



# Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity

Number 4

## Newsletter

Fall, 2002

Serving Albion, Belgrade, Benton, China, Clinton, Fairfield, Oakland, Rome, Smithfield, Unity, Vassalboro, Waterville, and Winslow.

Habitat – a hand up, not a hand out.

### Board of Directors

**President:**  
Scott Guay

**Vice President:**  
Ron Rodrigue

**Secretary:**  
Tim Christensen

**Treasurer:**  
Bart Stevens

**Members:**  
Rachel Brodeur  
George Fowler  
Chris Huck  
David Jones  
Gilman Pelletier  
Brenda Perry  
Sister Line Rioux  
Traci Speed  
Jim Webb

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Humanity  
P.O. Box 1972  
Waterville, ME 04903-1972

*If you would prefer to receive the WAHFH Newsletter via Email (.pdf format) please contact us at the above Email address.*

### **Waterville Area HFH is Granted Affiliation!**

On April 1st of this year, Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity was granted official affiliate status by Habitat for Humanity International. As the parent organization of Habitat for Humanity, HFHI oversees the efforts of more than 2000 affiliates worldwide. Affiliation with HFHI involves an extensive application process that requires proposed affiliates to draft a complete business plan and establish several committees to manage various operations within the organization.

Under the leadership of former WAHFH president Shondra Johnson, a core group of local volunteers has worked for over a year to complete the application. As quoted in the Morning Sentinel (April 22, 2002), Johnson remarked "It is very exciting. I can't tell you the number of hours that have gone into this process. It has really been an educational process."

### **WAHFH Holds Annual Meeting, Elects Board of Directors**

Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity held its annual meeting on May 5th at the Pleasant Street United Methodist Church. After brief comments by President Shondra Johnson and Vice-President Scott Guay, and introductions by Nominating Committee chair Alison Webb, the following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors: Rachel Brodeur (new), Tim Christensen (new), George Fowler (new), Scott Guay (returning), Chris Huck (returning), David Jones (new), Gil Pelletier (returning), Brenda Perry (returning), Sr. Line Rioux (returning), Ron Rodrigue (returning), Bart Stevens (new), and Jim Webb (new). In addition, Traci Speed will again serve on the Board as the Colby College student representative.

At the regular monthly meeting held July 2nd, the Board elected the following members to serve as officers for the 2002-2003 fiscal year: Scott Guay, President; Ron Rodrigue, Vice-President; Tim Christensen, Secretary; and Bart Stevens, Treasurer.

The Board would like to extend a sincere thank you to outgoing members Bev Abbot, Claudette DuLac, Keith Johnson, Shondra Johnson, and Tracy Snowden. Your dedicated efforts have been instrumental to achieving our goals for the past year!

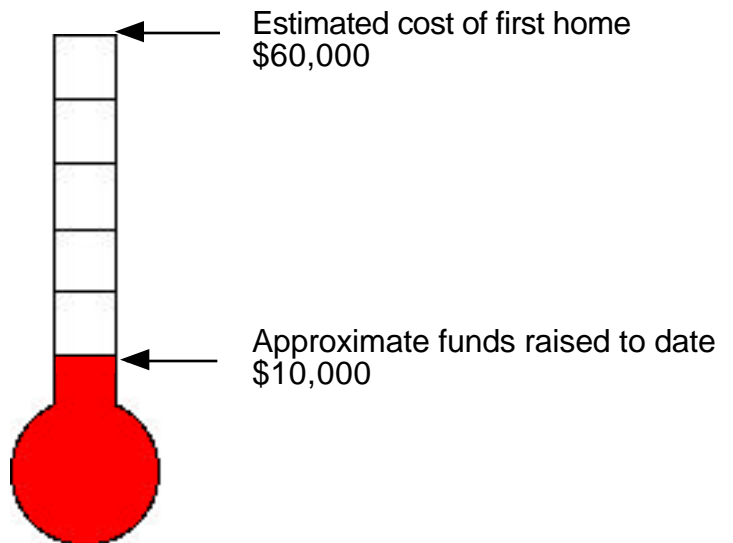
## WAHFH Sets Goals for the Next Year

With the application for affiliation completed and approved, Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity has achieved its first major goal toward bringing affordable housing to the local community. Before that can happen, however, there is still a great deal of work to be done. In the coming year, WAHFH will focus its efforts on the following major areas:

**Visibility.** Waterville Area HFH is one of many deserving organizations in the area that rely on both volunteer support and financial generosity of the community. In the next year, we will continue to continue to market our affiliate to individuals, businesses, faith communities, and civic organizations. We need to let people know not only that we are here, but also what Habitat is all about, what it means to the Waterville area, and, most importantly, how they can contribute.

