

DIONONDEHOWA

Wildlife Sanctuary & School

ISSUE 11

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2013

DWS&S

Incorporating Purposes

The Wildlife Sanctuary:

- * Provides a recharge area for wildlife on the Sanctuary and in the region
- * Contributes to the corridor that provides migration routes for large animals
- * Provides habitat for native plants and animals in an ever-dwindling natural landscape
- * Provides riparian and landscape beauty for recreational users of the Battenkill
- * Contributes land to existing forever-wild areas

Dionondehowa School:

- * Focuses on Nature studies, the Healing Arts, and the Expressive Arts in a beautiful natural setting
- * Encourages the free exchange of ideas
- * Makes Expressive Arts, Healing Arts, and Nature programs available to individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests
- * Engenders a sense of social and environmental responsibility
- * Offers skills for implementing social and environmental responsibility

DWS&S Board of Directors

Peter Andrea
Stanley Dorn
Bonnie Hoag
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Unnatural Nature - Finding A Path Through

"A reverence for life is a reverence for wildness. A reverence for life beyond your control. Something you don't dominate. That is the native habitat of new ideas. Of real humanity - to expose yourself to things beyond your control. And just ride out the consequences. That is what I seek and want to protect. Elements that are beyond our control." Doug Peacock "Hayduke Lives" Issue 22 *Heron Dance - A Quarterly Review* www.herondance.org. This thought-provoking quotation was on the notecard that accompanied a generous donation to Dionondehowa.

While pondering Mr. Peacock's ideas, several thoughts come to mind. Certainly we share his deep appreciation for the value of Wildness. This value is, in good part, what inspired us to carve out the 217-acre postage-stamp of Land which we imagined we could "give back to itself". Land and Water and... *all* the inhabitants: Plants, Animals, Rocks, and yes, even Spirits! Those many years ago, in 1991, we had no idea just *how* compromised this beautiful Wildness *is*. Nature has become **unnatural**! When we hear people say they feel such solace and quiet renewal, sitting by the river or in the woods, we feel torn between wanting to support this sense of renewal and exposing it as a delusion. What feels out-of-control (beyond-our-control) in 2013 is not Wildness - oh that it were so! - but rather... the out-of-control global insanity that infringes and impinges on the well-being and balance of Beauty and Whimsy: the balance-seeking rock-n-roll of Nature. But maybe we're just looking too closely. Maybe something galactic is *finding* its balance while we shudder and flounder here on Earth.

It could be said that Nature is now *patently* **unnatural** given the hundreds of U.S. patents which are designed to intentionally and chemically alter the Earth's atmosphere for purposes as abhorrent as manipulating the weather and reshaping the closed-system of our layered Sky. Some of these patents make H.A.A.R.P. possible. H.A.A.R.P. - the military's High-frequency Active Auroral Research Project - can focus concentrated radio waves to reshape Earth's atmosphere, create auroras, move weather patterns around, even use the Jet Stream like the whip of a crazy dominatrix! Or, better yet, *domi-matrix*... as there seems to be some perverse will to control everything - including that which ought to be left to its own rhythms. We urge our readers to listen skeptically to the geoengineers who want us to understand that techniques like Solar Radiation Management are our "Plan B" to address global warming. Surely the spawn of Dr. Strangelove science, SRM lays down a global haze of particles which, ostensibly, reflects the Sun's heat away from the Earth. Oddly though, NASA states that SRM *traps* heat against the planet. Everyone agrees that it decreases Direct Sunlight, basic to Life Processes, with the fallout raining down on us all: Aluminum Oxide, Sulfur Dioxide or the particle-du-jour.

Where is "Wildness" in all of this? How can we defend Nature from the military's intention to "own the weather" - as it asserts in its 2025 *White Paper* where it brags "we now own the night"? While the weather and the atmosphere - the air we breathe - continue to be controlled by these *out-of-control* Dr. Strangeloves we haven't much hope of resuming the blessings and benefits of Mr. Peacock's out-of-control Wildness.

We agree that human endeavors (and myopia) contribute profoundly to climate change. There is no doubt that we are, each of us - whether directly or by proxy - committing reprehensible crimes against our very breath. *But why are geoengineering programs like Solar Radiation Management and H.A.A.R.P. not listed among the crimes*, brought to you by the same sort of "visionaries" who have turned the beauty of a humming bird into a drone.

Where is the refuge in Nature - in Wildness - when the very essence of Nature - of Wildness - is being stolen from us with our own compliance?

