



# Cohousing in Corvallis

An E Newsletter from CoHo Cohousing  
in Corvallis, Oregon

Issue 2 February 2006



Remember when your best friend lived right next door?

## CoHo Welcome Weekend March 3-5, 2006

CoHo Cohousing is on track for starting construction of our 34-unit neighborhood this summer, with move in Spring '07. As we get closer, more local and out-of-town folks are contacting us to learn about life in community. To celebrate our progress, and meet and greet people, we're hosting a CoHo Welcome Weekend with several casual gatherings. Our home selection process for current members will be complete by this time so we'll know which homes are available for new neighbors.

Friday, 7pm, **Cohousing—Creating an Old-Fashioned Neighborhood in a New Way** An overview and project update from members of CoHo Cohousing



at the Corvallis Arts Center  
700 SW Madison  
(across from Central Park)



Saturday, 10:00am - **Walk the Land** (and stop at First Alternative Cooperative for a snack). Visit the 6.8 acre cohousing site at Crystal Lake Boulevard and Alexander. CoHo members will bring site maps to show the placement of our units, Common House, garden, and other shared community spaces.

Saturday, 5:30pm - **Vegetarian Potluck**  
home, 1325 NW Alta Vista, 758-3347 →



**Social** at Karen's



Sunday, 11:00am - **Brunch** at New Morning Bakery,  
219 SW 2<sup>nd</sup>, with Anne →

Sunday, 5:15pm, **Community Meeting**, Corvallis Neighborhood Housing Services, 257 SW Madison (above Albright & Raw Pharmacy at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Madison)

If you're visiting from out-of-town and have additional sites in Corvallis you'd like to see on your trip, let us know. For information on events or help with housing arrangements, contact the folks listed at the bottom of the newsletter.

## Rain, Rain -- Go Away??

### Thoughts of Willamette River Flooding

By Richard Hervey

In early February, I read that we got an average of half an inch of rain a day during January: that we had the wettest 31 days on record from mid December through mid January. My front yard looks it. Where once we grew turf, we now have mud and moss.

Looking at my "lawn" got me thinking about all the trips I've made over the last month to the CoHo site to confirm that it really is above the flood plain. It's one thing to have people that I trust tell me they've looked at the county's flood zone maps and compared them to the geo maps on the net and that by all accounts we are well above the 100 year flood elevation. It's another exercise altogether, to get comfortable in my bones, that the land under my future home, the land on the bank above Crystal Lake, is going to stay high and dry for my lifetime.



So I kept going down to check; every time the river rose another couple of feet. I'd drive over the Van Buren Street bridge to see if the water had yet flooded the golf course. I'd take the 34 bypass back over the river noticing if the park formerly known as Martin Luther King Jr. Park was flooded. I'd drive to Crystal Lake boat ramp to see how deeply flooded the parking lot was, and I'd end my tour standing on the bank on the east side of our land, looking at Crystal Lake (photo at left), now clearly a side channel of the Willamette.

I think what finally reassured me was the day that highway 34 was blocked off due to water flowing over it into Trysting Tree golf course. At the CoHo end of my tour, I walked down the ramp at the southeast corner and noted that the river level was about 20 feet below the eastern bluff of the CoHo land. Twenty feet above highway 34 feels pretty safe to me.

Guess I'll have to find something else to worry about.

## Ground-Breaking Ceremony set for Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

Join us for this long-awaited celebration of the launch of our project. The ceremony will take place on our land at Crystal Lake Boulevard and Alexander from 4:30 to 5:30pm. More information will be posted on our website.

### To find out more about CoHo Cohousing

Website: <http://www.cohousing-corvallis.com/index.shtml>

Email: [info@cohousing-corvallis.com](mailto:info@cohousing-corvallis.com) (answered by Mike) →

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