, neighbor, friend — John and Carolyn Albright have embraced Peacehaven with their support from our earliest days and no words can adequately describe the many ways they give of themselves. Their home is just across the lake from the farm and their gardens are both bountiful and beautiful. They generously contribute produce to fill our CSA boxes when we run a little short and they share both their expertise as farmers and their equipment with Peacehaven.

John is a beekeeper and keeps an eye on our hives, brings his tractor over to help us plow our fields, and is always willing to pick up a shovel and lend a hand whenever there is a need. If you ask him why, when he has his own garden to tend, he works at Peacehaven, he will give you a smile that will brighten your day and tell you: “I don’t ever leave disappointed ... I learn new things and I meet new and interesting people.”

Carolyn is an award-winning day

lily grower and has over 1,000 different varieties that she sells from her garden. Her flowers often decorate our table; however, almost everyone knows her for her food that she brings to the table for our covered dish lunch. Every Saturday, Carolyn spends her morning preparing the best, down-

the gift of self

home, finger lickin’, roll-up-your-sleeves Southern food you have ever had. The kind of food that will take you back to the meals and love you might have shared

around your grandmother’s table — fresh biscuits, stewed apples, squash casserole, pintos, barbecue, fried okra, pound cake, chocolate pie, homemade ice cream and sweet tea — and that is just one Saturday!



“ I don’t ever leave disappointed... I learn new things and I meet new and interesting people. ”

Every volunteer has a favorite. Jake will tell you that his favorite is the sweet tea ... Will, the chocolate pie ... and Anna, the stewed apples. It is all good ... but the best part is Carolyn and John.

Ten-year-old, Liam comes closest to explaining it as he hugs Carolyn and says, “You’ve just like a grandma.” They come with smiles, hugs and love and will tell anyone that “we are very gifted to be a part of Peacehaven.” It goes both ways and if you haven’t been out to a workday and a covered dish lunch, join us next Spring — John and Carolyn will be there and are sure to impact both your waist and your heart.

First Friday Indie Market



Downtown Greensboro
Corner of South Elm and MLK
Friday, December 7, 4 - 9 pm

Look for our tent at the Indie Market for more Peacehaven talent. Our fiber artists, under the leadership of Ann Wren, have been working for months processing our wool to create nativity sets, snowmen ornaments, and much, much more. Their work is amazing ... just look for their smiling faces.

Laying the Foundation for Susan's View

Everyone knows that if you start wrong, chances are good that you will end wrong. We feel a deep responsibility to be wise stewards of the \$375,000 federal HOME grant, along with every other dollar donated to Peacehaven, as we approach the construction of our first home, Susan's View.

Although we certainly are not professional builders, it is not a stretch to call us professional community builders. Peacehaven is built on a model of community where the values of service, sharing, and the recognition

“ As excited as we are about the upcoming construction of Susan's View, our first home, it is the community component of this project that really resonates with us. ”

of every individual's gifts and contributions offer a model of renewal for our world. As excited as we are about the upcoming construction of Susan's View, our first home, it is the community component of this project that really resonates with us.

Community grounds us as an organization and will serve as our foundation to successfully build Susan's View. We have assembled a team of diverse professionals to guide and direct us through the development and building of Susan's View

and its associated programming. This team is making great progress to ensure that we both start right and end right.

Phil Barbee is the Director of Construction and Land Development at Habitat for Humanity of Greensboro.

He and **Amanda Albert**, Habitat's Construction Supervisor for Peacehaven, provided guidance throughout our planning process to ensure our project is buildable, energy efficient and meets green building certification standards. Habitat is our general contractor and is currently pricing out the project in preparation for a February/March groundbreaking. They are excited to work with Peacehaven for the opportunity to work with new green building technologies, different finishes and to be a part of the broader Peacehaven community. Phil noted that the weather is always "perfect" when he is at the farm – we are counting on him for perfect weather throughout construction of Susan's View. We will count on Amanda for a few different things!

