



PLENTY GOOD

In the nine years since our organization was formed, plenty has happened.

Big things: like 9/11; the “new normal”; and a growing awareness among many people that the way to have a better world is to create one right where you are.

Little things: like our new name, Community GroundWorks, reflecting our mission to teach what we’re doing at Troy Gardens in order to help people build that better world right where they are.

Some things seem plenty important to us as we grow this organization. Our programs are evolving and expanding; every year we reach more people. This work is plenty hard. Sometimes it seems to require 110% effort eight days a week from everyone and their brother. But we’re starting to see results, and when we stop to look at them, the feeling is plenty good.

We established Troy Community Farm in 2002, with 14 members on a quarter acre of tilled land. Today we have 160 members on five acres. That’s good enough, but we’ve also taught people at the farm every year. So far, 62 interns—some formal students, some individuals seeking skills and knowledge—have passed through our farm gate, working with and learning from Farm Managers Claire Strader and Jake Hoeksema. Several have gone on to work on other farms and/or start their own. Others are now doing agricultural research at the UW, and many continue to garden.

This season our Kids’ Gardening Program served 274 kids who participated in our program on a regular basis, and 310 additional children who visited the Kids’ Garden for school fieldtrips. This is not counting the kids we served outside the garden, for example when Education



Plenty good garlic harvest this year at Troy Kids’ Garden.

Director Nathan Larson teaches in area classrooms. All of this activity brings the number of children we reach to a thousand or more each year.

Now we’re teaching teachers. Our Growing Minds Class, held at the Kids’ Garden in July, has taught 41 educators in its first two years. The educators come from area schools (both public and private), community centers, UW-Extension, and neighboring school districts.

East High Youth Farm, a collaboration with East High School, Goodman Community Center and CGW, doubled its size to 1/4 acre this year. Located on Madison’s East Side, the farm blends curricula at East High with Program Manager Megan Cain’s leadership in the field to produce vegetables that stock the Goodman Center’s food pantry. About 200 youth (elementary, middle, and high school) have worked on the farm this year. Through the end of August they grew 2700 lbs. of produce.

Madison FarmWorks, an offshoot of Troy Farm, is building a solid business teaching and assisting people to grow vegetables at their homes and businesses. In two years we’ve doubled our customer base and more than doubled our income. FarmWorks’ most visible feather in its cap is our beautiful vegetable garden on the Capitol Square—the first time any of the garden beds on the Capitol grounds has been devoted to vegetables.

If you think we’re plenty proud of our accomplishments, good! You’re paying attention. If you’d like a taste of the satisfaction you can get by supporting our work, there is plenty to go around.

Turn the page and see for yourself.

NOTES FROM OUR DIRECTOR

I have just finished my first summer season at Community GroundWorks. It's easy to reflect on abundance this time of year as I look out over the gardens or peer into my CSA box. When I visit Troy Farm Stand on Thursday afternoons I find tables full of gorgeous vegetables—often just what I have been eagerly awaiting as the season moves along. The bright green leaves of spring gave way to beans and beets and now lots of tomatoes. I canned some this weekend, plenty to keep my family and me fed over the winter.



Jill Jacklitz, Executive Director

Plenty of good things happen wherever Community GroundWorks puts our mission into action. I spent some time in the Kids' Garden a few weeks ago. There were plenty of kids having a blast as they busily watered their plants and discussed what they would harvest that day. There was plenty of laughter, and all the happy noise kids make when they're outside having fun.

At our annual Savor the Summer event in early August, friends and neighbors came to Troy Gardens to enjoy an afternoon of hayrides, music and a buffet-style feast prepared and served by volunteers. Everything was offered freely, supplied from the generosity of our supporters, in gratitude to the community of people who share this land with us.

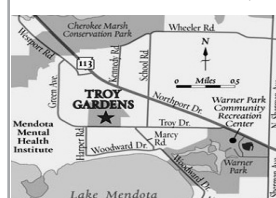
The East High Youth Farm held a harvest luncheon just before school returned to session. Talk about abundance! One middle school student shared pickles she and her mother made from cucumbers she helped grow at the farm. I sat with a sixth grader who could not hold back his excitement as he bit into the vegetable quiche he had prepared with Megan Cain's help the day before. Salsa, stuffed peppers and mint ice cream were just a few of the dishes these young farmers enthusiastically created from their farm's bounty. It was a great celebration of a summer well spent.

But there are other types of abundance that I trust will continue to feed us as we enter fall and winter and then return again to the growing season. We have plenty of dedicated people—staff, board and volunteers—who do the work of keeping this place going, and there's always plenty of it to do.

