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... One House At A Time

VOLUNTEERS

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Charlie Bean, Waste Management | Mark Hengerer, IDEXX | Tom Prouty, Peoples Heritage Bank |
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| Liz Brendler, Northern Utilities | John Hills, Glenwood Building and Remodeling | Karin Reistad, IDEXX |
| Richard Butt, Independent Consultant | Jeff Hunnewell | Steve Ridolfi |
| Kendall Buck, Maine Homebuilders Ass'n | Robert King, Portland International Jetport | Brendan Rielly |
| Steven Cates | Jonathan Langmaid | Bridget Rielly |
| Scott Carpenter, Northern Utilities | Susan Lauria, IDEXX | Mel Roast, Northern Utilities |
| Janice Chapman | Dawn Leahy, IDEXX | Bill Saufley, Attorney at Law |
| Don Cyr, Portland International Jetport | Lisa Lemieux, IDEXX | Ben Saufley |
| Erica Doyon | Trevor Lyndsay, Waste Management | Jim Silva, Hancock Lumber |
| Guy Doyon, Hancock Lumber | Bob McDonald, Waste Management | Mike Smith, Northern Utilities |
| Michelle Draghetti, IDEXX | William Mann, Fleet Bank of Maine | Albert F. Stutts, Jr. |
| Matt Draghetti, IDEXX | Everett Mailman | Jeff Taylor, Waste Management of Maine |
| Jill Duson, Northern Utilities | Richard Martel | Lisa Taylor, IDEXX |
| Jodi Fay, IDEXX | Fred Masil | Pete Trask, Mike Pinard Construction |
| Bill Files, Southern Maine Technical College | Hervin McKay, Waste Management | J.D. Updike, Portland International Jetport |
| Jim Folland | Bruce Moore, Mark Stimson | Tim Welch |
| Jim Giguere, Finished Works Carpentry | Jan Moore, Mark Stimson | Janice Welch |
| Tom Hammond, Hancock Lumber | Dave Pierson, Attorney at Law | Jeremie Welch |
| Geoff Har | Mike Pinard, Mike Pinard Construction | Patrick Williams, Maine Healthcare Association |
| Don Heill, Waste Management | Dale Plante | Sue Williams, SAD 51 |



Christmas in April ★ Greater Portland

1998 Annual Report

1998:A Rebuilding Year

Every year is a rebuilding year for Christmas in April, but an organizational hiatus made 1998 a year of particular renewal and rebuilding for Maine's only chapter of this national program. As a rebuilding year, our goals in 1998 might have been small or inconsequential. To the contrary, Christmas in April★Greater Portland, combining the generous gifts of our sponsors and the untold hours of labor by skilled tradespeople and other volunteers, made repairs to eight area homes, a local record. The repairs were valued at more than \$75,000.

An effort like this cannot happen without the labors of many giving people and organizations. Our Board of Directors demonstrated commitment, energy and ability in ample quantities. This board did not encounter problems, only temporary challenges. I thank each of them and their respective organizations for bringing those talents to bear on behalf of Christmas in April homeowners.

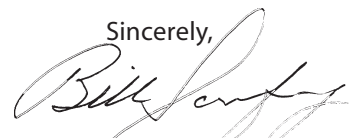
A revitalization effort would have been a nonstarter without the critical financial support of our sponsors and other contributors. As we put together our plan in 1997, some of Greater Portland's leading businesses stepped forward to make it all possible. Home Depot, a major corporate sponsor of Christmas in April nationwide, deserves special recognition for an extraordinary gift and discounts in our comeback year. Fleet Bank, Northern Utilities and Waste Management fully underwrote entire homes, and Mark Stimson Realtors and Peoples Heritage Bank joined as co-sponsors for another.



Skilled contractors, carpenters, electricians and plumbers, as well as other tradespeople, played a crucial role in evaluation and planning, preparation, and orchestration of Rebuilding Day. For many, their sacrifice and contributions extended for weeks before and after that Saturday. The results reflect their craftsmanship and commitment.

Finally, what can be said about the dozens of other volunteers who selflessly gathered under our tent on a rainy and windswept Saturday morning, venturing forward to sites from North Yarmouth to South Portland? Thanks to you, there's a sound new roof for one woman, an entire heating system for another family, wheelchair access for two families, and a dangerous stairway was replaced for an elderly couple. New paint, new doors, and perhaps new hope for some of our neighbors.

Thank you all once more. I hope to see you all back again on April 24, 1999!

Sincerely,

William E. Saufley, Esq.

“Our company and associates welcomed the opportunity to participate...to give something back to our community.”

Mark Stimson
Mark Stimson Realtors

“It is great to see people and businesses coming out to help someone they don't even know. Thank you so much for your help and caring.”

Low-income woman
with children

“What a wonderful group of caring people... (they) had such a great time working together.”

Elderly client

What is Christmas in April?

Christmas in April is the leading volunteer organization that, in partnership with local communities, rehabilitates the houses of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and disabled, so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety and independence.



After months of planning and preparation, work culminates in a national Rebuilding Day, usually the last Saturday in April. Volunteers from throughout the community join to help their neighbors in the American barnraising tradition.

What is the impact of Christmas in April?

Operating in hundreds of cities and towns, Christmas in April rehabilitated 5,820 homes and nonprofit facilities in 1998 with the volunteer power of over 200,000 men, women and children. The projects were valued at more than \$49 million.

Why are services needed?

Five and a half million low-income homeowners in America are elderly. Over one-third live alone, and 43% spend over 40% of their income on housing. 22% of all Americans are "shelter-poor," meaning they cannot afford basic minimum necessities after paying housing costs. Therein lies the paradox: they have a home but cannot afford to maintain it. With volunteers eager to help, Christmas in April fills a desperate need, revitalizing neighborhoods as well as rehabilitating houses.

Who sponsors Christmas in April?

Funds and materials come from corporations, individuals, civic and labor organizations, foundations, churches, mosques and synagogues interested in our mission. Christmas in April★Greater Portland conducts its own fundraising, and is a nonprofit charity. Donations are tax deductible under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

How are projects selected?

Our House Selection Committee, with input from area social service agencies, housing authorities and religious and civic groups, reviews applications submitted prior to December 25. A selected group of projects are then subject to site review. Final approval is made by the Board of Directors.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Christmas in April relies on donations of time, money, materials and volunteers, both skilled and unskilled, to repair the homes. This year, we will need more than 75 volunteers to work on the homes that will be repaired.

- Anyone over the age of 14 can volunteer their time and talent on Saturday, April 24, 1999

- Local contractors can lend trucks, tools and skilled tradespeople to lead repair projects.

- Area businesses can donate supplies and materials, make contributions and provide teams of volunteers.

- Concerned citizens can make contributions to Christmas In April ★ Greater Portland, a non-profit corporation.

- Your church, community organization, or business can adopt or sponsor a house.

Contact Christmas in April ★Greater Portland at 791-3529 (voicemail), by mail at P.O. Box 18212, Portland, Maine 04112, by e-mail at cinaportland@hotmail.com. See our web page at: <http://members.tripod.com/cinaportland>

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Maine Employers' Mutual Ins. Co.
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