



March 2013 Newsletter

Hi everybody! Winter flew by for me this year. We had about three weeks of real winter in late January to early February, when my breath was freezing to my beard during the day and the nights were single digits. I'd say it was a middle ground between the 2012 winter which was more like an extended autumn, and the 2011 winter which was snowy and bitter cold. I expect a sudden onset of spring weather later in March.

We've been busy. Robyn built a new website which went up last week. You can see it at www.asburyfarm.org. If any members own their own business, you can email the web address and a short description to Robyn at robyn7steve@aol.com and she'll put it on the member business links page on the site. In the transplant house we've got the onions, leeks, artichokes, oregano, thyme, and celery started, as well as some of the flowers. Next week I'll be starting the spring cabbage and broccoli, as well as some early greens and the first round of lettuce. And since yesterday was so warm, and thus the ground so pliable, we began plowing to prepare the spring beds!

We had a successful market in January. Thanks so much to everyone who came out. Unfortunately the February cold blasted the lettuce and mesclun, and the Hakurei turnips never recovered from their encounter with the cold after the hurricane removed the greenhouse cover last autumn, so we won't be having another market this winter. So instead I'm focusing on the coming season and plan on making it our best season here yet.

We'll be hosting our annual **Spring Open House Potluck** on Saturday April 27 from noon until around 3 or 4. We'll do farm tours and get to know each other, have a stand-up potluck lunch and answer questions about the upcoming season. It's open to the public, so spread the word and bring a friend.

Finally, if you'd like to contact us with questions, please either email at stevenzwier@yahoo.com or robyn7steve@aol.com, or call us at 908-537-0777, or send a Facebook private message. We prefer this to people posting questions to us on the Facebook wall or as comments on the pictures. You are much more likely to get a prompt answer by sending an email or phone call.

Think Spring! Steve and Robyn

Left, the farm slept peacefully under a blanket of snow last month; right, newly turned soil in the future artichoke and sunflower field.

