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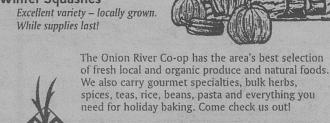
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Lois Farnham Holly Puterbaugh

Welcome to Faerie Camp Destiny

continued from front page

truth, the Radical Faeries are made up of a wide variety of Bohemians: artists, queer farmers, radical activists, witches and atheists, dykes, artists and accountants, drag queens, urban queens and country queens, healers and hairdressers, social workers and sacred sluts, environmentalists. They are opposites and everything in between - anyone who finds in being queer a spark of something greater.

Faerie core beliefs are in the right to self-discovery and the right to freedom from authority. Faeries work to create a culture where everyone has an equal voice and in which all decisions are based on consensus. Central to this culture is the faerie talking circle, where each speaks from the heart for as long as he or she wishes, and others honor by listening.

I called Bambi, the Destiny Board President, or as I call him (since the notion of a President is antithetical to faeries, and yet required by law)the Heirophant, and asked, "what is the purpose of Faerie Camp Destiny?" He responded, "Read the damned Articles of Incorporation," and so I now quote. "The purpose of Faerie Camp Destiny is: to manage a Faerie sanctuary as a cultural learning center and spiritual oasis for those who call themselves Radical Faeries, to honor our natural environment as we do our own sacred Faerie natures, to provide a residence for a limited number of Faeries, to operate a retreat center and occasional gathering site for the larger Faerie community, to care for and nurture elder Faeries and those incapacitated by illness or grief, to sponsor creative projects that

and annoying passersbys, in reflect and support the Faeries and Faerie culture, and, sponsor and assist in the creation of other sanctuaries." Thank you Bambi.

These goals were not easy to wrestle out of a disorganized and anarchistic, largely poor quiver of queens. Destiny (named after the vanity plate of the real estate agent that showed us the first lodge in Northfield) raised over \$40,000 to buy this land - and we still owe plenty! And imagine the scene, shopping for a bank with a name like Faerie Camp Destiny, and a list of officers that included Bambi, Endora and Constance Craving - a bunch of men signing a mortgage with nail polish.

Faerie Camp Destiny is one of several Faerie Sanctuaries in the US and Canada. Others are located in Tennessee, New Mexico, Ontario, Oregon, and Minnesota. Most have permanent residents that act as a community of caretakers for the land - land that is held in trust for the entire Faerie community. In the next few years, Faerie Camp Destiny will begin construction of a lodge and cabins for year-round residents. However, there are no structures yet. At the gathering, the brand new gas stove sat under a blue tarp and dished out an orgy of cheeses during Lasagna Arabiatta Night! However, by the end of the gathering we did erect one structure - the outhouse.

And why Vermont? The Northeast Faerie Circle has long been one of the largest circles, and yet creating sanctuary always seemed out of grasp. Then, two larger than life faeries, Gabriel Q and Agnes de Garron moved from New York to the bucolic quiet of Vermont (where Agnes was

born and raised. Once in Vermont, they realized it was the perfect place for a faerie sanctuary. Faeries aim to return to a close relationship with nature, and where could be more beautiful, or more quirky than Vermont? These two then found a huge house in Northfield Vermont, named it Destiny after the vanity plate on the realtor's car, and soon Yolanda, Endora, Sticky, and Constance Craving and others moved in. The aim of the house was to begin the process of creating a Northeast sanctuary in Vermont, . This house was eventually sold, and Destiny at Large continued to raise money and look for land. After a few years, the land near Grafton was consensed upon, funds were raised, and this July, the land was purchased and consecrated with a grand ritual to honor the elements at the fire circle, and a circle jerk on the mountain top.

Faerie Camp Destiny is open to any queer men or women who are interested in faeries and faerie culture. The Radical Faeries are clearly predominantly made up of gay men, but Destiny welcomes women faeries that would join them in the vision of creating a fey culture. If you are interested in learning more, getting involved, would like to attend a gathering, or get Destiny mailings, simple write to Faerie Camp Destiny, PO Box 8175, Burlington, VT 05402, or Endora, email endora@together.net. Faerie Camp Destiny also needs whatever contributions you could make so that this sanctuary, owned by and for all queer folk, can develop into a treasure for our entire community. Bless Aunt Bea.

