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Spring/Summer 2016



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.*



## One Finished – One Started

**S**ince the last newsletter publication, MWV Habitat finished construction on Grison Road in Madison; no longer a house, but now a home. As soon as the road bans were lifted in the spring, construction began at 253 Silver Pines Lane, Sokokis Pines, Tamworth.

In May 2015, John and Kelly Arruda signed their Acceptance letter, agreeing to the terms and conditions for becoming Habitat homeowners. At the dedication ceremony in February 2016, they were handed the keys to their new home by Anthony Ruddy, construction manager and Habitat board Construction Committee Chairperson. In that period of time over 30 suppliers, organizations, restaurants and contractors contributed to Habitat's construction efforts. Each Thursday, an average of 20

volunteers and John Arruda worked side by side. While John was earning sweat equity hours at the construction site with hammer and saw, Kelly was organizing and delivering restaurant-donated lunches to the work crew. **One Finished**



*Arruda home on Grison*

**One Started.** In the fall of 2015, the MWV Habitat board made the decision to go "green" with the next house. Plans were drawn to install solar panels to furnish electrical energy and radiant floor heating researched for the house to be constructed in Tamworth. This plan was met with unbridled enthusiasm by the newly selected homeowners, Deni and Evan Shangraw. The site was cleared and the house footprint oriented to take maximum advantage of the sun. After the footing had been poured it was a matter of waiting for winter to pass, the spring thaw and road bans lifted. The first task was to install the radiant floor tubing and pour the slab. Board member Roger Aubrey, having installed radiant floor heating in his own home, oversaw this phase of construction. Once accomplished, sills were fastened, readying the house for the next volunteer phase, Women Build (see page 4).



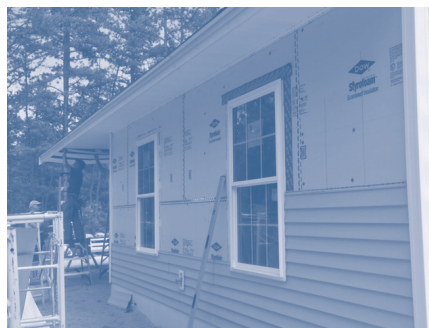
*The Start...*



*Deni and son Oaken*



*Arruda Family accepting their keys*



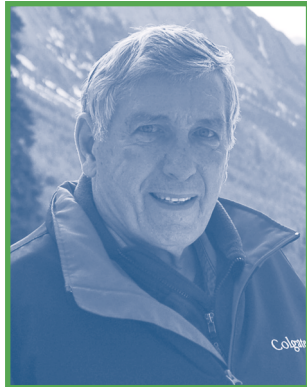
*...Nearing completion*

## Board Officers Elected

The MWV Habitat board of directors elected officers for 2016 – 2017, terms beginning July 1st.

### President – Dick Ficke

Dick joined the MWV Habitat Board of Directors in March of 2014 and has served as vice president for the last year and half. He is also co-director of Angels and Elves, a Kiwanis run organization that provides Christmas gifts to over 700 local underserved children. He is chair of SCORE, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and helping small businesses start, grow, and succeed. He is also on the board of Arts in Motion theater group.



Dick has a B.A. degree in History from Colgate University, and a M.A. in Political Science from Auburn University. Career Air Force, he spent most of his years in the Strategic Air Command before teaching national policy and strategy at the Naval War College and has 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. In his spare time he enjoys golf, fly fishing and model railroading. He and his wife Annie live in Bartlett.

### Vice President – Barbara Reilly

Barbara is a Paralegal having received her degree from Johnson and Wales University in Providence, RI. She has been a resident of Mt. Washington Valley for the past 20 years. For ten years Barbara has worked as a family law paralegal in a private law office in the Valley. In February, 2012 she started her own paralegal business, Legal Eagles, LLC in Conway, NH.



