

Agenda

h.o.m.e.'s 43rd Annual Celebration

St. Vincent De Paul Church Hall

Thursday, April 25th, 2013

5:45 P.M.

Memorial Moments



Pot Luck Dinner

Keynote Speaker:

Garrett Martin, Director

Maine Economic Policy Center

Introduction of Board of Directors:



Entertainment & Closing Sing Along

This meeting is dedicated to the memory of Sr. Marie Ahern

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h.o.m.e. - emmaus

2013 Department Reports

h.o.m.e., Inc.

Board of Directors

Lucy Poulin, President
Orland

Gertrude Champe
Surry

Dr. Robert Scovin, Secretary
Ellsworth

Clint Claggett/staff rep
Bucksport

Martha McLain, chair
Prospect

Tammy Hooper
Bucksport

Margaret DeRivera
Orland

Marjorie Carter
Canaan

Ellen Moore
East Orland

Jim Ashmore
Bucksport

Helen Stummer (Honorary)
Metuchen NJ

Board membership elections will be taking place at H.O.M.E.'s Annual Dinner. An updated Board list will be available on April 26th 2013.

Check out h.o.m.e. pictures in color and h.o.m.e. information, including these reports and our newsletter,

This Time, on our web page at

www.homecoop.net

Tracey Hair, Editor of *This Time*

Front Office

- By Twila Greene



You never know what may occur
in the hours between eight and four,
But every day we bravely go and open up the office door.
The phone is impatiently ringing loud.
We try to hush the gathering crowd
of employees waiting to punch in at the clock
as soon as we get the door unlocked.
Pounce, the office cat waits to be fed.
The local newspaper beckons to be read.
Donations dropped off at the door
Need to be sorted and picked up off the floor.
Who left the sink full of dirty dishes
Against kitchen rules and office wishes?
Please clean off the stove and put food away
If you want it to last throughout the day.
The toilet overflowed last night.
The floor is all wet, an awful sight.
I'll not allow my stomach to retch
As I clean the mess and clear the stench.
The thank-you notes go out today.
We'd better take a break to pray.
The tax appointments must be made
Cause Pat will be in to lend income tax aid.
People calling, seeking shelter. Cold wind blowing helter skelter.
Hungry families wait for a food box.
Daycare fears outbreak of chicken pox.
Are there any leftovers in the soup kitchen pots?
Is there anyone here to administer flu shots?
Can someone please open up the Bargain Barn?—
A woman needs bedding to keep her family warm.
Well happy day, It's four o'clock!
It's time to punch out and find the lock.
We're leaving now, without any sorrow
Cause we'll do the same things again tomorrow.

Thanks to Lisa and Pounce for your assistance whilst Gina was absent.

Craft Shops:



Weaving Studio

The Weaving Studio has been closed for most of this past winter. We had wreath season going on, then the shop was shut down for a while to conserve money.

I have just finished getting out the Spring Appeal and will now be going back to the Weaving Shop. We will be working on various projects like place mats, blankets, rugs, dish towels, napkins, scarves, table cloths, and any projects that any one might want special ordered.

We are also providing classes for anyone who wants to learn weaving. Please contact the h.o.m.e. office for more information. We are hoping to get enough items made to restock the Craft Store and have enough projects to send to our crafts fairs this year.

Thank you
Lisa Scott, Weaving



Pottery Studio

Over the last year, I have been attempting to master difficult techniques in order to produce quality pieces. Also, I have been focusing on creating an open studio where individuals in the community can participate on creative projects. Recently, I have had a number of students of varying age ranges. I am excited to share with my students the new techniques I have learned in my intensive two-week class at Haystack School of Arts and Craft. Additionally, in order to establish better connections in the greater community, I have been working with Bucksport Parks and Recreation to provide affordable ceramics classes to children after school. I am excited to have the chance to reach out to people, of many ages, and provide them with the means to creativity.

Thank you,
Rosa Moore



H.O.M.E. CRAFT STORE
PO Box 10, Orland ME 04472
phone: (207) 469-7961
fax: (207) 469-1023
Visa, Discover and Master card accepted.

Bookkeeping

The economic changes that we have had in the last few years have really made it hard for some people to get by. They depend more and more each day upon the help of others. With the efforts of many we have been able to provide many meals and shelter for our less fortunate.

One of our major goals in bookkeeping is to be able to get a complete audit. An audit bears a great impact on our grant writing success. It is this information that lenders and foundations look at for our financial stability. Bookkeeping has been able to give fund raising and other departments the reports and the financials necessary to complete the applications.

