

Off-Grid Camps and Nature's Music

by David Michael

In the early morning of the 25th of November 2018 (my birthday), I had just finished a day with friends at the Hot Wells Dunes near Bowie AZ where the Abbey is located. I was asked about how I would run a community. I thought about this for a moment and suggested that it should be a community decision making process. I fell asleep and was awakened with the sense that I was being given a directive related to this discussion from YHWH.

There are many decisions in this life that have little influence upon eternity. Should I eat my carrots before my peas or should I eat my potatoes first? This is not a question that will change the course of human history. So many of our life decisions including financial decisions are not far removed from the silliness of this food choice. I have come to the conclusion that it is better to let others be invested in the decision making process for the unimportant issues and then leave the important issues of God's directives to the leading of the Holy Spirit through his prophets.

As to community, the Abbey here in Bowie is set up to become a community or better described as a working farm commune. Talking with my friends at the hot wells dunes while soaking in a mineral pool, we discussed the idea of an animal shelter. I suggested a shelter for the lost kids as well but this did not go over well. Animals were considered in this discussion as a better choice over kids by my friends. My friend also disclosed she liked cuddly little rabbits. I thought about it for a moment and suggested, "I could provide a refuge for donkeys because they can assist us in our mission of off-grid living."

Dissonance with Nature

We also discussed the means of communicating with animals and the theoretic frequencies used by feral animals that we would need to employ to effectively communicate and train animals through a form of telepathy and non-verbal body language. We discussed the Schumann resonance and how wild animals would think and communicate within the harmonics of this composite frequency of earths natural 7.8 cycles per second. Mankind and domestic animals being raised in high electronic noise environments would communicate in some harmonic of the AC current frequency of 60 cycles per second, halved to 30 cycles per second, halved to 15 cycles per second and finally functioning at a base frequency of 7.5 cycle per second. One might think this is close enough to handshake but the two when played together creates a life dissonance of 0.3 cycle per second. This means every three seconds there is an extra beat by one communicator that throws everything off. They cannot interconnect or handshake to communicate and these two forces of spirit-energy will naturally repel each other.

I talked about these frequencies of communication because when living in community with man and nature, we must pursue a unity that is synchronized with nature's angels also called elementals who are entrusted to maintain nature's cycles and protect its species. To be in unity is not just an agreement of a set of rules and standards as common in human organizations but it must be a unity of the soul and spirit in communicating with all of creation employing their frequency sets that we can also call the language of nature's music. Pythagoras called this the Music of the Spheres when referencing celestial bodies in harmonic orbital motion.

If we communicate with nature in this musical language found in nature, nature will respond positively and serve us in providing its resources. If we bring dissonance into a setting of nature in blindly carrying in the frequencies of modern technologies, we are perceived as a foreign entity and a threat and the dissonance of our presence will cause nature's forces and nature's plants and animals to reject us. Wild animals will not hear us and be afraid of us or attack us as a threat. The Tibetans understand this and use musical bells and bowls to help them interface with nature's musical language to then in a small way modify it. This is observed in the phenomena of human levitation, not getting

cold in freezing temperatures, plants blooming in winter and more.

Move away from AC systems

Therefore, for a community to exist in collectively tuning itself to this musical language of nature, it must be located sufficiently far away from power lines and other electronic antenna sending systems including telephones, cell phone towers, AC power sources, etc. Some research has suggested that living within a mile of a high power line can cause cancer and other cellular anomalies. This modern electronic biological dissonance with sufficient amplitude causes death. Shall we assume we need to be at least 5-10 miles distance from any such electrical system? Indeed... yes! 100 miles would be better.

DC Solar Systems

What I have tried to describe here is the need to get off-grid far away from power lines and other AC type electronic devices and communications systems. As an alternative, DC systems do not appear to be a threat to biological cellular systems. Solar panels as 12 or 24 volts systems are fine providing you are powering 12 or 24 volt devices. If you have to use an inverter or upward transformer, it converts DC to AC for the conversion and this creates electronic noise and dissonance. There are a lot of 12 volt systems on the market. 24 volt conversion to 12 volts can be done without converting to AC.

