



Oakcreek Newsletter

Spring 2017



"SYMBIHOME"

An artistic presentation of relationships in cohousing
by *Nisa Blackmon*

Two members of Oakcreek asked artist and biologist Nisa Blackmon to create a work that represented symbiosis.

Symbiosis refers to the close living together of two dissimilar organisms. Often both benefit from the relationship. Honey bees, fruit trees and flowers offer a familiar example of a symbiotic relationship. Lichens, those gray-green organisms we see growing on some trees, downed logs and rocks are another example in nature of a mutually beneficial relationship.

Thinking about symbiosis, and her friends, Nisa turned to cohousing. In recognition of the mutual benefit of cohousing to both individual owners and to the larger Oakcreek community, she integrated the physical space of those two entities. The relationship between them was illustrated by inserting the footprint



of the building where two Oakcreek friends live into the boundaries of the building that serves all of the community, that is, the Common House.



Nisa says of her work: *"I thought of the work resting on my friends' hands or on a table in their home as a reflection of the way the buildings of Oakcreek rest on the land. The idea of holding the work was also important, suggesting the responsibility for each other and for the maintenance of those connections that form a healthy community and landscape that each member of Oakcreek holds in his or her hands."*

To read more about the art and its execution, [click here](#)



INTERDEPENDENCE

In contrast to other living arrangements for seniors which advertise as being for “independent adults,” Oakcreek Community (and cohousing in general), emphasizes the value of “**interdependent** adults.” Living in cohousing with a commitment to the mega-value of interdependence creates a life that is about cooperation and mutual benefit which, as Charles Durrett writes in *The Senior Cohousing Handbook*, “is more practical, convenient, economical, more interesting, and more fun.” Interdependence itself fosters a spirit of co-creating and of belonging.

We have been living in Oakcreek for almost 5 years; in that time we have come to know the great benefit of possibility and creative energy that is generated when we acknowledge the collective benefit of each individual’s unique gifts and talents. “More fun” hardly begins to describe the experience.



Best Wishes to Dorothy!

60 + friends and family celebrated Dorothy’s 90th Birthday in the Oakcreek Common House

A Place in Oakcreek Community for Sale

.....and a house comes with it.



Oakcreek Home for Sale

Two bedroom, 1 & ½ bath

Granite counter tops

Roll-in shower

Skylight

Screened-in back porch

Garage

Call 405 747-5913



Visit our website for more information



Seven Oakcreek owners are packing (well, not actually right now) for Nashville and the annual National Cohousing Association Conference.

Oakcreek is the only cohousing community in Oklahoma, so the opportunity to meet and visit with others who have been living in cohousing communities for many years is really energizing. This is a great time to share stories and meet other people of all ages who believe in the great potential of cohousing. Learning what works and doesn't work in other places makes all of us better. Oakcreek members will present a facilitated discussion on *The Challenges and Opportunities of Turnover*. So, National Meeting...mutual benefit...and great fun.

GREEN COUNTRY COHOUSING/TULSA SENIOR COHOUSING

invites you to

AN INTRODUCTION TO COHOUSING

Friday, May 5, 2017, 7:00pm

Presented by Cohousing Experts and Architects:

Katie McCamant and Chuck Durett

More information and reservations at

greencountrycohousing@gmail.com

1-539-302-9882