

## Community Imshausen – history

Community life started already in the beginning of the 1930ies with Vera von Trott, a sister of Adam von Trott a member of the German resistance against Hitler, member of the Kreisau Circle and was taken prisoner and executed soon after the failed attempt against Hitler of the 20<sup>th</sup> of July. There is a large cross on our territory in remembrance of him and his friends.

The first home of the growing community was the "Untermühle" (a former mill) near Imshausen from 1938 to 1949. During and after the war it was shelter for many persons without home especially for children. When moving to Imshausen the large manor house there became „children’s house “. (till 1972).

The community was formed by Vera von Trott, Hans Eisenberg, Ursula Lohss and Peter Hönig who decided together to carry on their „engagement “at Easter 1955. An impulse for this decision to enter a common engagement with binding character resulted from meeting young communities in Switzerland and France. 1959 the Farm Tannenhof was acquired. The intensive agriculture was transformed more and more into landscape care.

For more than 40 years we were a place at the border. That has contributed to our history. We always felt challenged to cross the border and to start visiting travels in direction to the east. In the converging Europe we are especially interested in the contact to our eastern neighbors. (see Website) <http://www.kommunitaet-imshausen.de/kommunitaet-und-tannenhof/die-kommunitaet/unsere-geschichte/>

*The community entered into friendly **contacts with other communities in Europe**, like Taizé in France, Grandchamp in Switzerland and Laski, a community of Franciscan Sisters in Poland.*

*In the **childrenshouse** children and refugees found a home*

*Yearly **camp in tents** on the hills above Imshausen had topics on other cultures and movements as well as their craftsmanship, myths, conveyed actions and songs (f.i. black movement in the USA Martin Luther King: take your tooth brush along when you go to demonstrations in case you end up in prison ...)*

*The Tannenhof was acquired as **a training farm** for the youth of the „children’s house” and others. They also remained in friendly relations to the place and the people.*

*In the region it was one of the first places, which installed **Solar Panels** on their roofs, **again cultivated hedges at the brinks of the fields**, diversity of Flora and Fauna exists there.*

*Every now and then the community received people in **church asylum**. This resulted later on in long lasting friendships – a special relation exists with the Syrian-orthodox community in Bebra.*

*added by Clarita Müller-Plantenberg*

## **Nowadays**

### **The Tannenhof is a place ...**

... where people orient their lives asking for god:

In Imshausen Community there are actually three women and five men, since nearly 60 years their home is the Tannenhof where they are forming life at this place in their spiritual orientation.

Together with the sisters and brothers of the community other persons and couples form a community, which is shaping the life on the Tannenhof.

The nonprofit association „**Community Imshausen e.V.**“ (**Kommunität Imshausen e.V.**) has the responsibility for the place Tannenhof. In this association members of the community cooperate with some friends.

The foundation “**Future Tannenhof**” was initiated in order to promote the non-profit work of the association „Community Imshausen“ as well in the future.

Two Bioland enterprises are cultivating the agricultural areas

There is also a naturopathy practice on the Tannenhof.

Many friends cooperate in single projects and events and are helping in special occasions. Daily duties are carried out by collaborators.

We receive guests and offer different possibilities for retreat.

<http://www.kommunitaet-imshausen.de/kommunitaet-und-tannenhof/>

(networking see <http://www.kommunitaet-imshausen.de/kontakt/vernetzung/#c67> )