

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Bath-Brunswick Area Newsletter

Summer 2001



Habitat
Bath-Brunswick

Mission Statement:

"HFH/BBA is an ecumenical community fellowship of caring people committed to providing adequate, family-owned housing. We are a partnership of families, volunteers and contributors working together, without condition or pre-judgement, to eliminate substandard housing. HFH/BBA coordinates the labor of volunteers with contributions of money and materials from the community to build modest, affordable housing in partnership with qualified families. HFH/BBA nurtures the bonds created by this partnership into growing and long-term relationships.

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Newsletter Info

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Habitat and Hyde School Honor Student Volunteer Effort



An end-of-the-school-year ceremony at 25 Tarbox Street, Bath, honored the hard work of Hyde School students, staff and parents who helped build this Habitat for Humanity home. Pictured center is student Peter Flint, Class of 2001, presenting a bouquet of flowers to Hyde School English teacher, Faith Perry. Both were members of the project's planning committee.

Although community service is nothing new to students at Bath's Hyde School, taking on the challenge of building an entire Habitat for Humanity house was a first. At a ceremony this May, Habitat joined with Hyde students, parents and staff to honor their hard work building a Habitat home during the past year for a family in Bath.

At the Hyde School baccalaureate, special recognition was given to Hyde alumnus and current Hyde parent, Richard Lee, who received the L. Robert

Porteous award for community service. Lee has worked this year as the Habitat project's building supervisor, working tirelessly with students who often had little experience in construction.

"He is the cornerstone of the house that Hyde built," says Hyde's Faith Perry. "He brought to the project patience, devotion to teaching and a passion for his work that inspired all of us."

Hyde staff who helped lead the project include: JoAnne McCrann, Eric Stirling, Walter Gregg,

Louse Owens, Marge Stilphen, Hilary DeNolfo, and Fitz Sargent. Student leaders include Peter Flint, Josh Slater, Asha Medakar, Thayer Hutcheson, Chandler King, Peter Ronty, Lana Williams, Sarah Kanik and Casey Hoffman.

Although students have gone home for the summer, work remains to be done on this house. Habitat is looking for volunteers who are interested in drywall, finish carpentry and painting. Call us at 729-0311 if you are available to help.

Note from the President's Desk

Summer 2001

Dear Habitat Friends,

Habitat for Humanity in the Bath/Brunswick area has many reasons to be thankful. Since the last newsletter we had a wonderful concert with Frederick Moyer that raised over \$13,000. The Easter Walk was the most successful ever. The Hyde School is in the process of raising the cost of the house the students and Habitat partners are building at 25 Tarbox Street, Bath. A grant was received from the Maine Association of Realtors toward the cost of site preparation for a house in Woolwich. Our Habitat affiliate was chosen as the beneficiary of the Downeast Energy Golf Tournament on June 11. Such generous support from members of the communities we serve is making it possible for our affiliate to work with families to realize their dream of home ownership.

We are also fortunate to have a number of applicants and new partner families. Many people in our communities are in need of decent affordable housing, and we welcome their interest and look forward to working with those who meet the

guidelines for partnership. Recently, a new Family Nurture committee has been formed to better serve the needs of our partner families.

In late April, Habitat Northeast sponsored a training event in Brunswick. One of the workshops consisted of a meeting for the Maine affiliates. For the first time, all nine affiliates were represented, as was the newly forming Waterville affiliate. It was good to talk with Habitat people from all over the State of Maine, and to share challenges and creative ideas about how to meet those challenges.

As we look to the future, and make plans to increase our building capacity, the Board decided that the time has come to employ an Executive Director. The demands of building multiple houses in a year require more time and attention and coordination than even the most dedicated volunteers are able to provide. So, a search committee has been formed, and the search is now underway. We hope to have someone in place by late Fall. You will



Ellen Shaver, President, HFH/BBA

hear more about this in the next newsletter.

