

pay \$250 (\$200+ according to Pelican Lee) a month for six months and a figure less than that for one year. Discussion of women who wanted to live on Days Creek land, matriarchal village idea, and fundraising. The land was to have a revolving group of caretakers, would be used for festivals, workshops, gatherings, and camping, and would be open to all women.

Summer 1976, contract signed to buy Days Creek land for \$18,500 down with monthly payments of \$365.

June, 1976, Eugene, OR. Meeting of women who wanted to live on the Days Creek land.

July, 1976, Days Creek. First meeting of the Oregon Women's Land Trust held on Oregon Women's Land. Caretakers had 2 days on the land to prepare for a gathering of 100 women. Legal reports given. Discussions about the matriarchal village idea, outreach to third world and working class women, women who wanted to live at what was by then being called "OWL Farm, fundraising, and a singles workshop. After the meeting ended, there were 17 women 2 girl children and 5 homeless goats living at OWL farm.

September, 1976, Labor Day weekend, OWL Farm. Meeting of third world and working class women. Another meeting of third world and working class women took place on Labor Day weekend in Covello.

October 1976, OWL Farm. Land Trust meeting. Discussion of fire that had destroyed a cabin at WomanShare and a 185 acre fire at the Covello land. Discussion of how to deal with tensions, power sharing, interpersonal problems, and childcare. By-laws voted on and passed. Third world women met separately. Discussion of how other pieces of land would come into the land trust.

November 1976, Roseburg, Rainbow's End. Meeting to discuss land ownership attended primarily by women who lived on non-Land Trust land that they owned individually or collectively. Discussion of community and community responsibilities and accountability.

January 9, 1977, Portland, Mountain Moving Cafe. Sunday brunch fundraiser for the Oregon Women's Land Trust.

January 15, 1977, Portland, Mountain Moving Cafe. Fundraising evening event.

January 28, 1977, Eugene. Financial meeting.

During the early years, celebrations occurred on most full moons and every Solstice and Equinox, Halloween, Candlemas and Beltane.

OVERVIEW

According to La Verne Gagehabib and Barbara Summerhawk, writing in *Circles of Power*, "Women had profound experiences of creating community together, in various combinations, for periods of months or years. Throughout OWL Farm's first twenty-five years, hundreds of women visited from all over the world. There was the exhilaration, as one ex-resident had shared, of learning how to use a tool one day, and teaching a newly arrived woman how to use it the next...As of 1999, no one permanently resides at OWL Farm and the Oregon Women's Land Trust is looking for a group of women who are dedicated to creating community and furthering women's culture to take stewardship of the land. Perhaps some group, such as a team of women cob-house builders or herbalists, will take on the responsibility for OWL Farm. Meanwhile, the more permanent members of the larger community hold things together for OWL Farm. In June 1998, members of the Land Trust made a decision to "close" what had been open women's land, looking ahead to a new type of experiment by actively seeking a caretaking collective. Ní Aódagáin, [former OWL Farm Caretaker] living in Eugene, supports this decision, but said, "*Open women's land is critical in terms of a women's movement that said it's for all women; women without resources have to be able to go back to the earth, not just women who have financial privileges.*"

After 2000, women began again to reside at OWL Farm.

From Bethroot Gwynn: Summer 2004, there are now 3 residents at OWL Farm, one of whom celebrates her first birthday in August, 2004. The garden has been cultivated for the past several summers, and produced abundantly for a Garden Party at OWL Farm in September, 2003. A 2004 Garden Party will be held at OWL Farm on September 8.

The road is in fairly good repair; the Main House is clean and cool on the hottest summer days. The orchard and grounds are being mowed by hard-working caretakers Cory and Rae Milecar.

In summer 2003, Cory and Rae did a major renovation of the West end of the Coop, creating a cozy living space for themselves and new baby, Maradaya - including a full kitchen.

THE BUILDINGS OF OWL FARM by Ní Aódagáin, 1998

In the beginning of OWL, (1976) the only