

October 12, 2014

Greetings,

Another season is coming to a close, and 2014 gave us a lot to reflect upon. The most obvious change was the completion of the Tin House and its enhancement of our operation. Having adequate storage, a bathroom, a bigger cooler, and shelter from the rain is a dream come true, and I keep pinching myself, wondering what makes me so lucky.

The launching of Restoration Farm Arts was another big change. From school groups, to workshops, to yoga, to concerts, it seemed there was always something going on. Like anything new, there were challenges to face and lessons to learn, but Dan, Susan, and I are committed to continuing and improving the program while not forgetting our roots—the farm itself and providing top quality produce to the CSA members and farm stand customers that sustain it.

Sadly, 2014 also marks the end of an era. We bid farewell to Tricia Hardgrove, our friend and employee of six years. We wish her the best as she progresses towards her nursing degree, and while we hope that a wholesome diet keeps us out of the hospital, we know we'll be in good hands if we ever end up in her care. Just as bittersweet is the departure of Zsofi Bodnar, our friend and employee of two years. We'll miss her competence in the field and her calm demeanor, but the life of a traveler beckons, and we trust that that the road will rise up to meet her. Never before have the fields and vegetables looked so good, and we owe it to the devoted labor of Trish and Zsofi, who along with staff members Noreen Hussain and Dina Bacalocostantis, faced all the demands of the season with grit and grace. We're grateful for the time they gave us, and they can never be replaced.

Winter brings the promise of rest and the opportunity to make improvements around the farm. Installing a new wash station behind the Tin House, continuing our irrigation upgrades, breaking ground on new flower gardens, there's plenty to keep us occupied even as we relish the chance to sleep in. As always, we are eternally grateful for the support of our CSA community. Even as we embrace our winter retreat, we welcome the inevitable advance of spring and first harvest of 2015 when we are reunited with you once again.

Yours truly,
Caroline & Dan