Network of Camps

Our Abbey is located in the town of Bowie with a high power line running along its property line. It is connected to the utility pole for electricity and has town water. None of these conditions are a mark of self-sufficiency. It is not a good place for seeking the above described level of unity with nature but it is a good place to teach these concepts for short term workshops and stays. However, we also have 10 acres out in the middle of the desert about 7 miles to the north that would be suitable. It is another 7 miles to the north over sandy roads across BLM land to get to the Hot Wells Dunes which is a great place for hot mineral baths located in a desert oasis with many plants and trees.

It is reasonable to suggest that the development of a nature friendly community or commune can be spread over many locations or camps within about 7 miles of each other that is a 2-3 hour walk. This would emerge as a designed network of camps each specializing in producing specific products in becoming a completely off-grid self-sufficient farming community. These products would then be traded/bartered with the other camp communities.

If we adopt donkeys with the Abbey becoming known as a donkey refuge then gently train them to work with us in this mission as pack animals or pulling carts, we would have a means of transporting goods and supplies between the camps on a daily basis if needed. We can give each of the camps a name that are in association with the Abbey.

The 10 acres may be called Camp Tribulation in reflecting the many life wrenching challenges people have endured before coming to participate in the Abbey ministry. From this isolated desert centralized property, there is direct access to the vast San Simon desert valley with Mount Graham to the West and the Gila Mountain range to the East. The Chiricahuas to the south and the White Mountains and the Apache reservation to the north.

Embracing the Vision

Should this proposal become the model we pursue for our developing community? I have recently come to understand (really understand) that God owns all the land and all of it has been legally (biblically) placed in the care of his Melchizedek priesthood on earth. The human motivation to buy up vast tracks of land for a community is not in keeping with this knowledge. Why seek to buy what you already own? Open grazing is allowed by law in AZ and other 4-corner states so all that is needed is

small postage stamp off-grid outposts or camps where huts and supplies can be stored, distributed and used. This would make us somewhat of a herding hunter-gatherer small gardening semi-mobile community in living mostly from the resources already provided in the deserts of SE Arizona.

Training Books

I have recently acquired two books to begin my pilgrimage in this effort in identifying and using the herbs and foods found in the desert. One is called 'Southwest Foraging' by John Slatterly and the other book is 'Medicinal Plants of the South West' by Charles W. Cane. Another book I have yet to acquire tells about all of the ways Mesquite can be used for food, animal feed and fuel.

Having a source of water is the big concern in the desert. If a source is found, it often has to be transported to where there is need which is common when owning desert land without water. This can be extremely laborious and time consuming in some situations. But, if you can bring a mobile farm to the water source, we have solved the water transport problem.

Mobile Farm System

In response to this concern, I have designed and built a mobile farm on a large 8' by 22' two level trailer. The lower level is an 7' by 8' platform in the center with 4 large 3.5' by 4' cages (2 at each end) that can house 16 goats or other animals like rabbits or chickens. The top level is an 8' by 22' low profile greenhouse that is designed to support a grow system of organic hydroponics or vermiponics (worm derived nutrient organic hydroponics). The design is to recycle the manure from the goats and other animals into worm beds combined with desert grasses and than take the castings and soak them in water within large 'tea' bags' (paint strainer bags) to draw out all the water soluble nutrients which are then taken in by the plants. The goats and chickens eating from the desert brings into the system a constant supply of new nutrients.