**Site Acquisition.** The Site Selection Committee has identified a suitable city-owned lot in Waterville. In the coming months they will work with city officials to transfer ownership to WAHFH. Concurrently, the Building Committee will work to develop a preliminary construction plan for the first house, including blueprints, specs, materials lists, labor requirements, and a construction timetable.

**Financial Resources.** Building a house requires a large initial investment. WAHFH needs an estimated \$50-60K to complete our first home. As a new affiliate, there are currently no partner families paying down mortgages, putting money back into the system. Therefore, we are entirely dependent on contributions from the community to raise the resources needed for this project. In the next year, the Development Committee will manage an aggressive, multi-faceted campaign targeted not just at individuals, but also at local businesses, faith groups, civic and philanthropic organizations who may be able to provide large portions of the capital required to build.



**Continued Education and Communication Within the Affiliate.** Preparing the application has been a fantastic learning process, but WAHFH is still very much a work in progress. In the coming year we will work to review and refine our policies and administrative procedures to ensure that our building projects run smoothly and our partner families are successful in their new homes.

The next year will be an exciting one, as WAHFH continues to work toward bringing affordable housing to our community. To those of you who have worked so hard to get us to this point, thank you! We look forward to working more with you in the coming year. To those of you who would like to become more involved, please do. There is much work ahead of us and we can certainly find a match for your particular talents and interests.

## Please join us...

...at an **INTERFAITH SERVICE** celebrating the International Day of Prayer for Habitat for Humanity. This family-oriented service will be lead by numerous area faith leaders and lay people. We will join in God's presence acknowledging the gifts we have been given, offering our support to those that have been called to do this work, dedicating the offerings received throughout the community, and recognizing that poverty housing is unacceptable.

**Sunday, September 15, First Congregational Church  
Eustis Parkway, Waterville**

*If you would like further information contact Kerri Oliver at 465-0934*

## Habitat Humor

Rejected HFH Slogans:

"Thousands of people have no interest."

"The place to saw and be seen."

"We put the sweat in equity."

"We're trying to put ourselves out of business."

*Source: Habitat Northeast Fund Raising Bulletin Issue 17*

## A Message from the Faith Relations Committee

The WAHFH Faith Relations committee is now in the process of developing covenants with each faith community in our area. Typically, more than half of the support for any Habitat affiliate comes from the individual faith communities in the area that the affiliate serves. We will be contacting your congregation in the near future to discuss covenant possibilities. If your congregation is already prepared to develop a covenant with us, we encourage you to contact us immediately so that we may acknowledge and celebrate our relationship at the interfaith service on September 15.

Each member of this committee has felt called to serve God in this mission. Habitat for Humanity presents an incredible opportunity for people to put their faith into action. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss a long-term relationship between your congregation and WAHFH.

Kerri Oliver 465-0934

Jim Webb 872-7905

Bev Abbott 872-7564

Gil Pelletier 872-7975

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Help us bring decent, affordable housing to our community. The following committees are looking for volunteers:

**Volunteer Committee** – Coordinates volunteers (via phone and e-mail) for WAHFH activities. Organizes volunteer orientations and training.

**Development Committee** – Oversees multi-faceted WAHFH fundraising activities, including solicitation of support from individuals, businesses, faith groups, and civic and philanthropic organizations.

**Building Committee** – Acts as the "general contractor" of WAHFH, developing house plans and specifications, and overseeing all phases of construction. Volunteers with construction, supervisory, or project management experience needed.

**Faith Relations Committee** – Works to establish solid partnerships with area faith communities. Volunteers are needed to serve as representatives and liasons to each congregation.

**Communications Committee** – Needs volunteers with computer and writing skills to create fliers, produce the newsletter, and manage publicity for WAHFH events.

*Please consider donating your time and talents--it takes many dedicated people to run a successful Habitat affiliate. Thank you!*



*Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity*  
P.O. Box 1972  
Waterville, Maine 04903-1972

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Mailing Label

## Calendar of Events

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sun., Sep. 15</b>                | <b>Interfaith Service celebrating the International Day of Prayer for HFH<br/>6:00 pm, First Congregational Church, Eustis Parkway, Waterville</b> |
| Fri., Sat., Sun,<br>Sep. 20, 21, 22 | WAHFH booth at the Common Ground Fair, Unity   |
| Tue., Oct. 1                        | Board meeting, 6:30 pm, Colby College, Olin 335  |
| Wed., Oct. 23                       | Volunteer Orientation, 7:00 pm, China Baptist Church   |
| Tue., Nov. 5                        | Board meeting, 6:30 pm, Colby College, Olin 335  |
| Tue., Dec. 3                        | Board meeting, 6:30 pm, Colby College, Olin 335  |

If you need more information about any of these activities, please contact us by e-mail or phone.

***The Calender of Events is updated frequently.  
Log on to [www.watervilleareahfh.org](http://www.watervilleareahfh.org) for the latest information.***