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Letter from the President

Dear friends of the Care Center -

Recently we held an orientation gathering for the five new members of the Care Center Board. We are, incidentally, thrilled by these new members – Jeanne Joslin, Dan Hill, Scott Inglis, Rebecca Tatel, and Mark McAndrew.

Part of the orientation time was a summary of the history of the Craftsbury Community Care Center. There’s not room here to recap even the highlights – and hard times – of that history. Suffice it to say that we walked the path of that history through the first conception of the idea, to the reality of a new facility looking for residents, the early financial struggles, and today, to a thriving, superbly managed facility living at full occupancy.

What struck me most about this history was that people so consistently stepped up to the task of making the Center viable with amazing energy, complete devotion to the idea, and full confidence in the importance and the ultimate success of this terrific mission.

This keeps happening. Our Board is fully constituted with members having a variety of skills and passions – marketing, fundraising, financial management, the care and development of professional staff, upkeep and enhancement of the physical facility, and countless other tasks large and small that contribute to an enterprise that has developed a reputation for being one of the finest of its kind.

As a friend and supporter of the Care Center, you are a full partner in this enterprise. Without your support, we would not have been able to make the significant improvements to the facility that our recently completed capital campaign has allowed. We would not be able to invest in skilled staff and in their professional development. We would not be able to provide a place, not simply for people to live, but a home bustling with events and activities that make life full and rewarding for residents.

People sometimes come to the Care Center as new residents with a certain amount of reluctance or resignation. That is completely understandable; life throws hard choices our way sometimes. But I have heard so often from them, a few weeks after they arrive, that they are so very glad to be here. Our waiting list for new placements has been growing steadily and, as said before, we are now at full capacity. This makes a huge difference in the Board and staff’s ability to think creatively and adventuresomely about how to make the Center an even better home for its residents.

We thank you, as always, for your kind and thoughtful support. And we surely hope you’ll join us on Saturday, July 25 at noon for our annual picnic and auction. There will be terrific comfort food, some wonderful items to bid on at the auction, great company, and a perfectly lovely setting, here in this community within a community. You belong here too.

With gratitude,
Alan Parker, for the Board of Directors

Craftsbury Community Care Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization and Equal Housing Opportunity Facility.

Our mission is to provide a caring, homelike affordable residence for seniors, in a setting that encourages independence, activities and involvement with families, friends and the larger community.

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Resident Highlight — George Bickford

George Haynes Bickford was born at the end of January, 1923 during a blizzard in Springfield, VT. His father, George Floyd Bickford, put his mother, Louetta (Cass)Haynes Bickford, into the sleigh in the midst of the storm and steered it down the hill to the hospital by riding on the rear runners. Thus, a lifelong outdoorsman and athlete was born. His last ski run was just before his 90th birthday at Smuggler's Notch with Stephanie Herrick.

During his early years, he and his sister Bea would spend time on their mother's family farm (on what is now Brown's Farm Road which starts in Haynesville), in Hardwick at his grandmother Bickford's house (now called the Judevine mansion), and at the cottage in Greensboro's Barre camps. Because the Woodbury Granite Company was shutting

down, his father did not work in Hardwick as originally planned. Therefore they lived first in Springfield, then in NYC, then Connecticut, and later in Worcester, MA. George and Bea were placed into a rooming house, Miss Laidlaw's, in West Hartford at the age of 3 and 18 months, respectively, for almost 2 years while his mother recovered from TB. After that time, they lived in Connecticut for a while longer and then moved to Grafton, MA when he was 10 years old.

Through all this time, Greensboro, Hardwick, and Bennington were his focal points and where he enjoyed friends and relatives, the great outdoors, and sports. An avid Boy Scout, he went to several Jamborees, including one in Washington, DC where they camped at Arlington Cemetery. He completed high school at Peddie Prep in NJ, played on the championship hockey team and track team, and then went on to MIT. While at MIT he enlisted in the Navy during WWII, graduated in 1945, and then served as an officer on an aircraft carrier. After the war he worked in Worcester as a Mechanical Engineer and continued to ski, hunt, fish, golf, play tennis, and hike throughout western MA and in Vermont. He hiked Mt Washington in a blizzard going from tree top to tree top once and would ski at Tuckerman's Ravine several times. It was at Tuckerman's that he ran into a fellow Greensboro'ite – Betty Sowles. He decided that she'd grown up well and was the right sort of outdoors woman. They married in 1950 and started to raise their family in Grafton, MA with their first of three children born there. In 1952 they moved to Syracuse where a job at Carrier Air Conditioning looked promising. He remained working for Carrier for the rest of his career except for a 3 year hiatus at Taylor Instruments in the mid-60's. He completed his MBA at Syracuse University in the late '50s and held several management positions at Carrier, including director positions at the budding new Data Processing department and finally in the international warehousing department. He retired in 1986 when Betty was terminally ill with cancer. He eventually returned to the North East Kingdom to live full time.

