

Habitat For Humanity
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Fall 2014



Mount Washington Valley

**Habitat
for Humanity**®



A place to call home...

Mount Washington Valley Habitat for Humanity, through volunteerism and community involvement, builds simple, decent homes with and for our neighbors in need.



The First Occupancy at 42 North Road

An Open House and Dedication ceremony was held in the newly completed Unit D on July 5th. It celebrated the presentation of keys to Kate and Ken Fowler, and their two sons, Matthew and Cullen, the first family to be selected for the condominium complex at 42 North Rd. in Conway, NH. The path to ownership took about two years as the unit had to be constructed.

In 2012, the MWV Habitat for Humanity Affiliate obtained ownership of a partially completed 6,000 sq. ft. six-unit, one-story building on North Road. Architectural plans were drawn up to reconfigure the structure into four 3 bedroom units to better serve local workforce families in need of safe and affordable housing. Initial efforts were to improve the appearance of the building and make it weather tight by installing windows, doors and siding. Additionally, grading was necessary to accommodate changes in the number of sidewalks and the decrease in parking requirements. The interior portion of one unit was partially framed making it relatively easy for construction manager Doug Morehouse and his volunteers to reconfigure the six units to four. The first unit was completed this past spring.

It was in the spring of 2013, that the MWV Habitat Board announced that Ken and Kate Fowler had been selected as the future homeowners. Kate and Ken and members of their family worked alongside the Habitat volunteers in the construction of their new home. They had to complete 300 hours of "sweat equity" as well as attend financial planning classes during the building period. Both agreed that the wait and "sweat equity" were well worth



Kate, Ken, Matthew and Cullen on the porch of their new home.

it knowing that they had achieved stability for their family; did not have to worry about rising rents or the landlord selling the property; and that they are building a financial future as a major portion of their monthly housing expense is fixed for the next 30 years.

After the ceremony, Kate expressed, "Ken and I want to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts to all of the volunteers and members who hosted our beautiful Dedication Ceremony this morning." Ken added, "I look at all the pictures (of the work progress) and I am filled with wonder and amazement at the miracle all the selfless, inspiring volunteers have built to make our community a better place to live. Thank you MWV Habitat For Humanity and all your board members, volunteers, and support. We appreciate all that you do!"



Another Habitat Family Selected

Meet Melanie Gove

Meeet the third family to be selected for the four-unit condominium being constructed by the MWV Habitat for Humanity Affiliate on North Road. Melanie Gove and her three daughters, Brynne, Maya and Carys, were selected this spring, not only to her delight, but to that of her family, friends and others who encouraged her not to give up in the selection process. You see, Melanie had been turned down some time ago as she did not meet one of the qualifications. But “giving up” is not part of her vernacular and something she constantly instills in her children. She reminds them that by working hard and “keep doing what you are doing” will pay dividends in the long run.

She also teaches them the value of “giving back” and helping others. She has strongly embraced the mission of Kiwanis, “serving the children of the world.” She and her daughters volunteer at Angels and Elves during the Christmas season. Her older daughters are K-Kids at Conway Elementary, embracing the rewards of community service.

Melanie has lived in the Valley for 15 years, but stability in her life and that of her children has been lacking; a reason for applying to Habitat for a decent and affordable home that can provide that stability for her daughters. As part of the selection process an applicant must agree to contribute 300 hours of “sweat equity” of which 100 hours can be donated



by relatives, friends and/or an organization. She can be seen at the North Road construction site on Thursdays working on the very unit that will be her home; or recently having volunteered at the Habitat indoor yard sale, along with MWV Kiwanians who were volunteering “sweat equity” hours in her behalf.

Melanie is quick to recognize and thank her father, Dick Nellson, for all the support and encouragement he has given her – “whenever I was down, he was there, constantly reminding me, as I remind my children, what you put in is what you get out.” Pictured in the photo is Melanie with her three daughters and Melanie’s father at the Women’s Build Day this summer.

