

# Middlebury Community House News

Main Street . Middlebury, Vermont 05753

Fall 2007



Early sketch of the house Horatio Seymour built in 1816

## Mission Statement:

Partners for Middlebury Community House was formed to promote financial support to assist with responsible caretaking and maintenance of the historic home belonging to the citizens of Middlebury.

## Reservations:

The Middlebury Community House is available for meetings, receptions and private parties. Call Pat at 388-2071 to discuss your needs.

## The House - Yesterday & Today

The Community House was fortunate to be included as one of the Non-profits in Addison County to benefit from the United Way's Day of Caring. The need to move some of the plants in our front garden came to light, since they were growing through our historic fence, keeping it moist. The Board of Directors were concerned about the fence rotting and needed to act quickly. We consulted with the Middlebury Garden Club and with Susan Potter Davis from "Creating your Scene". Susan agreed to make the changes to the garden space and suggested as a way to save money that we work with the United Way volunteers. Susan as well as five other volunteers gave their morning to the project, donations were pledged from Agway Farm and Garden Store and from Vermont Natural Ag Products (please see Generous Community on back for list). The Hydrangea were successfully moved and Susan completed the planting of the new garden space within the same day. Note the antique find of the day. Pictured here are some bottles unearthed during our digging new garden space. Diana Bain and "T" Tall found these located near an old cellar hole on the property. We believe the cellar hole was where a carriage barn once stood.

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## Maintenance Continues on The House

A long needed maintenance project has been completed under the direction of Director, Kevin Newton. Contaminated bricks from the basement floor were removed, the floor (in part of the basement) is dirt, bricks had been laid on top of the dirt in the basement. Over time the bricks had absorbed a fuel leak causing an odor in the house at times. The bricks were removed, properly disposed of and the dirt was leveled, covered with heavy plastic and a new concrete floor was poured. The project doesn't show to anyone passing by but our house guests will notice the remarkable difference in the freshness of the house. Thank you Kevin! Job well done.

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## Partners Memberships

Four years ago, as a way of supporting maintenance projects needed on The Middlebury Community House, and as a way to educate community members regarding this historic property. Owned by the people of Middlebury, a Partners organization was formed. The community has been invited to join the Partners for The Middlebury Community House with a \$15 dollar donation per year. We are grateful for the interest shown, but understand a confusion as to when renewals are due. To clarify; yearly renewal time will be in the fall. New membership can be recorded anytime of the year. Newsletters are sent twice a year with a membership form enclosed in both additions. Your memberships and contributions go a long way to preserving this wonderful property.



Two clear bottles in a metal case are less than 2" tall. An amber bottle with cover is almost 4" tall. Does anyone know how these may have been used? Give us a call!

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## Join the Partners

I/We wish to become a Partner for the Middlebury Community House and help maintain the house.

- Annual Membership \$15 (Sign up any time of the year.)
- Renewal \$15 (Recorded in the Fall)
- Additional Contribution is enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: Middlebury Community House Partners  
Mail to: 6 Main Street Middlebury, VT 05753

**Contributions will go directly towards designated house repair.** Partners will receive two newsletters each year with information about the House and updates regarding maintenance projects. A 501 C-3 Organization, your donation is deductible in accordance with the law.

# A Look at Who Uses The Community House

This proved to be a busy summer at the Middlebury Community House; three functions are previewed here.



Left, the MHS Class of 1957 had a morning coffee break as part of their 50th reunion, a nice meeting location, before taking a bus tour of Middlebury. Right, the MUHS Class of 1967 held a catered picnic on the grounds of the Community House followed by a tour of the historic house. Several women from the class recalled a "Tea" held in their honor their Senior year at MUHS.



The National Bank's Horizon Club was invited for a "Tea and Tour" of the Community House in July. Twenty-four members enjoyed learning about the history of the house and how the property is used today. Pat and Lynda held tours while Phyllis Cunningham hosted the refreshments.



## Directors of Middlebury Community House

- Lynda Rheau, President  
*Member at Large \**
- G. Kenneth Perine, Finance  
*President National Bank of Middlebury \**
- James Swift, ESQ.  
*Rep. Swift/Stewart Family \**
- Raymond Churchill  
*Member at Large \**
- Linda Busier  
*President Woman's Club*
- Jessica Liebowitz  
*Rep. President Middlebury College*
- Phyllis Cunningham  
*Regent, DAR*
- Richard Emilo, Clerk  
*Member at Large \**
- Kevin Newton, Bldg./Gds.  
*Member at Large*
- Fletcher Brush  
*Member at Large*

- Staff:**
- Patricia Hornbeck  
*House Director*
  - Mari Quesnel  
*Treasurer*
  - Elizabeth Quesnel  
*Housekeeper*
  - Norm Grenier  
*Maintenance*
- \* Trustees*

## Generous Community

The following people and businesses volunteered time and services during The United Way's Day of Caring:

- Diana Bain
- Liane Barrera
- Stephany Kehoe
- Lynda Rheau
- Roth "T" Tall



*Stephany & Susan, two of the volunteers working on moving the garden.*

- Susan Potter Davis, *Creating Your Scene*
  - Scott Jacobs, *Agway Farm & Garden Store*
  - Robert Foster, *VT Natural Ag Products*
- Thank you to Helen, Kate and staff at the *United Way of A.C.* for making us part of the Day of Caring, and to Pat Hornbeck for supplying lunch to the Volunteers.



We are pleased to have the ongoing volunteer help from Charles Bain with a computer project.

View our newsletter on the website:  
[www.middleburycommunityhouse.org](http://www.middleburycommunityhouse.org)

Your membership shows interest and helps us retain our 501-C3 status. Please join the Partners - today!

This newsletter was published as an introduction to the newly established Partners for the Middlebury Community House. Please consider becoming a supporting partner. Your interest in the Community House can ensure a solid foundation for generations to come. If you want more information please call 802-388-2071. We appreciate your time and any donation you feel able to give.  
A 501-C 3 Corporation, contributions are tax deductible according to the law.