Over time in community, things change. Rituals and routines become established, things that seemed essential begin to matter less. Things we didn’t know we were missing become central to our lives. Friendships deepen, building age, gardens grow.

The most surprising thing I notice changing as I share space and life with others is me. My neighbors introduce me to the wonders of compost and chickens and I’m suddenly intrigued by the cycles of life. I walk with a friend in a wheelchair and find myself noticing curbs and steps everywhere. A colorblind friend leaves me thinking about all the ways color makes a difference in life. A community member who on a typical day is apt to irritate my last nerve, does a kind a generous thing for me and I admire anew the complexity that is humanity.

It seems to me that long after we get our communities built, our communities continue to work of building us into our best selves. What a beautiful life.

Welcome (Back) Alice!

Creating community has been a guiding principle in my life, and cohousing has been at the forefront. What better way to help transform our world than promoting the caring, sharing, and cooperative culture of our communities? This is what motivates me in supporting CohoUS, which is essential for keeping us learning from each
other, getting the word out, and growing our cohousing movement for a more collaborative society. After serving as CohoUS Executive Director from 2014 to 2017, I am delighted to be rejoining the team in this new (very part time) role of Fundraising Director. I’m even more delighted to provide opportunities for all of us who take pride in being part of the cohousing movement to support CohoUS. I’d welcome hearing from you! Email alicecohous@gmail.com

Events

Register Now for an online conference event: Cohousing Over Time

Introducing keynote speaker Sky Blue

Embracing Change: The challenges and possibilities of established communities

The first generation of cohousing in the US led the way for everyone. Now these communities are finding their way through new challenges. This event looks at the challenges of communities past their first decade, from aging buildings to aging members, working with what we have, integrating newcomers, and building on years of well-earned wisdom. Younger communities are encouraged to join us for a look ahead, it’s always great to know what’s coming.

Click HERE for more information
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Blogs

Blessing the Land At River Song
By: Sandi Goldie, River Song Cohousing

Thriving During the Pandemic: The Story of One Urban Community
Even though we have roots in Oregon, Jim and I were in Vancouver, British Columbia waiting out the pandemic with the US/Canada border closed, so we were not able to come to the land blessing. But there was such a strong desire to include everyone who was unable to be there, they had set up... Read More

Caddis Collaborative has been privileged to design a number of cohousing communities across North America. As society begins to move out of COVID-19 restrictions, we reflect on how many of these communities have thrived during the pandemic. More than hunker-down survival mode, these communities looked actively to self-organize... Read More

Bridport Cohousing – Our journey towards getting the common facilities for our project built and paid for
By: Lin Scrannage, Bridport Cohousing in the UK

With no available grant funding for non-residential buildings like the Common House and guest bedrooms, members have had to come up with a creative solution to this problem. We in the Cohousing Network all know just how important a Common House is for social cohesion, yet the vast majority of... Read More

Tea Transition
By: Karen Gimnig
When I lived in England, I quickly learned that upon entering a home, I would be offered a cup of tea. It took me longer to appreciate the fullness of the ritual. My British peers rather enjoyed schooling an uncouth American, and one day they explained that the custom required me to accept the offer.... Read More

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