Special NOTE

This edition of the newsletter will also be published as an electronic document. Because the printed version bears considerably more cost than the electronic, readers are being asked to evaluate the electronic version and lets us know if they would like to receive the electronic newsletter in the future. Visit our web site: www.mwv-habitat.org to view the electronic version and provide your name and e-mail address to receive future electronic versions.



Doug Morehouse Honored

Mount Washington Valley Promotions presented its 5th Annual Volunteer Recognition Event on September 21st at the Grand Summit Hotel in Bartlett. Among the volunteers honored was Habitat’s Doug Morehouse who “has made significant contributions to Habitat For Humanity for over 14 years” overseeing the construction of affordable and decent housing for eligible families in Mt. Washington Valley.





Habitat Yard Sales Go Viral

At a monthly board meeting this summer the question arose as to whether there was a better way to link merchandise donors and prospective buyers. "Why not advertise the furniture on-line?" was voiced by several members. The idea came to fruition when Board members Nels Gustafson and Sam Johnson worked out a proposed process with volunteer Linda Little and Habitat Administrative Assistant Nancy Davis. With Board approval, the process involved postings on Facebook and the MWV Habitat web site for the last yard sale this year. Selected furniture and other items to be sold were photographed and displayed on-line. It was then recognized there might be potential buyers who wish to purchase furniture they have viewed, but cannot make it to the yard sale in a timely manner. So the web site page was redesigned to accommodate those who opted to "pre-buy". Furniture was displayed along with a brief description, reference number and price. An "on-line" form was constructed to facilitate



buyers on a "first come - first serve basis".

But this was only good for the three traditional yard sales each year, highlighting a related problem. Many donors have furniture to give to Habitat during the remainder

of the year. This was obviously a lost opportunity what with Habitat not having a place to store the furniture for the rest of the year nor having the resources to deliver purchased furniture and other items of interest. So the on-line process was tweaked again.

The donor takes a picture of the item for sale,

provides Habitat the photo that is subsequently labeled with price, description and reference item number and posted on the Habitat web page. Electronic forms are provided that enable the donor to notify Habitat with an item description and contact information; and for the prospective buyer to pay Habitat. Once payment is made the donor makes contact with the buyer and subsequently receives a donation receipt for



tax purposes. As Nels commented, "it's a win-win for everybody." Early results have indicated that the on-line sale process works.

It is also expected that the on-line sales process will help donors remove items

no longer needed from their homes during the winter (normally, late November through March) when Habitat ceases donor pick-ups. This will enable buyers to obtain needed furniture and other items at attractive prices during the period when Habitat does not conduct its in-door yard sales.

The on-line yard sale process is viewed as a supplement, not a replacement for the traditional indoor yard sale. To the degree that the on-line process is successful, it will augment its fund raising efforts while matching donor and buyer needs and simultaneously reduce Habitat's merchandise handling and storage activities.



For more information about us, go to www.mwv-habitat.org.

Also be sure to check out our Facebook page:

MWV-Habitat-For-Humanity, and be sure to Like us!

Meet Habitat's Newest Board Members

Anthony Ruddy

Meet MWW Habitat's newest board member, Anthony J. Ruddy. Coming to Habitat with a B.S. degree in Engineering from the University of Rhode Island, Anthony has had a 25 year career in both Engineering and Project Management for manufacturing companies. He is currently Owner and Manager of ALM Automations, LLC, providing assembly automation sales and consulting services in the electronics, packaging, oil/gas and consumer products sectors. Anthony also volunteers his time and services for SCORE as a counselor; MWW Board of Directors; Kiwanis, serving the children of the Valley; and the Memorial Hospital Foundation as a Trustee. Additionally he served as project/ construction manager for the Children Unlimited facility and oversaw renovations to the former Starting Point building. In his spare time, Anthony is a race car driver, having recently completed the Mt. Washington Auto Road racing event. He and his wife, Lisa live in Jackson with their daughter Grace and two dogs.