I want to give a big thanks to Ruth and Cora for all their support through the year and we look forward to the year ahead and all the new experiences we will share.

Thank you,
The Bookkeeping Staff of 2013
Mary, Ruth, and Cora



Learning Center

In the Learning Center, HOME continues to reach out to those in need of academic support. As people come and go, we do our best to support them in what they need, from resume writing to college preparation. As a dynamic Learning Center, we are happy to cater to the needs of the community and we understand that those needs fluctuate over time. For example, a new area we have been working in over the last year has been providing creative outlets for home schoolers in the community by giving them additional academic support and access to the arts. Progress can sometimes be slow and often painful but with dedication and persistence we have seen many positive results. As always, we are happy and enthusiastic to embrace and support those struggling to achieve their dreams.

Thank you
Learning Center Staff



Fundraising

As the country slowly climbed out of the deep economic crevasse of 2009 and 2010, H.O.M.E. and the people we serve did likewise. Economic downturns are especially hard on those who are on the cusp of poverty as assistance resources are strained by increased demand. H.O.M.E. continued to struggle during this time as charitable giving dropped and demand for services grew. Fortunately, it looks like the worst is behind us and the economy and donations are recovering.

Your support in 2012 provided a stable environment where men, women and children could access the support they needed. This support includes shelter, access to food, education, employment and programs for children from low-income families. In 2012 here's where our funding came from:

Source	Total
Spring Appeal	\$46,971.89
Fall Appeal	\$52,011.60
Sweepstakes Raffle	\$2,201.75
Monetary donations	\$20,996.73
Summer Auction	\$9473.15
In kind donations	\$33,110.58
Wreaths - non tax sales	\$62,919
Wreaths - retail sales	\$9855
Foundation Grants	\$140,500
Government Grants	\$71,695
Total	\$449,734.70

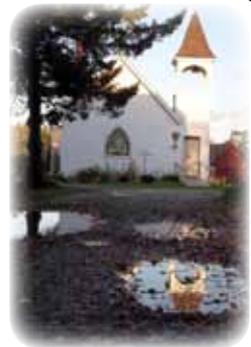
Thank you
Tracey Hair, Fundraising

Wayside Chapel of St. Francis

All are welcome, services are on Sunday at 10:30 AM. We are very thankful to have Pat Snyder as our organist. We have had two baptisms and two memorial services this past year.

Eucharistic Ministers: Sr. Lucy and Ralph

**We host AA meetings Mondays,
Thursdays, and Fridays at 12:30 PM.**



Housing

The housing department has seen several new changes this past year. The first change is that Lucy and I put together a plan of action to try to sell or occupy any vacant homes and the board approved our endeavor. Our plan is to have our vacant homes available to Section 8 recipients thus ensuring that we receive the monies needed to pay the mortgages and taxes. This has entailed rehabbing several homes located in our Sedgwick Community.

With the addition of Mark Kirwin to our housing department we have been able to get two of the homes done quickly and they have passed inspection! We have already placed 2 low-income families into these 2 rehabbed homes in Sedgwick and we have another family moving into a third home sometime in May. We have worked with Maine State Housing Authority to ensure the rent(s) are paid for and in return our construction crew is and will continue to maintain the homes to MSHA and ADA standards (when needed).

By doing this work these families have a nice home and will eventually be able to secure a loan through MSHA's first time home buyers program or their newly formed rent to own program.

With the assistance of Dan Reidy's group of volunteers and our construction crew led by Darrell Snowman, a house in Sedgwick has been completely redone from the ground up. We hope to have the home completed by the end of the summer and a wonderful young family of 3 from Stonington is slated to purchase it and move in.

We have also submitted to the Housing Assistance Council for funds to continue to rehab/renovate 13 homes over the next 3 years. We have a substantial amount of work to do over the next few years to ensure that all of our houses are renovated and occupied.

Thank you
Beth Taylor, Housing



Volunteers

2012 proved to be a very productive volunteer season. We had 15 groups come last year and already have 19 scheduled for the 2013 season. With all the help we were able to rehab a couple of the CCLT homes, cut and stack firewood, decorate wreaths, some played in our daycare with the children and many of the groups cooked in our soup kitchen for the week.

Many of the meals were provided by our volunteers and all were enjoyed by the staff and families of HOME. This year the donations for shelter supplies from the volunteer groups came in handy; all the pillows, sheets, blankets, towels and toiletries were passed out to those in need. Many thanks from shelter residents for your kindness.

This year we are anticipating completing many of our maintenance projects and maybe we could fit in a few upgrades.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!!!

