

Asbury Village Farm January 2011 Newsletter



that doesn't mean that there isn't anything going on!

The new greenhouse is slowly coming together; as of this writing it resembles a huge metal skeleton standing in the snow. Once the bars are all in place, the doors and plastic walls can go on, the heater and irrigation can be installed, the tables can go in, and then we can begin planting in flats. After many chilly nights poring meticulously over seed catalogs, the seed order has finally been placed, and the seeds for the 2011 season have nearly all arrived, and they are now awaiting planting. The smaller greenhouse (where the lettuce is, and where tomatoes and peppers were last year) is being prepped; all the tables and equipment have been sorted through and moved out as we prepare to till the entire length of the greenhouse for vegetable beds. Also, Steve is working on renovating a room in the barn for use as an office, and it's coming along nicely. We have been steadily acquiring tools and supplies for the farm and it seems that the UPS truck visits us every day with something new. And in general the farm is getting a slow but thorough clean up as we get ready for the growing season.

Plans for an Open House are in the works for some time in April; the date is yet unknown. This will be a free event open to the public, where we will have possibly a potluck, a tour of the farm, and Q & A about the upcoming season. If anyone would like to be involved in helping organize the Open House, or to come early and help set up, let us know!

Well, winter is officially in full swing! The farm is sleeping soundly under a 3-inch-thick blanket of fluffy white snow. The peaceful wintery silence is broken only by the squawks of crows, Canadian geese, and the barn pigeons; the smell of wood smoke is in the air; and the only vegetables growing are a few lettuces in the greenhouse. But





We are still on the lookout for a tractor, so if anyone spots one for sale please drop us an email about it. It can be older than dirt, but needs to be in working condition and have a strong enough horsepower for pulling a tiller through the field. If you know of one reasonable priced, email Steve about it.

Also, we made some brochures for the purpose of attracting new members, and if anyone knows of a good place we could put them (delis, restaurants, store windows, etc) let us know; we can mail some to you to put up if you'd like. Again, if you'd like to help you can email Steve.

Eventually we will have a phone line in the office, when the office is ready; until that time we are relying on email and snail mail for all communication. We are using the internet at the library for now as well, so email is getting checked sporadically. So thank you for your patience when you contact us! We'll be more available once the office is set up. For now, you can email Steve at StevenZwier@yahoo.com.

On a personal note, we are settling in to our new home, and are excitedly getting ready for the birth of our third child, due in just a few short weeks. We're planning on a home birth right here in the farm house, surrounded by the snowy fields. We also just added a cat to our family, a sweet old stray named Boo adopted from the local shelter. In the spring he'll become an indoor-outdoor cat so he'll hopefully help with rodent control in the fields (as well as in the house!). Once we have a deer fence around the field we'll adopt a couple of dogs to live out in the field and help out as well.



So that's the news. We hope everyone is warm and well, and we look forward to seeing you in the spring!

~ *Robyn*

Jake, and "Boo"

Silas,