George has always led an active, community-oriented life and quietly insisted that his children follow his lead. No TV was allowed except for Lassie and Disney (he cut the cord once after an attempted Saturday morning rebellion). The children all learned to do woodworking, target shooting, fishing (especially at Long Pond where the perch were plentiful), and sailing. Skiing was the family passion. He and Betty were Ski Patrollers. Every weekend there was snow from November through March the family was at the Hill. He always volunteered with organizational efforts – at the ski club, Mountain View Country Club, Church Choirs, the Yacht club, and the Greensboro Library -- to list just a few. Cazenovia Ski Club (NY) named a trail after him and MVCC honored him at Founder's Day several years ago. During the summers in Greensboro, sailing and sports continued to reign. He and Betty would also conspire with other parents to roust all the children on lovely clear days and herd them up Mt Mansfield, Jay Peak, and other mountains for the day. Camping and picnicking have always been great passions of his.

Fantastic friendships, hard work, great family parties, and fun projects are what give George's life meaning. He and his friend from Craftsbury, Bill Baldwin, built a Comet sailboat in the Fayetteville, NY house garage. This wasn't as unusual as it sounds – all the houses he lived in, the garages were used as workshops and never for cars. Other projects including helping to build a huge swimming pool at a friend's farm, jumping in on renovation "parties", and building furniture. At 83 he taught his son-in-law how to use a chain saw. He was still climbing a ladder and cleaning gutters for his eldest daughter at 89, painting picket fences for his son, and teaching his granddaughter how to shoot the 22 rifle he bought from Sears when he was 12 years old for \$10.

— Submitted by Doreen Noyes



Thank You, Elaine

On April 8th, the residents and staff held a farewell party for Elaine Cole to thank her for 12 years of service and express their best wishes for her retirement. Elaine started working at CCCC in 2003 as a cook and later was promoted to dietary manager. She planned a 4 week rotating menu for each season and organized a huge cookbook to coincide with them. She also attended many meetings with the Area on Aging and worked on promoting the senior meals program. The residents and families were very impressed with the high quality meals and friendly smile. Every holiday and birthday was made a special time for all. She also was a big help with the annual cookout and family pot lucks.

Before coming to the CCCC Elaine was the head baker at Lyndon Institute for 10 years and then went to work for Bogner of America in production and modeling. Along the way she raised two sons and now has two grown granddaughters.



After getting the job at the CCCC she bought a house in Greensboro and soon after met the man of her dreams, Rod Kerr. They were married on July 4th, 2008 at Rod's home, now theirs, and all of the residents and staff were invited to the wedding. Many attended getting the front row seats!! Now between them Rod and Elaine have 15 grandchildren and a great granddaughter!

Elaine and Rod were instrumental in organizing and hosting the annual Christmas party for the staff year after year.

Thank you Elaine for your many years of hard work and dedication to help make a home for both residents and staff!

— Submitted by Jenny Stoner

Sugar On Snow — A Great Success

It was a very successful Sugar on Snow party which raised over \$1,300. The day was perfect for enjoying a festive community gathering while helping to support this special and unique home and its residents. Snow was certainly abundant and Randi Calderwood boiled up an early run of his noteworthy maple syrup to pour over it. The Community Room was filled with a sizable crowd eager to win one of the many homemade treats offered in the Chinese Auction. We greatly appreciate all of our friends who baked, canned or cooked for this event.

We couldn't be more grateful for the outstanding raffle prizes that attracted plenty of attention. In the end we actually ran out of tickets! Special thanks go to Bill Rowley for his beautiful cherry salad bowl, to Vaughn Rinaldi for her handsome Blackwatch plaid quilt, to Lost Nation Brewery for a generous gift certificate and High Mowing for a varied selection of garden seeds.



— Submitted by Anne Cassidy

Annual Cookout and Auction

Saturday, July 25th! That's the date of this year's CCCC major fundraising event and it's only a few weeks away. Please bring your family and friends for an outstanding noon meal of home-cooked food followed at 12:45 PM by a lively auction, all to benefit this very special residence.

Headlining in the live auction is a glider ride from Stowe Soaring. If you prefer a pilot for your adventure there will be an opportunity to bid on an hour's plane ride for two persons. Cellars at Jasper Hill has given us 2 tickets to its Summer Tasting, a sold-out event, giving you a behind the scenes look at their cows, creamery and aging cellars plus tastings of different cheeses along with their favorite food and beverage pairings. Hill Farmstead Brewery has contributed 2 growlers and a \$25 gift certificate. In addition, other exciting auction items include two hours of consulting from Forestry Manager, Ross Morgan, a Dave Brown wooden bowl, a music lesson with Alice Perron, a massage from physical therapist Victoria Hill, 4 rounds of golf at the Newport Country Club and several hours of landscaping/gardening from Laura Hill. We are most grateful to Frank Jarvis who has offered to be our auctioneer. There will be a silent auction starting at noon and featuring a wide variety of gift certificates, jewelry, local pottery, children's toys and jigsaw puzzles.