For those of us who find Reality evermore wiggly and certainly *not* what we are taught to expect - we can ask how do I conduct myself, listen intuitively, and follow another path... *through* the deceptions & delusions we are expected to believe - and march to.

For some of us it is even more complicated than our sleepy endorsement of our own demise. For those of us who feel passionate about rising in defense of what once was natural there can be a

Continued on page 2

further complication. If, philosophically, we think that our engagement with an adversary only strengthens the resolve of that adversary then it follows that our actions do have undesirable consequences. Driven by passion for Beauty and for Breath, how *do* we - poetically speaking - raise our little pipsqueak fist against the gaping maw and yet *not* engage, not invigorate the very insanity we wish to quell?

We invite you to consider these ideas with us this year at Dionondehowa. We'll explore our place in the Galaxy by way of conversations: with One Another, with Plants & Trees, with Creeks and Stones, with Spirits... on the Land and among the Stars. We'll rely on their wisdom... to guide us through... asking for clarity and reassurance, if it *is* true, that Being Alive is a Mystical Adventure! B.H.

**Please join us Thursday June 13 at 7pm for a showing of Michael Murphy's documentary *Why in the World are They Spraying?*
Please phone 518-854-7764 to reserve a seat.**

Helen Andrews-Hoag 1914 - 2004

Recently we came upon Helen's copy of the Peterson & McKenny *A Field Guide to Wild Flowers* (wild, but not necessarily native). Tucked into it were her plant notes from her walks along Stanton Road, Spring & Summer 1997. This was two years after Dionondehowa had incorporated and one year since the donation of the first 175 acres. Her list was wild plants as seen from the road, since that was where her cane and her bad knee kept her - but with daily dedication... often twice a day. Imagine how long her list would have been had she been able to savor "off-road" identification in the Sanctuary's meadows and woods... and expanded to bushes and trees!

As the seed does not fall far from the flower - at least on a day when the breeze is low - Bonnie Hoag continues her mother's interest in wild plants but... in her own way, along her own path... with the tacit understanding that they have much to teach us... about their medicine, nourishment and, yes, companionship: what they have to "say" when we quiet ourselves and listen.

**This summer's plant workshop is Saturday June 8 10am-4pm.
Register at 518-854-7764.**

Dionondehowa - Where Science and Spirit Communicate



Our 2012 Work Crew

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Ongoing Creek Restoration

*Saturday September 7 9am - 4pm
with Holistic Ecologist David Hunt*

Once again David Hunt of *Ecological Intuition and Medicine*, will return for our 11th year of "Creek Restoration & Ceremony". This year we have scheduled an Autumn workday to accommodate David's ongoing project with the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance. With a grant from the Hudson River Estuary Program, administered through the NYS DEC, he is helping to write a conservation plan for 105,000 acres of the Rensselaer Plateau Forest.

As part of our ongoing series to clean up the major human disturbances along the corridor of Batten Kill tributary stream T28 on the Sanctuary, we will focus our 11th year's efforts on finishing trash removal from the largest dumpsite along the stream banks: a concentrated pile of metal scrap and other debris that we started to remove in 2005. In addition to simply

removing the debris for recycling, we plan to link spirit and science by sharing stories related to the stream, to dumping, or to restoration. Although we have had to come to terms with the fact that *we will not be able to remove the deepest dump* (sigh) we do feel that our many years of dedication to the site have made a significant improvement.

We invite volunteers to please join us in this messy endeavor and give the Creek a day of your life. Sign up at 518-854-7764 and please bring work gloves, energy, love for streams, and openness to restorative healing. Lunch will be provided. David promises to bring some of his home-made juices. D. H.

Ecological Intuition & Medicine, as David calls his work, is a low-consumption, low income, low-tech, non-profit, intentionally unincorporated venture promoting healing of Nature and Western Culture through encouragement of intuitive solutions towards long-term sustainability. Contact him at 518-279-4124.