Dick Ficke

Dick Ficke joined the MWW Habitat Board of Directors in March of 2014 as Public Relations Chair and Building Committee Member. After receiving a B.A. degree in History from Colgate University, he was commissioned in the Air Force, spending most of his career in Strategic Air Command flying, operations and maintenance command and staff positions. He received a M.A. in Political Science from Auburn University; taught national policy and strategy at the Naval War College and served overseas in Thailand, Guam and Germany before retiring. He subsequently joined a small business Defense contractor in Newport RI where he retired as VP and Director of Business Development. He also volunteers his time with Kiwanis and Angels and Elves; SCORE, helping small businesses in the Valley; and is on the board with Arts in Motion. In his spare time he enjoys golf, fly fishing and model railroading. He, his wife Annie, two dogs and a cat live in Bartlett.



Breaking New Ground

Land is being cleared for the next MWW Habitat house construction project. In 2010, Habitat benefited from a donated plot of land on Grison Road in the Village of Eidelweiss. Construction plans were put on hold until the condominium units on North Road in Conway could be completed. In the interim, the Site Plan and Septic Design were drawn up by Land Tech and approved by the State of NH in 2012. With the building permit issued, Burnham Construction started clearing the land. The goal is to get the foundation dug and installed by HR Hoyt. Once the foundation is in, Habitat volunteer construction crew will build the lower level exterior walls and first floor deck, covering it for winter. Road restrictions in the spring will dictate when construction will commence again.



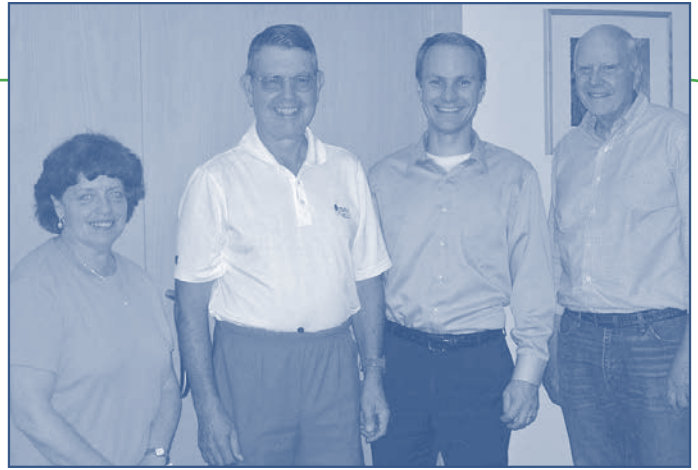
New Board Officers

The MWW Habitat For Humanity Affiliate chose a new slate of officers for 2014 – 2015. From l to r. Leslie Mallett returns as Secretary. Board member for the past two years, Leslie has been active on the Community/Faith Relations, Yard Sale, Family Selection, and Family Support committees.

Sam Johnson returns as Vice President, having been a Habitat board member for the past five years. Sam has been active on the Public Relations, Site Selection, Yard Sale, Furniture Pick-Up and Board Development committees, Chair of the latter three.

Dan Osetek is newly elected President. Board member for five years, Dan has been actively involved with the Furniture Pick-Up and Family Selection committees. He is VP and Commercial Loan Officer at Meredith Village Savings Bank. Dan lives with his wife Amy and daughter in Center Conway.

Russ Seybold is the Affiliate's new treasurer, having joined the board in 2013. Active on the Building



(From left to right) Leslie Mallett, Sam Johnson, Dan Osetek and Russ Seybold

Committee, he can be seen each Thursday at the 42 North Road construction site. Russ is owner and president of the Conway Scenic Rail Road and lives with his wife Dot in North Conway.