Building four or five houses a year can only be accomplished with widespread support from individuals and groups in the local communities. We are grateful for all the financial and volunteer support you have given in the past, and hope we can count on your continued participation as we increase our commitment to eliminating substandard housing in our area.

Sincerely Yours,

Ellen Shaver

A Heartfelt Thanks to All

From the Frederick Moyer piano concert in March to the annual Easter Season Walk, to the Downeast Energy Golf tournament in June, Habitat for Humanity/Bath-Brunswick Area has much to be grateful for. All of these fundraising events, organized entirely by hardworking volunteers, brought a great deal of financial support into the affiliate this spring, making the outlook for our summer building season bright.

The Frederick Moyer concert raised a record \$13,000, thanks to ticket sales and sponsorships. The Easter Walk, which included 260 walkers, brought in more than

\$27,000 (a record!) and Downeast Energy, which donated the proceeds from its annual golf tournament,

has contributed more than \$10,000. Our thanks to all of you for a very successful spring!



Student volunteers from Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham helped out during registration at this Spring's annual Habitat Walk.

Habitat Enters Joint Venture with United Voice Community Land Trust

Habitat for Humanity/Bath-Brunswick Area is pursuing a partnership with another local non-profit organization committed to increasing the stock of affordable housing in the Bath-Brunswick Area. The United Voice Community Land Trust will make available a building site that it recently acquired in Georgetown. Habitat will provide the materials, management, and labor to construct a home with a family to be selected by a joint family selection committee. An orientation to both groups and their programs will be held in Georgetown in September. The home will be built in the summer of 2002.

Habitat affiliates in Vermont, Rhode Island, and North Carolina have laid some groundwork for work with land trusts, either by collaborating with an existing land trust or by acting as a trust themselves. Land trusts attempt to preserve an affordable housing stock by acquiring land and holding it in trust. Homeowners purchase and own the house and hold a 99-year lease on the land. United Voice charges no lease fee; homeowners pay taxes and insurance, as in the traditional Habitat model. Habitat



The beginning of a beautiful relationship: members of HFH/BBA and UVCLT boards visit the building site in Georgetown.

will also hold the mortgage on the house as usual; other land trust homeowners have mortgages with banks.

Habitat Board members have enjoyed the synergy of working with

another local organization committed to similar goals. Members of both groups are pleased that the collaboration will produce another home in partnership with a qualified family.

Habitat to Build a Home in Woolwich

The excitement is building ... for the first time, north of the Bath area!

Late this summer HFH/BBA will begin site preparation for a house in Woolwich, with construction set to follow in early autumn. This is the first home our affiliate has built northeast of Bath, and we look forward to some new volunteers joining the build from the Woolwich, Georgetown and Wiscasset areas.



HFH/BBA purchased the land for this home last year. The site supervisor for the build will be David Varney, and we will be building in partnership with future-homeowner, Marisabel Ramos.

If you are interested in helping with this project, please call the Habitat office at 729-0311, or email us at hfhbba@juno.com so we can send you a volunteer form.

YES, I can help by donating:

- ☐ Materials
- ☐ Labor or construction skills
- ☐ Legal, technical skills
- ☐ Help with fundraising
- ☐ Office skills
- ☐ Committee work (fundraising, publicity, volunteer coordination, site selection, family selection, family liaison)

Enclosed is my donation for:

__ \$20 __ \$50 __ \$100 __ \$200 __ other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Bath-Brunswick Habitat For Humanity
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Habitat Plans Youth Programs

Are you interested in discussing the formation of a Habitat youth chapter for the Bath-Brunswick affiliate? Youth programs exist all over the country to support youth in the challenge of eliminating poverty housing. Youth as young as five participate with their families in an array of age-appropriate activities. If interested, please contact Carmen Greenlee at cgreenle@bowdoin.edu or 725-7471



The International Day of Prayer for Habitat for Humanity will be observed locally on Sunday, September 30, 2001.

Churches and individuals are encouraged to offer prayers for decent homes for people throughout the world. Materials will be provided to local churches, or call the Habitat office for more information.

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The excitement is building