Paul Evans has worked in the mental health/developmental disability field since 1974. He served



Pictured left to right: Alan Wilson, Phil Barbee, Amanda Albert, Paul Evans, and Talmage Payne

the gift of wisdom

as the Provider Services Director of the Guilford Center and then as the Executive Director of the Mental Health Association in Greensboro. He retired in 2010. Paul's memories from his first job in a state institution, where the program focus was on an individual's deficits, have shaped his career and directed his focus toward programs based on a person's gifts and strengths – a focus shared with Peacehaven. Paul is directing the development of our program plan which includes evaluating funding options, existing services and licensure needs under an overall objective of organizational sustainability. We are thankful for the decades of experience and wisdom that Paul brings to this complex need.

Talmage Payne has been a Managing Partner of PNP Design Group for the past 20 years. She is sharing

her design expertise as an Architect and LEED AP to ensure we make informed and wise decisions throughout the design and construction process. She has worked to refine our plans to ensure that the needs of the residents, staff, volunteers and visitors are all considered and expects the construction drawings will be submitted to Guilford County for permitting in December. Talmage is excited for the opportunity to connect with new people and for the possibilities for transformation for our community and for each individual involved in this project – including herself!

Alan Wilson became President of Wilson Land Surveyors in 1998 but will tell you he has been a part of this 60-year-old family business his entire life. He will also tell you his business is all about working with people but we will tell you it involves a lot more than that. He has been guiding us through the development of a site plan and is our liaison between the civil engineer and county planning and zoning boards. He anticipates that the county will approve the site plan by early December. Alan has been working with us since the November 2010 design charrette and has

been amazed by the number of people who have come together to make Peacehaven possible.

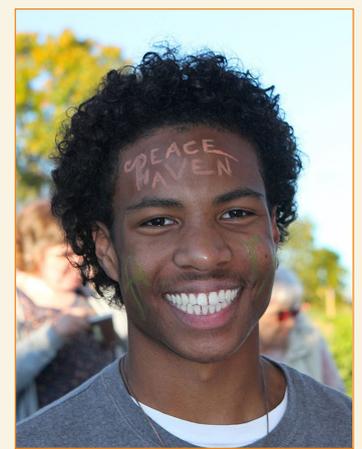
Again, community is at the core of everything at Peacehaven and we are thankful to these members of our community for their leadership and willingness to share their wisdom.

Please go to our website for more information about Susan's View.



Harvest Celebration

the gift of gratitude



Our thank you to the community for making Peacehaven possible.

Meet Nicolas ... A Dedicated Peacehaven Donor and Volunteer

This past year Nicolas Sam has become one of our regular volunteers. In his mid-twenties, Nic completed the Beyond Academics program at UNCG several years ago. Like so many of our young adults with disabilities, his life became very isolated after finishing school and he has struggled to find places to connect. His mother contacted us last winter and Buck met with him and encouraged him to start coming out to volunteer. He has volunteered regularly and faithfully throughout this year's growing season and it has been a great joy for us all to get to know him. He is a hard worker and a great volunteer and has become one of our workday project leaders.

Nic will tell you that he really enjoys being at Peacehaven. He says it is a place where he can be himself, make friends, and people "really appreci-



ate how hard I work." He studied biology at UNCG and likes connecting what he is learning at the farm with what he studied in college.

the gift of faithfulness

Other good things have been happening in Nic's life. Like so many people on the autism spectrum, it was challenging for him to find a job. Recently he was hired by Carolina Fine Foods. He has received great evaluations and the change in his self-esteem has been stunning. He has a very strict budget with

the money he earns and is now helping his parents with his living expenses. He is very proud to have a job and to become more independent.