Well schooled and experienced in domestic matters, civil litigation, legal research, and general psychology, she has been chosen to serve on the board's Family Support Committee whose mission is to provide families with the support and skills necessary to become successful long-term homeowners. Barbara

also volunteers her time as a SCORE counselor and as a member of the Kiwanis Club of Mt. Washington Valley. She serves on the Kiwanis Board of Directors and was recently elected Vice President and has been serving for several years in support of the Kiwanis K-Kids organization at Pine Tree Elementary School.

### Secretary – Sam Johnson

Sam retired from Fidelity Investments at the end of 2005. He has been a MWV home owner since 1988 before moving to Bartlett in May 2007 from greater Boston. He has been a regular volunteer builder since 2007. He has been on the Habitat Board of Directors since 2009. Sam actively participates in the pick-up of furniture, appliances and building materials donated by local residents. He manages indoor yard sales, Habitat's major fund raising event. Sam reports much satisfaction from the fellowship of working with a great group of other Habitat volunteers who are collectively striving to fulfill the Habitat mission to provide decent and affordable housing to qualified MWV residents/workers. Sam's personal interests include hiking, bicycling, telemark skiing and travelling to experience scenic vistas and other cultures.



### Treasurer - Russell "Russ" Seybold

Russ is a man who has one of the coolest jobs in the valley, President and General Manager of the Conway Scenic Railroad! He came to the Valley after working for Bethlehem Steel in Marketing & Sales for 24 years, and has been at the Conway Scenic Railroad for 26 years!. Since joining Habitat in July of 2013, he has been volunteering on Thursdays at the work site and loves working with the other volunteers. He works with volunteer Steve Pirello, as an electrician.



Despite their hectic schedules, Russ and his wife Dorthea (Dot) have been involved in numerous community service programs in Mount Washington Valley over the years. In addition to Habitat, Russ is an active member of Kiwanis, having served on the board of directors. Dot currently serves as Chairperson of the board for Vaughn Community Services.



## Sharing A Quandry

The question is this. Is there a better way of sharing Habitat news? Sometimes an article in our newsletter is five months old at the time you read it. To shorten that time, we could publish the newsletter three times a year. But this gets expensive – it costs approximately \$1200 for each printing and mailing. Yes, there are envelopes tucked in the paper inviting the reader to make a donation. Most of the time, donations surpass the cost of putting out the newsletter, but not by much. But if there was an easier way to make a donation, would you use it?

There is a less expensive way of getting the newsletter to you – electronic! Certainly less costly. We don't have to find someone to stuff envelopes in the folded printing (a certain way so they don't fall out). We don't have to maintain a database of changing or duplicative mailing addresses. And you don't have to find a stamp and lick an envelope if you choose to make a donation.

To make a donation using an electronic version of the newsletter it is a matter of a few key strokes

and a click! Furthermore, your donation goes further toward the purchase of nails, wallboard, electrical fixtures, studs, plumbing supplies, etc.

But the **quandary** is this – how do we get your e-mail address? And when you receive the electronic version, will you still make a donation, but this time using, say, PayPal? We need your help!

We need your e-mail address – go to our web site [www.mwv-habitat.org](http://www.mwv-habitat.org), click on '**Contact**' and type in your e-mail address in the appropriate blank. Or email us at **office@mwv-habitat.org**, or pick up the phone and call **603.356.3832** and just leave a message, such as: "my name is Jane Smith and my e-mail address is \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_ and I can't wait to see your electronic newsletter, have a nice day". Of course, if you are using the enclosed envelope to make a donation, you can include your e-mail address in the envelope. Save a tree and Have a Nice Day!



## Fund Raising Activity – Some Learn Young

Fund raising takes many forms and can either be active or passive, both the result of a need for funds to enable mission accomplishment. Examples of Habitat active fund raising efforts are the indoor yard sales in the spring and summer; asking for donations using the newsletter, website or Facebook; or evoking new methods such as Cars for Homes mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter. Then there are passive means, where an organization takes it upon itself to raise money in your behalf. Recent examples include Amy Smullen, winner of the Valley Ms. Event in March, hosted by Mount Washington Valley Promotions, who chose MWV Habitat as her charity of choice and was recipient of first prize. She bested 11 other contestants with her speech about Habitat for Humanity and its impact on her life. In May, the White Mountain Home Builders and

Remodelers Association conducted its 10th Honey Do Auction to benefit Habitat. Also in May there was Joseph's Spaghetti Shed "Dine to Donate" and Tuckerman's Restaurant and Tavern's "Celebrity Bartender Night" in June.