Heather Priest - Our 2012 Intern

Although we thoroughly enjoyed our time with Heather as our Intern for Summer 2012, health problems kept her from completing our mutual objectives. We will welcome her return, to complete her internship, when she is well. That said, we are looking for students who would like to trade their time and muscle for our time and experience. **Anyone who would like to interview with us for an internship is warmly invited to phone 518-854-7764.**



Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary & School Calendar of Events 2013

April 13 Saturday	<i>Introduction to Reiki</i> Levels I, II and III with Bonnie Hoag 1-4pm
April 21 Sunday	<i>Union College Environmental Club</i> returns to help out on the Sanctuary
May 11 Saturday	<i>Bird Walk</i> with bird enthusiast Nat Parke 9am-Noon
June 8 Saturday	<i>Wild Plants Workshop</i> with Bonnie Hoag 10am-4pm
June 13 Thursday	<i>Why in the World are They Spraying?</i> documentary film 7pm
June 23 Sunday	<i>Solar Talk</i> with Bhima Nitta photo-voltaic energy generation 1-3pm
July 18 Thursday	<i>Free Radicals</i> open discussion led by David Delozier 6-9pm
July 21 Sunday	<i>Manchester Music Festival Young Artists Concert</i> 3pm
August 21 Wednesday	<i>Sound Medicine</i> with Barry Hyman and his surbahar (bass sitar) 7-9pm
September 7 Saturday	<i>Creek Restoration</i> with David Hunt 9am-4pm
September 21 Saturday	<i>Root 66 - Readings from the Writings</i> of co-founder Bonnie Hoag potluck 6pm, readings 7pm and drumming 8pm

To join any of these workshops and programs please register at 518.854.7764

Gratitude is Abundance

Sky Report

The following observations have occurred over the last several months at Dionondehowa. Those who have visited the Sanctuary know that our Sky is wide open, affording us broad viewing opportunities when we remember to lift our heads from our daily chores and bring our attention to the story unfolding over our heads.

It is important to note that these events occur within the visual context of the ongoing Solar Radiation Management geoengineering program which so often hazes the Sky.

If you are witnessing what you consider to be odd Sky events, please let us know about them in a brief paragraph (including date, time, ground location, and Sky location) and send it to us at dionondehowa@yahoo.com.

August 22, 2012 11:23-11:26am: We were compelled to come outside and look up, directly overhead, for what sounded like a very low and very loud jet. On this relatively clear-Sky day, the sound was like that of a jet engine if you're on the runway with it. For being so loud we were amazed to see nothing. This sound continued, in the same location, then stopped abruptly (which ought to be impossible without crashing) before resuming, receding into the northwest and returning several times. We stood watching, with rapt and somewhat horrified attention because we *saw nothing*. It may be useful to add that we have often endured low-flying (300+- feet) grey National Guard transport prop-jets over the Sanctuary which are disturbingly loud at that elevation. These have all been visible. This jet-engine sound on August 22 was even louder and should have been visible. What does one do with an experience like this?

October 14, 2012 around 1pm: Union College students who were posting the Sanctuary perimeter for the onset of rifle season heard a "boom" overhead in a northwesterly location. It sounded more like a report than like thunder. It was a single occurrence on a relatively blue-Sky day. We discussed it for a few moments and then continued our work because what *does* one do with an experience like this?

February 6, 2013 around 5:45pm: Dusk, first Stars visible in a fairly clear Sky, altitude difficult to discern. We observed a line of white lights - 20 to 30 evenly spaced in the line moving slowly in a northeasterly direction. We could not see a vehicle, only the line of lights, which faded and disappeared as we tried to capture a better look through binoculars. Now what? Whom can you tell besides friends who may have had a similar experience?

February 12, 2013 9:30-9:45pm: We heard distant, rhythmic "drums" in the west-northwest. PumPUM pause PumPUM with other percussive sounds reminiscent of distant cannon-fire, as though a "battle" were going on many miles away. Although this may have begun before 9:30pm, before we were outside to notice, it continued for about fifteen minutes - with occasional lightening of the Sky, resembling heat lightning. It could not be construed as a thunder storm although it shared some of the characteristics. Whom would you call: the meteorologists? the military? Who could (or would) give you the straight-story?



Our rock doves and I
know the tensile strength
of fear -
suspended
held apart
ever-vigilant.

What holds us together
holds us apart:
the things I fear
are not forestalled by vigilance.

Photo courtesy of Rey Wells ©2012

(Note: rock dove is a fancy name for pigeon... we chose to use it to get past most people's pigeon prejudices :-0)

Join us for an on-site discussion of solar energy generation Sunday June 23 1-3pm

Bhima Nitta, the sole proprietor of Power Guru, will be with us for discussion of solar energy generation on Sunday June 23 1-3pm at the site of Dionondehowa's own array of solar collection panels. Although not precisely on the Summer Solstice (June 21) it is close enough to give a nod of gratitude for the life-support system known as the Sun! Of his business Bhima says, "Power Guru is a designer and installer of state of the art renewable energy systems in Vermont and New York. We provide expertly designed solar PV (photo voltaic) systems which are conscientiously installed and complemented by friendly, local, and relationship-driven service."