We are in the midst of strategic planning right now. We're using this time to reflect on the work we are doing, and explore new ways to determine just how good that work is at meeting our goals. We are also using this time to think about where we go next. Community GroundWorks has accomplished plenty of things over these past nine years. As we enter our next ten years we know there is plenty more we want to accomplish.

With plenty of help from people like you.

Troy Gardens is located on the 500 block of Troy Drive on Madison's Northside.



Staff

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Administrative Assistant

Megan Cain

Program Manager

Jake Hoeksema

Troy Farm Assistant Manager

Jill Jacklitz

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Board of Directors

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At Large

Samuel Pratsch

At Large

Kurt Schneider

Troy Community Gardens

Holly Sledge

At Large

Vincent M. Smith

UW-Madison

TROY URBAN FOREST WALKABOUT WITH BRUCE ALLISON, OCT 3

Join local arborist and author R. Bruce Allison at 10am on Sunday, October 3 for an hour-long walkabout through the natural areas at Troy Gardens. Dr. Allison will share tree stories, encourage stewardship of natural resources and discuss threats to our forests such as the emerald ash borer. The emerald ash borer is an insect which carries a disease that kills ash trees. The insect is expanding its range, and moving toward our area.

Community GroundWorks is engaged in a campaign to raise awareness of this threat to ash trees, one of the most numerous trees in Midwestern cities and forests. We have tied red ribbons and informational tags to the ash trees at Troy Gardens. Imagine what that forest would look like if all the red-ribboned trees perish because of the ash borer! There are steps we all can take to slow

down the spread of the ash borer and to keep our urban forests healthy; the purpose of this walkabout is to learn about the problem and discuss we can do about it.

Coffee and treats will be provided. Please gather at the yellow shed at Troy Gardens. All ages are welcome.



This event is sponsored by Community GroundWorks and is funded in part by an urban forestry grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Program.

R. Bruce Allison is Madison arborist. He has served as the president of the Wisconsin Arborist Association and as chairman of the Dane County Tree Board and Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council, and is the author of several books about Wisconsin trees.

We Salute Our Supporters!

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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Program

Wisconsin Environmental Education Board

Wisconsin Partners for Sustainability

Wisconsin State Journal Youth Services, Inc.

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Community GroundWorks donors!



ENABLING GARDEN PLANNED—YOU CAN HELP



It has been a long-term goal of Community GroundWorks to create an Enabling Garden that demonstrates gardening methods for those not able to garden at ground level, and provides spaces for community gardeners who don't have the ability to garden in standard plots.

This spring, CGW hired intern Daniel Schmitt, a UW-Madison landscape architect graduate student, to

lead the Enabling Garden Project. He recently presented the draft plans for the project to the Troy Community Gardens Steering/Leadership Committee.

Once all of the necessary approvals are secured, Phase 1 of the project will commence, including a gathering area, teaching garden, accessible path, and loading area/entrance. Phase 2, scheduled for 2011, includes six sets of raised beds for community gardeners, a visual buffer zone to the east of these, and a materials storage area. The Enabling Garden is to be located between the Kids' Garden mulberry grove and the parking lot next to Troy Co-housing Community.

This project has had minimal funds to get started, so Daniel will be working to secure free or inexpensive materials and resources for Phase 1. If you would like to support the Enabling Garden and help it move forward, contact Associate Director Christie Larson (page 2).

SEEKING HARDY QUEENS FOR TROY FARM APIARIES

This spring, Community GroundWorks received a grant from the Alliant Energy Foundation to double the number of apiaries (beehives) at Troy Farm, hire an Apiary Coordinator intern, and begin a queen-rearing program aimed at producing Wisconsin-hardy, hygienic queens. A queen rearing class was a key step in this process, taught by Marla Spivak, well known among both beekeepers and bee researchers for her groundbreaking work.

There have been many much-publicized threats to the health of honeybees in recent years, including parasites and diseases not easily explained or countered. Troy Farm doesn't use chemical treatments for any of these problems in our hives. In fact, ongoing research is showing that chemicals are likely causing bigger problems than they are curing in apiculture (much like in conventional agriculture). One promising way that beekeepers can start to address some of the health issues in their apiaries is by raising healthy, hygienic queens. Marla Spivak is at the forefront of this work.

The hygienic trait was first discovered in the early 1900's. Bees with this trait can detect defective or diseased larvae in the comb and remove it before it contaminates other larvae or bees. Though the trait has been known for a long time, no one spent any time trying to test for it or breed it into bees until Spivak started that work in the early 90's. After proving that bees with the

hygienic trait are better able to combat diseases and parasites, she is now working on disseminating her research and her breeder queens to commercial bee breeders and beekeepers throughout the country. She is also teaching beekeepers like us how to raise our own hygienic stock.