Then there are those events that cause one to pause and reflect. Recently eight students in Conway Elementary School were recognized by the school and the Rotary Club of North Conway for their school and community service. They were provided funds by Rotary through its New Generations program to donate to their charity of choice. A fourth grader chose MWV Habitat for her donation, writing: "I think everyone should have a roof over their head. Habitat for Humanity helped my family and I would like to pay it forward".

*Check our website* **[www.mwv-habitat.org](http://www.mwv-habitat.org)**  
for late-breaking news, current events, and ways you can volunteer!





## Women Build 2016

"Fantastic, unreal, humbling, mind-blowing, unbelievable, amazing"; just a few of the adjectives Deni Shangraw used to describe her feelings as she watched 38 women construct a sizable portion of her house on Women Build Day, Saturday, May 7th. Barbara Reilly, Habitat board member, Women Build organizer and spokesperson, stated that this had to be; "the most rewarding project I have ever experienced."

Well-prepared, having attended Women Build Clinic back in April as part of Lowe's partnership with this nationwide program, the women wearing Habitat supplied green t-shirts proclaiming National Women Build Week, 2016, arrived at the site early in the morning. They were greeted by members of Carroll County Altrusa who provided coffee and donuts as well as mid-morning snacks and luncheon fare later in the day.

After providing welcoming remarks, Reilly turned the women over to Anthony Ruddy, MWV Habitat board member and Chairman of the Construction Committee. Anthony stressed safety and provided an overview of what was to be accomplished for the day. He organized the women into six groups, each group assigned to a particular station. The six stations were: Cut, Drill, Assembly (2), Header and Gable End.

About a dozen MWV Habitat for Humanity construction volunteers were on hand to pair up and provide assistance as needed. Lumber was gathered; studs were cut to prescribed lengths; holes drilled for wire-runs; gable ends sheathed; window headers

fashioned and all assembled at the two designated stations. By the end of the day, two and a half exterior wall lengths were built and erected.

This was the ninth consecutive year that the MWV Affiliate has been chosen to participate in this national event. Reilly stated that: "our Affiliate is one of only two in the entire state to have been chosen, joining over 300 other Habitat Affiliates nationwide hosting Women Build. MWV Habitat's effort was praised in a letter from Senator Jeanne Shaheen:

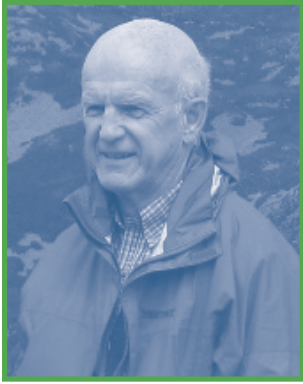
*"I send my thanks to the staff and supporters for their active role in the community and my best wishes to everyone who helps make this event such a resounding success year after year. I am particularly pleased that the Shangraw's home will embrace green building practices, including radiant floor heat, solar electricity generation and tankless hot water. These are smart investments that will save money for the family and keep our energy dollars here at home."*

*Jeanne Shaheen, United States Senator*

As the day was winding down, participants noted that Evan, using a Sharpie, had penned a note to Deni and his son, Oaken on one of the headers: "I will make this house our home, Love, Evan"



## It is Never Easy To Say Farewell



Bill Volk will be retiring from the Mt. Washington Valley Board of Directors in July 2016 after serving 11 years as an active member. Bill started as a regular volunteer at Habitat in 2005 where he dedicated his building skills to constructing homes for numerous families. Bill was able to do it all as a volunteer builder! He tar

coated foundation walls, designed and constructed exterior and interior walls, installed plumbing, hung siding, shingled roofs, hung drywall and doors, painted, and helped others as they worked on various building projects. Needless to say, he was an active member of the building committee. In addition, he found time to chair several successful Yard Sales and picked up furniture and appliance donations from one end of The Valley to the other; an activity he referred to as "Going to the Habitat Health Club!" As a member

of the Board, he held positions as Secretary, Treasurer, and President helping build the future of Habitat in the Mt. Washington Valley.



