

News and Notes



January-March 2009

Resident's News

The holiday season was joyfully celebrated all through the month of December with the help of many volunteers. The Mouses & Spouses' Auction got residents in a gift giving mood (*see article on page 2*), while the Knit Wits volunteers started decking the halls.

We were serenaded by the East Hill Pre-School, a home school group and *Harmonika*, an à capella women's vocal group. The 4-H club gave a wonderful tree-trimming and caroling party, making the tree (donated by Moffat's Tree Farm) into a work of art.

Santa visited to serve lunch and have photos taken. The stockings, created by the Knit wits, were hung in anticipation of stuffing with goodies donate by many individuals. One of the favorites was the Vermont Bee Balm lip balms supplied by Julie Brochu.

New Years was ushered in with a "Candle light Cabaret" (battery operated) created



Santa served lunch and visited with Carolyn & Phyllis

From the President

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff and Residents, I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to our fall 2008 fund drive.

We have achieved 84% of the \$32,000.00 targeted to meet our budget for this year, pretty impressive in today's lean times. However, we are still short of reaching our needed donations for this year. As a matter of fact we are almost \$5,000.00 behind last year's totals at this point.

Craftsbury Community Care Center relies on the donations of our supporters in order to be able to continue our services to our residents and the community as a whole. Providing services like ours to residents on Medicaid can only be possible with revenue received from the local communities, through our fundraising events, and through our annual fund drive. As part of our charter, we are mandated to provide services to those of lesser income, an endeavor which we appreciate and look forward to. This does cost money though and this is where you are needed.

If you have not yet sent in your donation for this year, won't you please do so as soon as possible? If you have already given this year, we wish to thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and if you can see your way to an additional small amount, it would be greatly appreciated and will go a long ways towards us completing a successful fund drive.

Another way that you can help us meet our goals is to support upcoming fundraising events like the April 4th Sugar-on-Snow Party and of course our Annual Pig Roast and Auction, which this year will be Beef Roast and Auction on July 25th.

Again, thank you for your continued friendship and support.

Sincerely,

Randi Calderwood, President

Board of Directors

The Mice at CCCC

Craftsbury Community Care Center's merrymakers are known as The Mouses and Spouses. Audrey Reed is "the President" of these lively and energetic Craftsbury-Albany friends. For the past eight years the group has brought joy, laughter and entertainment to the residents.

The Mouses and Spouses ring in the New Year with a rollicking New Year's Eve celebration, complete with party hats, champagne toasts, the music of old time favorites and a countdown to midnight (albeit four or five hours ahead of schedule). In April they provide the residents a taste of Hawaii with fancy tropical drinks and a luau. Cathy Wilder's grass skirt and hula dance definitely add to the authenticity and festivity.

The third large event of the year is the November auction. Each resident is presented with approximately \$500 "play" money. Auction items ranging from Jean Rabe's handmade lap robes, knitted socks, sheets and towels, boxes of chocolates to sap buckets painted by Audrey Wilson are up for bid. What an exciting way to Christmas shop!

Every so often the residents are invited to join The Mouses and Spouses for a formal afternoon tea or perhaps a tea tasting. Cathy Wilder sometimes shares her variety of worldwide teas and her expertise. Either way it is an occasion to relax and enjoy.

This very special group of ten or twelve men and women provide a wonderful variety of memorable parties and plenty of fun for which they deserve an enthusiastic round of applause.



We love all of our Valentine's Day treats!

Meet a Resident

EVA MAKES HEIRLOOMS

Eva Colgrove is proud to say she's 93 years old! Until a little over a year ago, she lived in Wolcott. After graduating from Craftsbury High School, she worked for Mr. and Mrs. Walter Anderson, doing housework in their home of 13 people. Eva fondly remembers her love of Mrs. Anderson's currant pies, which were cooked to perfection – the secret was a cup of cream that Mrs. Anderson put in each pie!

But, Eva had another interest, in a neighbor – a handsome young man who used to play cards with her parents. She married Frank Colgrove in the parsonage across the street from CCCC on May 1, 1935. They had 66 years of wedded bliss together, until Frank passed away in 2001. Eva still has the last two Valentines Frank gave her, which she cherishes.

Eva and Frank were farmers. They had hens, but that didn't work out so well. But their cows did! With hard work, their dairy farm was a success. They worked so hard on the farm that the Great Depression did not bother them too much. They had two daughters who still live in the area – one in Morrisville and the other in Danville.

She loves wearing a bracelet that says "Special Aunt" and has a heart charm with the word "Love" on it. It was a gift from her niece who brought it back from Germany, especially for her.

After Frank passed away, Eva continued to live alone on the farm. But, after falling a few times there, she became concerned for her safety. She moved to CCCC in November 2007, and she is delighted! "I couldn't have found a better place," she says.

For the past 11 years, Eva's cat, Buster, has kept her company. Buster is HUGE, weighing over 20 pounds. His fur is mostly gray, with touches of white. He is so soft, and adores being petted. Since he and Eva moved to the Care Center, he has acquired many new admirers.

Eva has been an avid quilter all her adult life, making untold numbers of quilts for others. She has used many patterns for these quilts, including hands quilts, in which the outline of a person's hand is used for the design. And she's still at it!

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by Cathy Wilder, with merriment provided by both the Mouses & Spouses and the Knit Wits volunteers.

In January, Randi wheeled out the big screen television so the entire dining room could witness the historic inauguration events. Tables wore red, white and blue, with silver stars and Elaine made patriotic cup cakes; we know how to celebrate.

In February we put our hearts on our sleeves, our tables and any other available surface. Residents handmade a valentine for each of the folks at the Greensboro Nursing Home and were gifted in turn with cards from the Pre-Schoolers and other volunteer groups. Each person received a goody bag of toiletries, assembled by Audrey Reed, to start off the day, and the noon meal featured a Valentine's Day box with goodies from Linda Scott, bouquet's of carnations and a pink frosted cake.

Our February Big Screen Movie—*Dr. Zhivago*—was almost too evocative; part one brought a snow storm that forced us to postpone part two for a few days!

In March the Knit Wits created a wonderful "Irish Blessing" display and we are looking forward to St. Patrick's Day, the Health Care Fair and, perhaps, a tiny taste of spring.



Here's Eva, hard at work on the Knit Wit's quilt

Since she moved to CCCC, she used her two sewing machines to make a beautiful quilt for her great granddaughter. She exercises her quilting skills as a member of Knit Wits, as well.

Eva has also been grateful for her wonderful neighbors over the years. One neighbor gave her a special gift that took 4 years to make – a quilt with a pattern made from fabrics from Eva's own collection! This special treasure covers Eva's bed in her sunny, corner room.

Eva's heirloom quilts have brightened so many lives. And, she is happy to be able to continue using her talents here at CCCC.



Laurie Courage, Julie Brochu and the 4H gang helped us decorate the Christmas tree and sing carols—we had quite a crowd!

Friends, family and the general public are invited to join us at these coming events:

Sat., Mar., 21 – Health Care Fair – 2 to 4 pm

Check your blood pressure, try Reiki or chair massage, get a posture assessment or Chiropractic evaluation, share folk remedies or try herb tea. Its free & fun!

Sun., Mar. - Big Screen Movie-6 pm – *The Quiet*

Man – John Wayne, Maureen O’Hara and fresh popcorn, all for free

Sat., April 4th – Sugar-on-Snow Party – 2 to 4

Get out, visit with friends, honor our volunteers, bid on baked goods, find out who wins the Knit Wits’ Quilt and have a sweet taste of Vermont.
Free admission.

Craftsbury Community Care Center

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