Jackie Burpee



<http://www.homecoop.net/volunteers>

We are now collecting donations of great things to put in

h.o.m.e.'s Annual Giant Benefit Auction

Please plan to join us on Sunday, August 18!

Please call us at 469-7961 if you have some valuable stuff to donate.

We can come and pick it up.

We also have on-going bottle and scrap metal drives and need your continued support and donations.

Bakery

The Bread & Butter Bakery officially opened its doors for business the first of the new year of 2013. Sister Marie was hugely responsible for advocating for the bakery with the town of Orland and following through with all necessary repairs and upgrades that needed to be done. She was diligent and in the end everything was addressed and the Town of Orland issued a permit for the bakery.

Margaret de Rivera was also extremely helpful with the inception of the bakery as she raised the funds needed for equipment and such. These two women with the assistance of Lou Chamberlain who put together a business plan for the bakery made it possible for everything to come together. With permits in place Head Baker Jackie Lee has been baking up a storm!

Jackie Lee has been able to bake daily fresh goodies and has daily specials such as: Muffin Monday and Whoopee Pie Wednesday. Jackie has already developed a strong following and with increased advertising and the summer tourism season is hoping to have a profitable summer. She is already showing a profit and has only been open for a few months.

The goals that Jackie has for the bakery are to expand to include web sales by having a computer system in place at the bakery, more equipment to increase production, and an advertising budget. She is also checking in with the local college's and culinary programs, etc. to see if she can get an intern for the summer.

Thank you
Jackie Lee



Bakery Hours :

Summer : Tues -Sat, 7:30am- 4pm

Winter : Tues-Sat, 8am-1pm

Hours may vary.

Phone: 207-469-7575

Shelter

In a years' time at a glance...It looks by our shelter stats that we were down on bed nights served, but that figure is a bit deceiving. Many times we must refer individuals to another shelter as we are unable to serve them. It might be a man and we only have space in our women's shelter or they may be better served at another type of shelter, or we are full at the time. Whatever the reason we still try to help them.

Just barely into this New Year, shelter received yet another blow from MSHA. With HUD cuts Maine shelters will receive less funding for 2013. Rumor has it; that it could be as much as \$5000 less for each agency. What this means to us is; what is already difficult will be even more so.

What is uplifting to us is that our maintenance and construction crew with the help of our many wonderful volunteers did accomplish much repair and rehab to our shelters and transitional housing in 2012.

Meanwhile we the shelter staff moves into this new year with hope and heavy heart. Our shelter leader and inspiration, Sr. Marie Ahern passed away January 25, 2013. As our shock begins to wear off and the realization that we are without her, we know we will continue her work...for her... and for all the people she loved.

Stats from H.O.M.E.'s 7 shelters for 2012

Total Bed Nights 15,882

56 women-50 men-28 children-20 total families

35 people found jobs

5 continued higher education

5 have applied and in process of receiving SSDI

4 incarcerated

Thank you

Jackie Burpee, Bonnie Williams

Abby's Attic Thrift Shop



Route 1, East Orland, Maine
Help yourself, H.O.M.E. and the
environment by buying quality used
items.

"Serve First Those Who Suffer Most."

If you need clothing or household items,
call Abby's Attic at (207) 469-7575.

Maintenance

Hello, my name is Mark. I have been working in the maintenance department for the last six weeks, and within that six weeks, I helped renovate two houses and one apartment. The houses are now rented and the apartment should be very soon.

This is a new experience for me. I would like to thank Darrell, Glenn, and Jason Cox for all the needed help. I hope to keep H.O.M.E. neat and maintained to the best of my ability. I would like to thank Andy and Matt for helping me with some plumbing.

Thank you
Mark Kirwin

Snapshot 2012/2013

Food Pantry:

Goodness Sake Food Pantry in Orland - 87 families served monthly, consisting of an average of 280 people each month.

Bread and Produce:

Each Thursday, bread is provided by Country Kitchen bread store. On Thursdays (the day the bread arrives) 30 individuals receive free bread.

Friday through Wednesday 10 individuals receive free bread each day.

Each day produce is donated from area grocery stores.

Approximately 15 families receive produce each day from this service.

The Mobile Food Truck:

164 individuals received food boxes from the Mobile Food Truck in 2012.

285 individuals received food boxes from the Mobile Food Truck in February 2013.

Soup Kitchen:

The soup kitchen served 10,950 hot lunches to an average of 30 people daily.

Additional program numbers:

67 children received back packs filled with school supplies.

285 individuals received Christmas Gifts in 2012.