This is so important because the queen is the mother of all the bees in a hive. Her only job is to lay eggs, hundreds or thousands of them per day. Her genetic material is passed on to every one of her baby bees, so if she is from hygienic stock, her bees will likely also display that trait and be better able to survive and thrive.



Apiary Coordinator Sarah Shotz displays hygienic queens that will establish their dynasties at Troy.

VOICES OF COMMUNITY GROUNDWORKS: MARIA DAVIS

Surely Troy Farm's greatest harvest is the "added value" our interns carry forward into the world, as a result of their experiences learning organic, community-based urban agriculture here. Maria Davis is one of these interns. We asked her a few questions now that the season is almost over.

Tell us about who you are, Maria.

I am a farmer, a restaurant server and a young woman on a mission: trying to help build a local, sustainable food system within my community and state. I was born and raised in Wisconsin and come from a "workhorse" family that never stops. As a child, I loved adventure and the outdoors, but envisioned myself as a healthcare provider. That changed in college when I became aware of the social and environmental issues that surround our current food system. My ideal career is to produce healthy, clean food that is accessible to everyone, while educating those interested in the farming community.

How has your post-high school education evolved?

After high school, I went to UW-Madison to prepare myself for a professional career. It wasn't until my last year in school, and \$3,000 spent toward dental school, that I decided I wanted to work with the farming community, and luckily landed a job with a local farmer. I've spent the last three years learning about food production and sustainable farming on many different farms, including Troy Community Farm. From my time with each farm, varying from a few hours of volunteer work to three years of employment, my true direction in life was found; I wanted to become a farmer.

What kind of work did you do at Troy Farm?

My internship at Troy consisted of an educational program and physical work on the farm. It truly was a labor of love for me, but the experience and knowledge that Claire (Strader) and Jake (Hoeksema) offer has been the best experience yet. They both have different experiences and visions with the farm, which helps me as I derive the type of farm I want to evolve to.

You have worked part-time for REAP (Research, Education and PROPER NAME), a Madison-based nonprofit, for XX years. What do you do there?

At REAP, I'm the Buy Fresh/Buy Local Program Coordinator. I call myself a "marriage counselor" who connects local producers with area wholesale buyers. I help foster long-term relationships between buyers at local restaurants, grocery stores, and healthcare facilities with local agricultural producers. With this job, I have



the pleasure of working with the best of the best when it comes to serving the best food and also producing it.

At the same time you've worked for us, you and your fiancé have started Nami Moon Farms, a small pastured poultry operation on your family's land. You sell at Madison's Eastside Farmers' Market, several local restaurants, and by word of mouth. What have you learned at Troy Farm that will help you advance your career?

Troy has been more than an educational experience. From working at Troy Farm Stand, I've seen how the community and supporters of Troy have a great pride for their neighborhood, friends and farmers. I want to create this kind of connection with my farm's customers at the Eastside Farmers' Market.

What is the meaning of your life?

This is a hard question to answer, but here is my best shot. To bring joy to people's lives. I know this seems corny, but people are too depressed and make their lives more difficult than they need to be. I want to make lives of others more simplistic, by sharing the joys of smiling and simply being happy; connecting people with good, healthy food; and demonstrating how to love—whether that means people, yourself, food, the environment... whatever it is that people are attracted to.

ONLINE AUCTION PUTS THE FUN IN FUNDRAISING

Last fall, Community GroundWorks made over \$1000 when they held an online auction with three other organizations. They hope to more than double that amount this year in their October 14-24 auction, but they need your help.

Can you offer a service or item they can auction? A piece of artwork, a specialty food or floral item, or bounty from your own growing season to donate? Do you have a skill they could auction? Can you teach someone a craft or technique?

Do you know a local celebrity, chef, or artisan who you can convince to donate an hour of their time and expertise to support Community GroundWorks? Are you a regular customer of someone who might like to support the work at Troy Gardens? Many businesses are happy to donate their products and services to nonprofits like us, as it's both good advertising and a tax write-off.

Contact Terrie Anderson at 608-241-9080, or email terrieanderson@sbcglobal.net to learn more and get involved. She'll handle the logistics and make sure that the donors you hook us up with are well thanked for their support.

Go to www.greenauctionswi.cmarket.com anytime between Oct. 14 and 24 to bid often and generously on the exciting items offered in the auction. Tell your friends and associates to bid, too.



You'll find specialty items like these handmade brooms in the online auction, Oct. 14-24.

PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN

If you have a workplace giving campaign available to you, it's easy for you to include Community GroundWorks in your charitable giving. If you're in a public sector workplace, look for us under the "Community Shares of Wisconsin" section of your campaign booklet. Many private sector employers also have a Community Shares campaign.

How do you want to change the word?

