

COMMUNITY NEWS

Building Begins at Destiny!

Faeriedom a reality after 10 Years



TILE MAKERS: From left to right are Javier Cintron, Burlington, Wally Telford and Donald Gallagher of New York City, Louie LeMay and Chris Parris of Hudson, NY. Mr. Parris instructed the class. Not pictured: Cypress, Dick Mitchell and Daisy Shaver of New York City. Photo by Daisy Shaver

BY MICHEL DUBOIS

Ten years ago, a small group of Radical Faeries roamed the countryside, hungry for a home to host the seedling idea of a Radical Faerie Sanctuary in the Northeast. This sanctuary would be the so-called "fourth corner of Faeriedom," completing the national circle of sanctuaries found in Tennessee, New Mexico, and Oregon and joining the international constellation of sanctuaries and faerie households throughout Australia, Europe and Thailand. That sanctuary would come to be called Faerie Camp Destiny.

Through the intervening years, that seedling has developed deep roots and is now growing in astounding ways, the most notable of which is that the long-awaited period of "barn-raising" finally begins this spring.

In keeping with the educational mission of its 501(c)3 nonprofit status, Faerie Camp Destiny (FCD) offers the community at large the opportunity to learn sustainable building practices. Participants get to experience Faerie culture firsthand through a variety of workshops, including those on timber-framing and straw-bale construction.

"I would challenge those members of the larger community who have heard rumors of who we are. We and you are

truly the same, and if you've been waiting for an invitation to see for yourself, consider this your personal invite. Come learn about Faerie culture (and) sustainable building practices, and get a taste of what it means to be Faerie," says Tara Messier, a long-standing Faerie. "What you learn about

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TARA MESSIER, A LONG-STANDING FAERIE

the truth of those rumors may leave you pleasantly surprised."

FCD is achieving the goal of building primarily through skilled volunteer labor - training provided.

Of course, while it sounds romantic, the notion of conducting a construction project with 95% volunteer effort adds unique challenges to an already complex and unpredictable building project.

"In this case, we have lots of potential labor but little specific skill. So, we've chosen building techniques that involve lots of labor: timber framing and straw bale. We'll be having a couple of big days on the land where we raise the frame and later stack up all the straw. It's going to be a lot of fun - and work!" says designer and Faerie, Matt Bucy. To help simplify the com-

plexities of scheduling, FCD's newly designed website is updated daily with current project status information.

"We encourage everybody who reads these words and who has an interest in helping us build our community, in whatever way they think they can, to visit us online at

www.faeriecampdestiny.org," says Faerie Bambi Gauthier.

Throughout the process, Bambi will be connecting volunteers and their interests with the construction coordinator, Matt Bucy. He suggests that those interested in helping or donating (cash, materials, expertise) to the project should visit the website or contact Bambi directly at info@faeriecampdestiny.org.

FCD's first timber-framing workshop will be held in White River Junction during the weekend of May 5th. Contact Bambi for more information at info@faeriecampdestiny.org. ▼

Michel DuBois is a former Operations Manager of *Out in the Mountains* and calls himself a Radical Faerie. So far, no one has objected. He lives in Burlington.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

WILLIAM COIL

NATIONALLY CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST



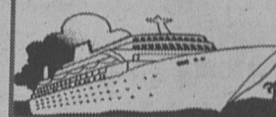
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* The Vermont AIDS Hotline is open weekdays, 8:30-4:30.
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