Being Alive is a Mystical Adventure

Why in the World are They Spraying?

Michael Murphy's new documentary, *Why in the World are They Spraying?* - his sequel to *What in the World are They Spraying?*

-investigates not only the martial applications of weather modification such a flooding, hurricanes, drought, hail, and earthquakes but also - and less recognized - its potential for savvy investors to make-a-killing in the commodities market.

In his interview with Mark McCandlish, *Defense & Aerospace Industry: Conceptual Artist & Designer* McCandlish states, "If you can control the weather then you can control where the rain falls or where it doesn't fall and if you can do that then you can control whose crops survive and whose crops fry. And if you happen to be favoring a corporation or a group of corporations that are flooding the market with gm [genetically modified] crops you can see how manipulating the weather can actually change the market share that one or more corporations have."

More bluntly, yet, former weatherman *Scott Stevens* says, "If you control the weather you control the planet. It's that simple."

Independent Commodities Trader - Chicago Mercantile Exchange, *Michael Agne* says, "If you know or predict the weather at any given time in any given area then you can control the fate of mankind and what they pay for everything. It's all about money, and weather is another form of commoditizing."

"...it's also true if you can forecast climate you can control a lot of the futures markets...and if you could have some leverage over what the climate system was going to be doing you would be able to invest in advance of all your crop futures..."

Dr. James Fleming - Colby College Professor of Science, Technology & Society

Come see *Why in the World are They Spraying* June 13th at 7pm

Root 66 - Readings from the Writings

Saturday September 21 Potluck Dinner at 6pm...Readings at 7pm... and Drumming at 8pm

You are invited to celebrate the Equinox, International Day of Peace, and co-founder Bonnie's 66th birthday at Dionondehowa on Saturday September 21, beginning with a vegetarian potluck at 6pm followed at 7pm by readings from her poems, essays, short stories and letters-to-the-editors, spanning fifty years, and followed at 8pm by drumming. Bonnie invites her writing-students and friends to choose from among her work and add their voices to the reading. For more information and to participate phone 518-854-7764.

Why Use Paper?

The *Dionondehowa Newsletter* is published online at www.dionondehowa.org for those who prefer to read at their computer. We are, also, continuing to publish it on 100% Post-Consumer-Waste Recycled Paper and sending it to our mailing list through the US Postal Service *because* we disagree with the notion that cyber communication is somehow less injurious to our environment than the consequences of the production and mailing of paper copies. Besides, we like getting mail *ourselves*, the old-fashioned way. Every day we are all being educated to ignore the undesirable effects of technology, which seems to change its "mind" every few months and expects us to go along with it to service our addiction to the ruse that we are now better "in touch" with the world and with one another. More. Better. Faster. "Til the world whirls and whirs and blurs around us. Isn't there something primitively pleasant about receiving nourishment (as we hope the *Newsletter* is...) in a form that we can hold in our hands to read and mull over - maybe with a cup of tea, maybe in the sun?

Eagles

Bald Eagles have been seen more and more frequently over recent years throughout eastern NY and western New England... still, the sighting of an Eagle was a lucky and uncommon experience. Now, Eagles have established an often repeated "flight route" through the Sanctuary, pointing to a population increase. We see them often, starting about an hour before dusk, flying lazily and rather low from the direction of the lakes (Hedges, Lauderdale, Schoolhouse Pond) - which are 1-3 miles west of the Sanctuary - and proceeding east toward the Battenkill. Last summer if you got up early enough they could be seen apparently returning for the daylight hours at the lakes. It is a joy to see them flying low along the course of our Creek which has been the site of so many years of restorative effort, including opening its canopy.



Photo courtesy of Rey Wells ©2012

The "mature" (over seven years old) Bald Eagle is easily identified by its silver-white head and tail. Immature Bald Eagles are sometimes mistaken for Golden Eagles, which can also be seen in our range. Sighting these big birds, who seem to carry nobility with them in flight, is always a treat. G.O.

Please join our Bird Walk with bird enthusiast Nat Parke on Saturday May 11 9am-Noon.

"It is often hard to describe Dionondehowa to others because it is more of an *experience* than just a beautiful place."