12 Daycare children year round.

20 children enrolled in Summer Camp for the 2012 season.

Volunteer groups worked 18,220 hours.

Aspire, Able and Individual volunteers worked 1,420 hours.

Pedalin' HOME Bicycle Center

A year has brought new relationships and more education and fun to “the bike shop.” Last Spring, we continued to offer after school and school vacation classes in bicycle related activities. In June, The HOME Team completed our second 180 mile bicycling “Trek Across Maine”, raising money for lung health. We continued to help many more area folks acquire bike transportation for work or play, learn about bicycle mechanics, and take rides around Hancock County from Orland. In late July, we began an exciting collaboration with Trips For Kids/SkiDUCK and committed to educating local kids about mountain biking. We explored Acadia National Park, Great Pond Mountain, and Sears Island on a dozen rides between August and November.

In November we put away the bikes and started planning winter outings with our new partner Trips For Kids/SkiDUCK. With generous support from Camden Snow Bowl to the south, we established weekly opportunities for HOME kids and youth to try skiing and snowboarding. Swish, swish, swish, [\\$%^&**@#\\$....boink!](#) Oh, the newly all familiar sound of a beginner skier or snowboarder acquiring his/her snow feet. Kids have the uncanny knack of bouncing back. Sometimes I think they are made of rubber. More than fifty of us would venture over to several Maine mountains to experience the ups and downs of winter sports...literally!

We saw little gems shimmering about us all season. When Andre, 5, and J.J., 3, stayed on their feet longer and trusted the snowplow, you could see them beaming with pride. It was heart warming to see how as Daline, age 13, became a proficient skier, she wanted to help friends Paige and Sky experience the joy of mastering something new and challenging. She had the patience of a saint! Davey, 8, no longer wakes up scared of the monsters in the video games he used to play nonstop, but instead, his mother reports, he dreams of skiing through powdery hills. Anthony, 13, is making new friends at school, as a result of a new found self confidence, inviting them to explore his love of snowboarding and perhaps offering them a few tips. Robbie, 18, doesn't argue with his teachers so much anymore. His math teacher says he hears reports of progress in mastering the snowboard and connecting with others in the out of doors...especially if it involves a race. We want to keep these stories coming next season!

We took our first bike ride on a warm late March day with six of us on two tandems and two single bikes. We are planning a Friday “earn a bike” program starting in April and weekly rides around Downeast Maine.

We can use donations of used bikes, skis and snowboards, your volunteer time and other resources that can help keep these programs alive. Call us at 350-0320 or stop by 988 Acadia Highway (Rt 1/3) in Orland with your favorite biking or skiing story or a hello!

Thank you
Cary Huggins
Joe Huggins



Emmaus International

This is proving to be a busy year for us in working together with Emmaus. We are working hard to help our friends in Guatemala to finish the application to become a group and we are also working with a group in Bath, Maine on their application. We have our fingers crossed that both groups will be able to become full members in Emmaus International. We have a member of the Executive Committee visiting in May to work with us on this process, so we are looking forward to his arrival.

Guatemala Container Report

In light of our success with our previous container project, we would like to thank everyone who helped make it happen. HOME is working on another proposal to fund another container, so we will hopefully be collecting donations for that soon. We might even be able to send more than one container this time! Thanks to everyone for their help and let's work together to make this project a success again!

Thank you

Josh Prochaska, Emmaus Delegate



Garage

This year we spent most of our time repairing H.O.M.E.'s vehicles. Repairs were made to our white transportation van which is used for our Summer Camp Program and also to pick food up from Good Shepherd Food Bank.

Repairs were also made to the outreach van which is relied on to transport shelter residents to and from appointments, job interviews and to grocery stores. We installed a new engine in our plow truck which is used to plow our shelters and the main campus. We also rebuilt the blue construction van.

We continued to work on vehicles for paying customers throughout the year and would like to attract more paying customers.

Thank you
Matt Carter, Jim Poulin

Garage Hours
Mon - Fri, 8am - 4pm
Labor rate \$35.00/hr



Construction

We have completed two of our homes in Sedgwick and they have renters in them. We are currently working on 30 Covenant Way in Sedgwick preparing it for a family of 5. We have stripped the floors and are in the process of replacing the flooring; we'll be doing some work on the roof, steps and porch, replacing the hot water heater and installing a new LP monitor.

We are also shingling and doing the fascia boards at 79 Covenant Way and we are waiting for a volunteer group that is coming to do all of the wiring.