This organic nutrient water is then periodically pumped by a solar pump to the grow beds on a regular timed cycle. The trailer can also carry over 150 gallons of water and could provide a camping solution for 1-2 people. Organic hydroponics is the most efficient water preserving system known to mankind in growing nutritious food. The only water lost is what is taken up by the plants with a small amount lost in general evaporation. The grow medium for the beds can be just desert grasses which after use can be fed to the worms. Such a system as described here can be easily duplicated on trailers and wagons that can go most anywhere when pulled by any farm vehicle such a small tractor, jeep or other vehicle. It could also be designed and built as a 4-wheeled wagon to be pulled by a team of donkeys if needed.

Camp Locations

We have two locations so far. The Abbey in Bowie is actively managed and being renovated as a camp site for training and education with abbey residence and workshop. See <http://windwalker.us> Outside restrooms are currently being built. Camp Tribulation is available to be developed 7 miles to the north and has a large area of growing desert grasses available as feed for stock. Another camp is needed next to the hot Wells Dunes. Then we need to continue to the north-east toward the Gila River with possibly two more camps and on up the Gila river valley into the Gila Mountains. Another string of camps may go toward Mount Graham following the county line to the west between Graham and Cochise counties and then up toward the border of the Coronado National Forest to the south of Mount Graham. The idea of having mountain access is needed in order to escape the hot summers and in the search for springs and better grazing lands for animals as nomadic herders and hunter-gatherers.

Youth Camps

All of this setup lends itself to training youth through the summers in 5 day long youth adventure camps that would focus on desert survival and desert food identification and preparation

techniques. We would also teach music as it is found in nature using drums, flutes/whistles, strings and other instruments that can be easily made by the students. The following is the proposed 5 day schedule. Each team of 2-3 youth would be given the use of a pack donkey to care for and carry their belongings.

- **Day 1:** A group of youth would gather in the morning at the Abbey and receive basic training in desert survival, food gathering and donkey leading. Then after lunch, they would trek with a donkey for the 7 mile trip to Camp Tribulation to cook their own dinners and set up camp for the night. Sharing and drum circle around camp fire in evening.
- **Day 2-4:** Then the next day all will trek with donkey to Hot Wells Dunes and stay until day 4 (2 nights). Hot tub discussions in the morning and afternoon each day. While trekking around hot wells dunes, youth would receive field instruction and be asked to identify and collect desert herbs and desert foods that will be later cooked and eaten by each team of youth. They may also trap desert animals such as rabbits for cooking and eating if permitted. Live chickens may be provided as an alternative at the Dunes. Sharing and drum circle around camp fire in evening.
- **Day 4:** Morning in hot tub and then break camp and by midday to begin the return trek to Camp Tribulation to camp for the night. Sharing and drum circle around camp in evening.
- **Day 5:** Break camp and leave in the morning to the Abbey for final farewells, awards with transport pickup about midday.

This proposed youth camp program needs initial funding in the building of donkey packs and carts, camping gear, cooking gear and putting together the educational materials. Students would be charged a camp tuition fee with some grant funded tuition scholarships made available for the needy kids.

Final Thoughts

I ask myself, "What is the next step in this vision?" I have yet to put the greenhouse roof on the mobile farm trailer and set up the solar pump system. We have a 1986 Suzuki jeep being rebuilt to pull the mobile farm into the desert as needed. Old ford 8N type tractors would also work great and even would be preferred for this as speed is not important. These old tractors could easily be adapted to wood gas fuels and are extremely easy to maintain. Getting stock such as goats and chickens will be simple through auctions when the time comes. I have not fenced in either property yet and this needs to happen. This is not to keep our stock in but to keep other stock out from using up our resources. Over grazing by ranchers is common in this area.

What will take some time is the training of the donated donkeys to pull carts and carry loads. If this donkey transport system becomes our primary means in moving supplies between the camps, then this becomes a high priority. At that Abbey, keeping and training donkeys requires a corral for training with adjacent holding pens and shelters. We would also need an affordable source of hay for feed. I do not want to advertise the donkey refuge until I have these infrastructures in place. Keep this in your prayers.