Meghan Haley-Quigley, Union College graduate and DWS&S workday organizer

Thanks to:

The following for Creek Restoration work: **Rachel Allen, Eric Strebel, Eliza Perkins, Terrason Hunt, and Dan Vitro**

Linda Walker Hoag for installing our new and much-needed scanner/copier/printer/fax machine

Peter Andrea for constructing this newsletter and for maintaining our website

Nat Parke for bringing his love of feathered beings to our annual Bird Walk

David Hunt for his ongoing devotion to the recovery of the Dionondehowa Creek

Meghan Haley-Quigley for ongoing enthusiasm for Dionondehowa

Bobby Meeson for organizing our Union College work days

Skosh Snyder for donating the piano tuning in advance of our MMF Young Artists concert



What becomes of the Butterfly Effect when our butterflies are mutant?

The *Butterfly Effect* is defined by Wikipedia as follows, "In chaos theory, the **butterfly effect** is the *sensitive dependence on initial conditions*, where a small change at one place in a deterministic nonlinear system can result in large differences to a later state. The name of the effect, coined by Edward Lorenz, is derived from the theoretical example of a hurricane's formation being contingent on whether or not a distant butterfly had flapped its wings several weeks before."

When we learned that new generations of butterflies in Japan have been mutating as a result of Fukushima contamination we began to wonder what global effects might be initiated by the fluttering of a deformed wing?

Maybe Learning is Remembering

Point of View

There is a simple kaleidoscope called the Magic Marble which is itself stationary and relies on the viewer to move around while holding it to the eye.

For those who feel sometimes overwhelmed, perplexed or saddened by the world around them this kaleidoscope offers a delightful change as it fractures and geometrically reassembles the light, colors and forms of our personal space - living room, flowering gardens or wherever.

It provides a wonderful, easy holiday from our day-to-day assumptions when they become too familiar or tedious, and we are offering them this year at Dionondehowa.



Scientists tie weather to disease

an excerpt from an Associated Press article published 1.4.13 in the Glens Falls Post Star

"In one recent study, two scientists reported they could predict - more than seven weeks in advance - when the flu season was going to peak in New York City. Theirs was just the latest in a growing wave of computer models that factor in rainfall, temperature or other weather conditions to forecast disease." Perhaps this is one more reason to keep an eye on weather-related futures investments, especially given the unsavory history of intentional testing of diseases on an unwitting public. Introducing disease is an accepted "non-lethal" military method for disabling "enemy" populations (*Tomorrow's Weapons* by Rothschild 1964). The weather is a useful delivery system.

Come to your senses at Dionondehowa!



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Come to Your Senses at Dionondehowa!

From the Dionondehowa Diary

5.16.12 If these are the End Times, as some profess, then we are going out in a Rage of Beauty. I've never witnessed more kinds of Birds, flourishing Flowers, more Beauty. And Magic. As though Beauty and Magic themselves have found Sanctuary in this place.

11.26.12 Two days ago I was privileged to watch an austere procession of turkeys, about twenty of them - like monks in their dark grey and black robes - crossing the road from the neighbor's field into the Sanctuary woods. I say privileged because it felt that way to me. Yes. Privileged by their dark forms, the almost-nervous clarity of their gait & goal. If I heard them right... their unruffled conversation... "I suppose we'd better hurry now - a little." I wonder, would they let me join their sect? They seem so calm, so clustered along an idea, an understanding - mutuality - this time of year.

1.18.13 Footprints in the snow. 'Possum prints are so endearing.

1.29.13 It's 3am. I'm up with the wood stove. In the dimming moonlight I can see dark shapes - stationary, then darting. Bunnies. Why? Can it be anything but offering themselves? Why else would they be out on such a cold night? Or is it something between rabbits and cold winter nights - something I would not understand?

Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary & School, Inc. is a non-profit land trust located on 217 acres bordering the Battenkill (Dionondehowa before the Dutch came) in southern Washington County, New York State. While the Sanctuary serves as a refuge and recharge area, the School is dedicated to Nature Studies and to the Healing and Expressive Arts, using them to engender social and environmental responsibility, in an atmosphere both contemplative and joyful. The name Dionondehowa, pronounced Dye-on-on-duh-how-uh, was first recorded in 1709 and is listed in Beauchamp's *Aboriginal Place Names of New York State*. It means "She Opens the Door for Them" and may have referred to the Eastern Door of the Iroquois Confederacy.

Special Thanks! to all of you who support Dionondehowa: with your time, energy, dollars, far-sighted wisdom and expertise. We couldn't do it without Y☼U!