We have been very busy working at Abby's Attic getting the Bread & Butter Bakery updated. It passed inspection and is operating at full capacity. Basically all of our time is being spent doing repair and rehab work and we have much more to do, so it will be another busy year for the construction crew.

Thank you
Darrell Snowman

Gardens & Greenhouses

We've been doing a winter Farmers' Market in Ellsworth twice a month for the first time, November 2012 through April 2013. Not financially successful yet but more people know us and our products so we hope next year will be better. Also, the Bucksport Farmer's Market this summer will feature six vendors (instead of only us) with produce, jams, bread, pickles, etc. and crafts. It's billed by the Chamber of Commerce as an "event" every week so should be exciting!



We prepared two raised beds last fall in the permaculture method of increasing soil fertility by application of natural materials such as leaves, grass clippings, compost and manure, and hope to prepare further beds this spring and summer. We would be happy with a higher yield of veggies this season, especially tomatoes. On a sad note, we plan to plant a Memorial Garden for Sister Marie on the grounds of H.O.M.E. In January we lost a valued fellow employee, but most of all a great friend. We'll plant some of Marie's favorite flowers, both perennials and annuals.

I had great help last season from the "two Karens"—Karen Botta (the younger) and Karen Saum (the elder), also James Taylor and Sheila Holtz, and Jackie Lee and Twila (with baked goodies.)

Happy Spring! Here's to an abundant and fun 2013 Garden Season!

Millie Grimes

The Easter Egg Hunt

The 2013 Easter Egg Hunt was a great success. We had over 50 children attend which means that over 100 people were there. We provide a separate hunt for the small children to ensure that they have a great time. This year we had Easter Bunny's cookies to frost and decorate. The kids visited with the Easter Bunny and many games were played. All the kids received some sort of gift so that they all left with a prize. It was a great time for all. Come again next year.

Thank you
The Easter Bunny



Annual Christmas Party

Many Thanks to our many Christmas Angels. Trinity Episcopal Church in Castine surprised our teenagers this year at our annual Christmas party with a \$20.00 bill plus a \$2.00 that many of them have never seen before. Many of them were so excited to receive such a nice gift. Our younger children opened their presents with excitement seeing the dolls, trucks, games, candy, hats and mittens.

Our evening was topped with a delicious smorgasbord of sandwiches, chips, fruits, vegetables and lots of homemade Christmas goodies. Santa led us in Christmas caroling and reminded us what Christmas is all about.

Thank you again, Old Greenwich Congregational in Greenwich CT, Georgetown Congregational in Georgetown MA, Blue Hill Congregational in Blue Hill ME, St Vincent De Paul in Bucksport ME, Trinity Episcopal in Castine ME and Yoga with Naomi for all your help.

GOD BLESS!

Jackie Burpee



Christmas Wreaths

Our woodshop was filled with the smells of pine, cedar and balsam as our crew made centerpieces and decorated wreaths.

The Maine congregational conference came up for a weekend and piled wreaths and made boxes getting us ready for our startup of shipping.

We also had Portsmouth South Church come for a weekend and decorated over 400 wreaths; we were able to mail them all out on that Monday. We shipped over 1800 wreaths and centerpieces for 2012 and hope to increase our sales for the coming 2013 season.



Marketstand and Soup Kitchen

This past year we have been doing many construction projects to upgrade the Marketstand. The addition of the EBT machine was a very good idea. The Food Bank received some good donations, is back up and running well.

The Soup Kitchen is one of the areas that needs a lot of attention, cleaning etc...this is one goal that needs immediate attention. We look forward to serving you this upcoming year.

Thank you

Mark L, Sandy B, Norman, Dominique and Tammy H.

Daycare

Enrollment in Daycare has remained steady. We currently have eleven children enrolled. Daycare now has a full time staff of three, Stacie Kirwin, Betsy Smith and Melissa Buonapane. Two of our staff have been trained to serve as wellness guides which is a program designed to direct families in need to resources that may assist them.

Daycare staff is also participating in two Nutrition Programs which aim to bring healthy eating choices to our Daycare and Summer Camp.

This year we were able to purchase a new computer system. Many thanks to Karen Saum for making this possible. Our goals for this year are to invest in new equipment for our playground and also new learning materials and indoor toys aimed at learning.

Thank you

Melissa Buonapane



www.homecoop.net

Please do not discard this report.

*Pass it on to someone else or return it to **h.o.m.e.** so we can hand it out again. We use them for publicity throughout the year.*

Thank you.

Check out h.o.m.e. pictures in color and h.o.m.e. information, including these reports and our newsletter, *This Time*, on our web page at www.homecoop.net



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