

July, 2007

Well, I think we're beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. David took a week off from work and sheet rocked, sheet rocked, and did more sheet rocking. He finished some unfinished walls, installed bathroom vents, and got some of the old barn beams in the loft and in the dining room. Many thanks to our good friend, Corey Ellis, who volunteered an afternoon of his time to help with – you guessed it – sheet rocking! Corey is another small business owner in our area, so can appreciate what it means to be working on your own. He owns Mooseville on Rte. 4 in Phillips, a wonderful gift shop with primarily Moose merchandise, and has recently added Bears and Pine Cones to the inventory. You can shop on line for his fun products at www.mooseville.com. Pay him a visit, either on line or on your way through Phillips.

As we begin to introduce the old barn wood into the new structure, we are opening up the wonderful view again. Mt. Blue, Pope Mt, Blueberry Mt., and Jackson are still there! On a clear day you can see individual trees as you look out.

We've had a few hot days since the beginning of summer, but mostly temps have been in the 70s during the days, 50s at night. Pretty easy to live with. I'm seeing lots of fledglings with their winged parents at the feeders these days. It's particularly interesting to watch the Hairy Woodpecker feed the baby at the feeder. Baby just sits there while mom gently places a sunflower seed in its mouth. We've enjoyed a couple of new visitors this year as well. An Indigo Bunting is seen every now and then. Also Scarlet Tanagers. The most recent sighting is a Brown Thrasher.

We've had very little rain lately, so the vegetable and flower gardens need additional watering, but that's paying off. Things are growing well. Many of the early perennials have gone by, while the mid season ones are currently blooming, and you can see the promise of the later bloomers in the buds that are forming now.

And sales at Star Barn Uniques, located in the Guest House kitchen, are off to a good start. Crafters are bringing new merchandise each week. Feel free to stop in when the "GIFT SHOP OPEN" banner is hanging out front.

We still have a few weekends not reserved in the Guest House this summer. Perhaps you'd consider taking a trip to our off the beaten path paradise. Far enough away to feel away from it all, yet close enough to go out for a pizza if you want.

Ginni and David Robie