Again this year Sterling College has raised the pigs and donated the pork for the Cookout. There will be the traditional deep-fried turkey, green salad, potato salad, and coleslaw. Baked beans are being prepared by Pat Rhodes whose daughter Kim Roberge is our Executive Director, and the wonderful potato rolls are baked by Board President, Alan Parker. Our warmest thanks to both of them! The CCCC Bone Builders have agreed to provide a delectable array of cookies and brownies.

Cookout tickets are now on sale at CCCC - \$12.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children and free for children under five.

We look forward to seeing you for the noon meal and auction on the 25th!

New CCCC Board Members

CCCC is pleased to welcome 5 new members to the Board of Directors. Pictured are Scott Inglis, Mark Mc Andrew, Jeanne Joslin and Dan Hill. Rebecca Tatel is missing from the photo.

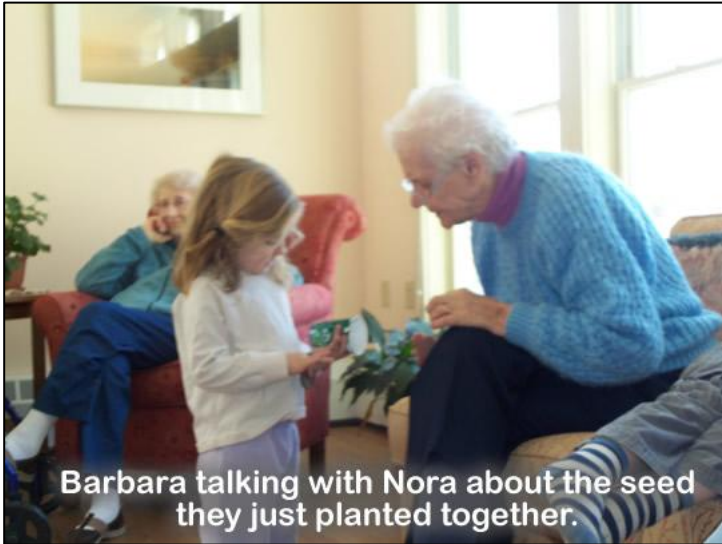


Annual Appeal Thanks

The Board, residents and staff extend their most grateful thanks to the many friends who generously contributed to the 2014 Annual Fund. CCCC depends on your continued support to maintain the excellent quality of care associated with it, to keep the building in good condition and to provide nourishing home cooked meals and plenty of entertainment for the residents. THANK YOU!

— Submitted by Anne Cassidy

Photo Gallery



Barbara talking with Nora about the seed they just planted together.



Sipping fresh syrup at Randy Calderwood's Sugarhouse.



The Kingdom Country Farmers 4-H Club of East Hardwick visit with animals. Abigail, Ruth and Ron greeting the heifer



Annual High Tea hosted by Linda Scott and Marjory Morrill



Hailey(4-H er), , Audrey, Grace are curious about the piglet!



Heartbeat Lifesharing Chimes Choir Director, Onat, cheerfully leads friends and seniors in playing the Chimes.

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday, July 7 at 10:30 AM: Ron Curtiss plays his Edison Cylinder Record Player, built in the early 1900's
- Wednesday, July 8 at 10:30 AM: Sally Smith shows her miniature horses
- Wednesday, July 15 at 10 AM: Residents tour the Craftsbury Historical Society on The Common
- Friday, July 17 at 2:30 PM: Heartbeet Lifesharing Chimes Choir
- Wednesday, July 22 10-2 PM: Residents have a BBQ at Crystal Lake in Barton
- Tuesday, July 28 at 3 PM: Larry and Lynn Beaudry sing a long
- Wednesday, July 29 at 10:30 PM: Residents visit Hester Fuller's Alpaca Farm
- Friday, July 31 at 10:30 AM: Summer Camp Children of Wonder and Wisdom on parade



Board of Directors:

- Alan Parker, President
- Anne Cassidy, Vice President
- Jenny Stoner, Secretary
- Carolyn Ryan, Treasurer
- Cilla Bonney-Smith
- Dan Hill
- Scott Inglis
- Jim Jones
- Jeanne Joslin
- Janet Long, honorary member
- Jane Marlin
- Mark McAndrew
- Doreen Noyes
- Julian Sharp
- Bruce Sweeny
- Rebecca Tatel
- Bob Twiss, honorary member

Executive Director:

Kimberly Roberge

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