Habitat Received \$30,000 From Ham Foundation



Bob Murphy presenting check to Bill Beck, outgoing MWWHfH president (center). L to R, Dick Ficke HfH board, Sut Marshall — Ham Board, Linda Eldridge — Ham board, Dan Osetek, incoming HfH president.

The Kendal C. and Anna Ham Charitable Foundation of North Conway presented a check for \$30,000.00, the second payment of a \$100,000.00 grant awarded to the MWW Habitat for Humanity (MWWHfH) Affiliate. Bob Murphy, Executive Director of the foundation, along with Foundation directors Linda Eldridge and Sut Marshall, presented the check on June 26 to Bill Beck, Habitat president, at the 42 North Road work site. Following the presentation, Beck, along with incoming Habitat president Dan Osetek conducted a “before and after” tour of the four unit building project. Starting with a unit in its initial stages of construction, the tour ended with a finished unit that is ready for occupancy. Impressed with the progress and quality of workmanship, Murphy praised Doug Morehouse, MWWHfH construction site manager and all the volunteers who devote their time and efforts every Thursday to the project.

Habifacts... Did you know?

- Local Habitat organizations are called “Affiliates”.
- This year, MWW Habitat indoor yard sales raised \$39,400.
- The first MWW family that moved into a Habitat home was in 1995.
- MWW Habitat has built 11 homes on Morrell Dr. in Conway, New Hampshire and one in Fryeburg, Maine.
- MWW Habitat offers a 30 yr. interest free mortgage.
- Furniture donations are tax deductible.
- AmazonSmile will contribute .05% of all your purchases to your preferred charity.
- Local restaurants, organizations & individuals donate lunches to worksite volunteers.

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Mt. Washington Valley Habitat for Humanity is an organization based on Christian principles.

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Message from the Board of Directors

Lives of two more families changed –

In the spring edition of the newsletter, the message from the Board spoke to the opportunities to change lives locally. So it came to pass that the lives of Melanie Gove and Sue Derouin were changed. They are two single mothers who were selected for the remaining two units at 42 North Rd., ensuring a stable environment in which they can raise their children. In the same time frame, Ken and Kate Fowler with their two children moved into the first completed unit on North Rd. In the not too distant future, the life of another area family will be changed as land on Grison Road in Madison is being cleared for the next Habitat house.

This summer also saw three highly successful indoor yard sales at the Attitash Mountain Resort Bear Peak Lodge. A special thank you goes to John Lowell, President of Attitash Mountain Resort & Wildcat Mountain and his staff. The spacious setting allowed the showcasing of numerous pieces of furniture, appliances and construction goods, the sale of which raised \$39,400. A trial program was also initiated to determine the feasibility of selling furniture on line. In June, Bob Murphy, president of The Kendal C. and Anna Ham Charitable Foundation presented MWV Habitat a check for \$30,000, the second installment of a \$100,000 grant awarded the Affiliate. Other grants, contributions

and fund raising amounted to nearly \$39,000. We have been able to accomplish much during the last year as a result of the generosity of many. However the cost with volunteer labor will be greater than \$500,000 for North Road and \$52,000 to bring the Grison Road project to the point where volunteers can begin building. Such projects, while providing home ownership opportunities for local families, require ongoing funding.

June also saw the election of Dan Osetek to succeed Bill Beck as president of the board; Russ Seybold taking over as treasurer; Leslie Mallett staying on as secretary and Sam Johnson remaining as VP for the following six months. Joining the board were Anthony Ruddy and Dick Ficke. Anthony immediately made his presence known by taking on responsibility for getting the Grison Road project started. Dick assumed responsibilities for chairing the Public Relations committee.

None of this could have happened without the generosity of the community and the untold number of volunteers who spend countless hours working at the construction sites, conducting furniture drives, participating in yard sales, organizing fund raising events, working in the Habitat office, etc., etc., etc. We as a board thank all who support our efforts through their donations and by volunteering. We are all very fortunate to live in this wonderful community.