the abundance foundation
first newsletter 2007

Photo by David Jessee

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On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Staff of The Abundance Foundation

Click to read about...

Seed Saving

With a little help from our friends...

Farmers’ Market

2008 Education Series

Local Food Dinner

Vermiculture

Piedmont Biofuels Coop

Library Green Building Event

Make a Donation
They thought we were wacky. They thought it was off topic. What does the Abundance Foundation have to do with a parade? It turns out, a lot!

The Abundance Foundation wanted to see non-profits and local merchants join together to build floats and show off their creativity, while getting their message out. This county has so many good things going on that need more exposure. We worked with the Town of Pittsboro first, by getting the Town Board of Commissioner's approval to facilitate more entertainment and floats and to work with Alice Lloyd; Parade Queen. We then started having planning meetings, design meetings and finally float building days held at Piedmont Biofuels. The end result was the most spectacular display of creativity and joy by our very own Chathamites. We were astounded by what people and organizations were capable of when everyone put their heads together.

We cannot wait to see how it expands next year and we thank the dozens of people that made it such a success and so fun!
Beginning a new Non-Profit was a bigger job than we had thought. That’s the way a lot of projects begin and it is better that you don’t know what is involved, or you might think twice before jumping in! The Abundance Foundation has been graced with amazing talent and experience from the get-go. Our Board of Directors has all the right ingredients: A LEED certified architect, Alicia Ravetto, a visionary; Lyle Estill, a biodiesel plant founder; Rachel Burton a doctorate of agronomy; Kim Tungate, a superior court judge; Allen Baddour, a community implementor; Tami Schwerin, a community logistician; Andrea Young, a community activist; Gary Phillips and a Solar guru and educator; Maria Kingery. What do they have in common? A passion for the environment and a passion for change and for community.

**First Project**

After the 501c3 was formed with the work of Lyle Estill, Rachel Burton and Kathie Russell, the first project presented itself as the Moncure School had no hot water for the kids to wash their hands. With the help of Southern Energy Management, Boeing Corporation, the Moncure PTA and Tommy Cockman of the Chatham County School System, solar panels were installed along with the appropriate hot water heater and new sinks and plumbing. Voila! The kids could see their hot water getting heated by renewable energy; the sun.

**The train had left the station**

There was no looking back. Andrea and I jumped in with both feet and started learning and creating relationships and opportunities and the phone never stopped ringing.

**What is coming in 2008?**

Now that we have a year under our belt, we are planning an Education Series in cooperation with Piedmont Biofuels Coop. This will allow us to further our mission which is:

- to promote local food production and consumption, renewable energy and sustainable lifestyles through education, outreach and community events.

We will continue to work with the Pittsboro Farmers’ Market, work with organizations on Food Security and Farm Incubators. Worms are in our year as well as water conservation, grey water, mushrooms, solar panel installations, biodiesel, sustainable development, and who knows, there may be more parades coming too!
We have so many people to thank for their in-kind donations, their time and expertise. Thank you for your support!

All the Pittsboro Farmers’ Market Farmers
All the Parade Participants
Entire Gang of Piedmont Biofuels
Screech
Sam White
Maria Kingery
Blast Internet
French Connections
General Store Cafe
Baroke Builders
Altadore Investments, LLC
Kay Taylor
Robin Kohanwich
Mari Trosclair
Chris Jude
Evan Ashworth
David Thornton
Rachel Burton & Scott Every
Tes Thaves
Kim Tungate
Rachel Hoff
Todd Dumke
Sandi Kronick & Eric Cohen
Tom Roberts
Doug Jones
Friends of the Library
Paul Knott
MB & Dan & Sam & James Cahoon
Rootzie
Gregory Blaine & Dolie Chandler
Diane Swan & Scotty Young
Jim Nitsch
Debbie Roos
Deborah Eagle
Robyn Fehrman
Carolina Brewery
Brian Creech
Caroline Betts

Mark Estill
Shakori Hills
Robb Brooks
Arlo & Zafer Estill
Zoe & Cali & Greyson Willard
Sage & Giles & Gillian & Gary
Giles Blunden
Pam Smith
Mary DeMare
Jeff Barney
Kim Bodis
Pittsboro Merchants Association
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Ilana Dubester
Melissa Best
David Jessee
Barbara Lorie
Matt Schiegel
Pam Costenbader
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Lindsay Vacik
Dana Villalas
Kaitin Estill
Kevin Woo
McCayne Miller
Frank & Kersten Fitzgerald
Matt Rudolf
April McGreger
Phil Blank
Mark Ferri
Mayor Randy Voller
Joe Suprick
Laura & Pierre Lauffer
Anne Schwerin
Michael Schwerin
Ed Schwerin
Catherin Trott
Amanda Sand & Jill Reemsnyder
Barbara Hurlbutt
Andy McMahan
CCCC

Thank you for making this inaugural year possible! We appreciate your financial support very much.

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