Nic calls us early each week to arrange for a ride to the farm and does not mind staying late to help with clean up after lunch. In September, at the end of the workday he quietly handed Buck a \$10 bill. He had been in the office earlier and read the Seeds of Hope materials. He told Buck that he believed in Peacehaven and wanted to help support what we are doing by making his donation. Since then, Nic has continued to make a \$10 donation each week that he is at the farm.

We are thankful for Nic's commitment to Peacehaven and the many things he teaches us and the many ways he inspires us.

Check out our new website!

In August of this year, we launched our new website. Please visit our new site to get all the information you need about the farm including workday information, farm history and other ways to get involved.

www.peacehavenfarm.org



Farm Manager Update

With our 2012 season complete, we marvel that over 7,800 volunteer hours were contributed to the success of this year's garden. For those of you that were able to join us in the garden this year, thank you!! Thank you for all the work that was accomplished and thank you for all the ways you bring life to the garden – with your laughter, conversations and ideas that serve to bring us all together as we seek to build a community that will sustain this farm now and in the future. We hope that your time in the garden is as life-giving to you as it is to us.

We are also thankful to the com-

the gift of community

munity of families that supported us through the purchase of shares of our Community

Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. We are grateful to our CSA members that trusted us for their food and for their willingness to share in the unknowns of our first CSA season. We enjoyed thanking our CSA members with an appreciation dinner at the farm that featured food from Peacehaven and neighboring farms. Life is better when it is shared – thank you.

The CSA Farm Dinner menu included local cheeses, fresh figs and grapes, gazpacho, Caprese salad, stuffed pork loin and beef loin, rosemary potatoes, artesian breads, lavender crème Brule and local wines and beers.

“
Life is better when it is shared – thank you!

”



Farm Needs:

Mulch

Compost

In-kind vehicle maintenance and repair service

Vehicles: mini-van, car, truck, tractor

Gasoline storage tank

Nail gun

Compressor

Portable LCD Projector

Bash and Dash • April 13 and 14, 2013



The Bash, 7 - 11 pm on the 13th, will be a “rustic-elegant” affair catered by Josephine’s Bistro and the Lindley Park Filling Station. Break out your cowboy boots and frilly dresses, black ties and overalls for our barn bash, silent auction and fun evening under the stars. Live bluegrass and livestock will combine for an evening like no other! Tickets: \$50 per person.

The Dash, 2 pm on the 14th, with a timed 5K run/walk over the rolling pastures of the farm, by the lake and past the animals. There will be an optional short course and prizes in both events. Registration fee: \$25.



Peacehaven
Community Farm

1458 NC Hwy 61
Whitsett, NC 27377
336-449-9900
www.peacehavenfarm.org

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 850
Greensboro, NC



SAVE THE DATE
April 13 and 14, 2013
Bash & Dash
See page 7 for details.

Board of Directors

- Gail C. Haworth, Chair
- Tim Elliott, Treasurer
- Don Hawkes
- Nancy Micca
- Sam Miller
- Carolyn Plumb
- Joey Ponzi
- Brian Romig
- Kimberly Sue

Mission

Peacehaven is a sustainable farm in the Piedmont Triad connecting people with disabilities to their community.

Vision

To establish an affordable housing community on our working, community-supported farm that provides permanent housing for adults with disabilities in a supportive and family-like environment.

Seeds of Hope Update

This issue of our newsletter highlights some of the many different ways people give to Peacehaven. We are thankful for each of these gifts and for countless others that allow us to advance our mission of connecting people with disabilities to other people and a caring community.



From September through December, we reach out to the community – to you – with our Seeds of Hope campaign. Gifts range from \$10 to thousands of dollars and every gift makes a difference. The support of partners like you allows us to sustain and grow our farm and our programs, and most importantly, our family of unique relationships. We are more than halfway

what is your gift?

to our goal of \$200,000 for this year. Thank you!

Gifts may be made online at www.peacehavenfarm.org or mailed directly to Peacehaven at 1458 NC Highway 61, Whitsett, NC 27377.