Outgoing President Dan Osetek joined the Habitat Board in 2009 "because it was important to give back to the community in which you live." While working a full-time job in banking and raising a young family, Dan was active on and chaired the Family Selection Committee, was Vice President, and President of the Board. One Saturday a month he collected Yard Sale donations, taking him from

Tamworth to Bartlett as well as Fryeburg, Maine. He was instrumental in revising Habitat's lending procedures and improved accounting practices. As a Board Member and Officer, one could always depend on Dan to be thoughtful and see, with clarity the direction necessary on any issue being discussed.

## Coming Soon – Cars for Homes

In the very near future, MWV Habitat will be announcing procedures for donating your car, boat, RV or truck on-line. It will be a simple matter of calling a toll-free number and providing vehicle information and then receiving instructions for processing title. An authorized agent of Habitat International will arrange for vehicle pick-up. It will then be sold through a national network of diverse venues on behalf of

Habitat for Humanity. Once sold you will receive an acknowledgement letter thanking you for your support and providing the vehicle sale information. This letter may be used as a receipt for tax deduction purposes; additional tax documents will be provided when required by IRS regulations as a result of the sale value of the vehicle. The money received by MWV Habitat will then go toward the next house being built.

The Mt Washington Valley Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your contribution may qualify as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes.

### Ways to donate:

#### Donate Now Online

Help support the MWV Habitat mission by making a secure donation online via Paypal. You do not need a Paypal account to donate.

#### Donations by Mail

Please make your check out to MWV Habitat for Humanity and use the enclosed envelope.

#### Do You Use Amazon.com?

We participate in the AmazonSmile program. Amazon will donate .05% of all purchases made by those who select the MWV Habitat for Humanity as their preferred charity. There is no cost to you, and nothing is added to your purchase price.

#### Do You Goodsearch?

Did you know you can raise money for MWV Habitat affiliate every time you search the Internet? If you use Goodsearch.com and designate Mt. Washington Valley Habitat for Humanity as your charity of choice, you will!



## Board of DIRECTORS

Dick Ficke .....President  
Barbara Reilly ..... Vice President  
Sam Johnson ..... Secretary  
Russ Seybold ..... Treasurer

### Members:

Roger Aubrey	Roy Lundquist
Bill Beck	Robert Magoun
Nels Gustafson	Anthony Ruddy
Marie Lee	Marianne Jackson

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

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## Message from the Board of Directors

An often used maxim is that the only constant in life is change. Probably attributed to Benjamin Disraeli, former British prime minister during Queen Victoria's reign, who was quoted with: "Change is inevitable. Change is constant." Why this subject as a message from the board? Because MWV Habitat is undergoing change!

It is that time of year when we say farewell to some board members who have served Habitat admirably, but now is the time for other pursuits. Dan Osetek, president, and Bill Volk, past president, secretary, and treasurer are off to new adventures and will be missed greatly. A change.

The house currently being built in Tamworth is the first by this affiliate to install solar panels and radiant floor heating. Board members recognized this is the future and when the combination of a piece of property with the ideal exposure, the energy numbers making sense, and the newly selected homeowners strongly embracing going 'green', another change, this in construction philosophy.

House sales pricing and mortgage origination practices have changed. The sales price of a house is no longer what it cost to build, but is now based on Fair Market Value. Old lending policies reflected historical practices. New policies track new laws and best practices, are more organized and more transparent. Change!

Lastly, this newsletter is going electronic. Printing paper copy is expensive and distribution is labor intensive. What is received in the way of donations from the return- envelopes that have to be manually stuffed with each printing calls into question cost-effectiveness. Being able to inform our Habitat friends more frequently, at lower cost, in a full-color format and made easier to make a donation seems to make sense.

**BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP – PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.**

We are confident that your loyalty to Habitat For Humanity will not change!