Building Social and Economic Equity and a Healthy Environment



Collecting prairie seeds (photo provided by Madison Audubon Society)

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If you direct a donation to Community GroundWorks, we receive 100% of your gift. Your donations allow us to steward Troy Gardens and bring the expertise we've developed there to urban agriculture and school garden projects in other places.

Don't have a Community Shares of Wisconsin campaign at your workplace? Ask your employer to consider starting one, and ask us to put you in touch with Community Shares.

Thank you for considering a gift to us through your workplace giving donations. We appreciate your support!

SAVOR THE SUMMER ALL YEAR LONG

Our 6th annual Savor the Summer celebration at Troy Gardens had all charm of a sunny day in the garden—plus a free dinner complete with ice cream; hayrides; music; kids' activities and great conversation. Troy Community Gardeners and Troy Farm donated veggies, and our friend Dale Matthews with his posse of volunteers prepared a buffet line garden feast which fed an estimated 250 people. Savor the Summer's **Healthy Eating Sponsor, St. Mary's Hospital**, offered tasty samples of black bean salsa and chips. Wholesome, yes—and very delicious!

Carl F. Statz & Sons donated the use of a shiny red hay wagon and a tractor to pull it, for free hayrides around Troy Farm and Prairie. Everything looks dandy from the back of a hay wagon full of kids and their grown-ups.



The Boys & Girls Club Black Star Drumline once again put on a terrific show for Savor the Summer. Taught and conducted by Madison drummer Joey Banks, these youngsters from the Allied Family Center blend enthusiastic beats with well-rehearsed motion, creating amazingly rich music using only drums of every size.

Arterro, a Madison company specializing in eco-friendly art kits for children, provided free art kits and instruction in the kids' tent. And what could be more delightful than to savor the summer with a premium ice cream cone from Madison's own Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream?

Many volunteers from the Dane County Timebank helped set up, serve food and clean up for the event. We thank one and all for a day that we'll remember often come this winter, when summer is long gone from the land but not from our hearts.



With recipes and tidbits from Madison's Northside, plus an endearing children's story and coloring book illustrations, Community GroundWorks' Savor the Summer Cookbook is a natural this gift-giving season. And at only \$6, you can afford one for everyone on your list!

Savor the Summer Cookbooks can be purchased at the following locations:

Troy Farm Stand, 500 Troy Drive, Thursday afternoons from 4-6 pm, until Oct. 14

Pierce's Northside Market, Northside TownCenter

Frugal Muse Bookstore, Northgate Shopping Center

Manna Café, 611 N. Sherman Ave

Green Owl Restaurant, 1970 Atwood Avenue

Sunprint Café, 1 S. Pinckney St. (in the glass bank on the Square)

Jung Garden Center, 1313 Northport Dr.

Bloom Bake Shop, 1834 Parmenter St., Middleton

Germania Collectibles & Things, 524 E. Wilson St.

If you'd like cookbooks shipped to you, contact Marge Pitts at margepitts@sbcglobal.net.



Dane County Timebank

Timebank members—donate some of your Timebank Hours to us. We'll use them to pay volunteers for helping out on the land and in our office. It's easy to do online at www.danecountytimebank.org.

Open the My Account page and choose the Deduct time box under the My Hours tab. Designate Community GroundWorks as the Service Provider.

It's like paying someone else to volunteer!



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See website for details.

PERSONALIZED GARDEN PLANS
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communitygroundworks.org



Come out in support of Community GroundWorks

Your gift to Community
GroundWorks helps us to
continue our mission: to grow
wholesome and organic food
for local tables, to cultivate a

diverse learning community, and to nurture a meaningful relationship between people and the land. In fact, our very existence is made possible by donors like you. There are many options for giving.

Gifts of Cash: Send a check to our office or donate online at www.communitygroundworks.org. Consider giving monthly donations; contact our office to learn more!

Workplace Giving: We are part of Community Shares' workplace giving campaign.

Community CHIP: When you shop at the Willy Street Co-op, a portion of your "CHIP" will go to Community GroundWorks. For more information, visit www.communityshares.com.

Stock & Securities: You can avoid capital gain taxes while receiving a tax deduction by giving a gift of stock or securities.

Charitable Gift Annuity: Make a tax deductible gift while receiving a lifetime annual income from the gift. You must be 60 or older to establish a charitable gift annuity (CGA). We partner with the Madison Community Foundation to offer CGAs.

Planned Giving: Bequests are a powerful way to leave a lasting legacy. Gifts can take many forms: will provisions, life insurance policies, IRAs and qualified retirement plans such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans. We partner with the Madison Community Foundation to provide donors with the opportunity to give back to future generations.

Our programs are made possible by donors like you. Contact Christie Ralston (page 2) to learn more about these options for giving. Please use the enclosed reply envelope, or visit our website to make your donation today.