

SENIOR COHOUSING – MAKING IT HAPPEN –

APRIL 11-15, 2011

NEVADA CITY, CA - Nevada City Cohousing



Who should attend: Anyone who's excited about creating senior cohousing and wants to take a leadership role in creating a community. You might be a builder, a developer, an executive of a senior living organization, an individual who works with older adults, a government housing leader, or an individual who wants to organize a new senior cohousing community for yourself.

If you want to start a senior cohousing community, you couldn't get a better grounding than to spend five days with three of the country's leading experts exploring the many facets of this innovative option for seniors. Chuck Durrett, Jim Leach, Katie McCamant and possibly Annie Russell will be bringing you five days of experience, tools, and invaluable coaching focused on you – the participants – and your projects.

This workshop is highly experiential. Mornings will be spent exploring the many issues faced by seniors who are contemplating a significant life change to support them as they age. These topics include aging in community, working with neighbors to provide a supportive environment, the physical realities of aging, the economics of aging, what seniors have to offer each other and their communities, and the risks and rewards of senior cohousing. This information will arm you with everything you need to recruit seniors to your project and learn to support one another.

Afternoons will be spent working on case studies drawn from the participants, examining the many opportunities and issues of developing senior cohousing. The focus of these cases, tailored to the needs of the group, will include finding land, feasibility, the development timeline, roles and responsibilities of a project team and its members, financing, building community, and marketing. Existing cohousing communities will be used to illustrate development steps.

SENIOR COHOUSING is a form of housing that offers a small-town-like alternative to isolation, institutionalization, and expensive assisted-living facilities. Important, yes, but perhaps even more important is that the residents of senior cohousing seem to have a wonderful time.

Designed with the consensus of its residents, senior cohousing creates community, communication, and support, and a lot more fun than any living arrangement since the college dorms.

*By design, it includes both private dwellings and common areas. And by way of intent, it makes life easier through cooperation with others. This is true of inter-generational cohousing as well, but what makes senior cohousing unique is the time spent prior to design – **time where the seniors themselves examine the issues related to aging and how the world in which they live will influence successful aging.***



For more information, please email: jennifer.barrett@cohousingco.com

MCCAMANT & DURRETT ARCHITECTS - 241-B COMMERCIAL STREET, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

www.mccamant-durrett.com

You'll have a chance to meet and talk with senior Nevada City Cohousing residents about their experience, and on Friday tour Wolf Creek Lodge senior cohousing, now under construction in nearby Grass Valley.

At the end of these five days you can expect to leave with comprehensive written materials, and significant understanding of how to market and develop a senior cohousing community.

Your trainers: **Chuck Durrett**, an architect, pioneered the first cohousing communities in the U.S. after studying cohousing communities in Denmark. Fifteen years later he returned to study senior cohousing and authored the book, *Senior Cohousing: A Contemporary Approach to Independent Living – The Handbook*. Chuck has been a tireless advocate for cohousing for 20 years and has designed all or part of over 50 cohousing communities, and has received numerous awards. Chuck, his wife and partner Katie, and daughter Jessie live in Nevada City Cohousing.

Jim Leach has been a developer of innovative housing since 1965 and is president of Wonderland Hill Development Company (www.whdc.com), the largest developer of cohousing in the US. Since 1990 Jim has developed 18 cohousing communities, including Silver Sage, one of the first senior cohousing communities in the US. Jim is known for his commitment and creativity in putting together the business end of each development. Jim and his wife Brownie live in Silver Sage Cohousing in Boulder, CO.

Kathryn McCamant is a founding principal of two firms, McCamant & Durrett Architects, which she founded with her husband and partner Chuck Durrett, and CoHousing Partners, a real estate development company specializing in creating sustainable communities. She is currently developing Wolf Creek Lodge in Grass Valley, a cohousing community for active adults. She has lived in cohousing for 17 years, currently in Nevada City Cohousing.

Annie Russell (potentially) has been a team builder and organization consultant for 15 years. She was a founding member of Wild Sage Cohousing and the Community Builder for Wonderland Hill Development Company and Cohousing Partners. She has coached many communities in community building, and she led the marketing and community building efforts of Silver Sage. Annie lives in Silver Sage Cohousing.

***Workshop Cost: \$1250 if paid by March 14. \$1450 after that date. We will need 15 sign-ups to run; \$100 deposit reserves a space.**



“As an architect, I’d like nothing better to do than just design these wonderful communities, but there is much work to be accomplished before drawing the very first line on paper. People need to explore the realities of their future before they are ready to make changes, be less in denial, and become self-determining in terms of maintaining the highest quality of living – both independently and intra-dependently – as they grow older. Planning for the future is an essential component of being able to create appropriate senior environments.”

- Charles Durrett



Issues we will explore include:

- Aging in place, in community, successfully
- Realities of getting older. What are the options?
- The comparative economics of senior living arrangements
- Co-care, co-healing and outside assistance
- Taking risks and self determinism
- Philosophical and spiritual questions, such as mortality
- What role does proximity and community play in aging successfully?
- Group process. How to work together.
- Sageing: What we have to offer the world
- And much more.

Cohousing Development Process:

- Finding land
- The development timeline
- Roles and responsibilities
- Financing
- Community building
- Marketing senior cohousing
- Case studies
- And much more.