

NHAVA NEWS

Volume 4, Issue 1 January 2001

Upcoming ANNUAL MEETING

Submitted by Dave Coombs

The annual meeting will take place on **Wednesday, January 17th 2001** at the **Holiday Inn, Concord** (directions: I-93 to exit 14; turn west to downtown Concord; at the lights at N Main St turn right; the Holiday Inn is on the right. We'll be in the Bartlett Room).

The meeting begins at **9:00 a.m.** with a **continental breakfast** and **informal networking**. That will be followed by the annual business meeting and the transfer of the gavel.

We'll do some formal networking and then the program committee will lead us in an exercise that will help us get to know ourselves (and each other) much better.

Following the exercise, will be the **annual luncheon** and **recognition ceremony**. Lunch will require a **\$10 donation** and an **RSVP** (see the form on last page). The program will conclude at 1:00. Hope to see you there.

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Board Nominations

The following members are running uncontested for the NHAVA Board Officer positions;

Alexis Walker — President
Deborah Emery-Gigliotti — Vice President
Lois Meredith — Secretary
Deb Cheever — Treasurer
David Coombs — Legislative Liason

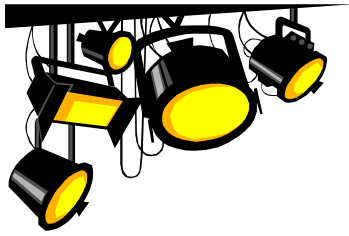
The following 11 members have been nominated for positions on the Board with 10 slots to be filled;

Don Chesnel	Lynn DeVivo
Jean Desany	Dee Martin
Bill Brown	Don Hayes
Sue Raptor	Sherry Wheeler
Cova Greig	Paula Ferguson
Nancy Evans	

*Any questions can be directed to Nancy Evans
Program Associate, 4-H
Youth Development
315 Daniel Webster Hwy
Boscawen, N.H. 03303
Phone: 603/225-5505*

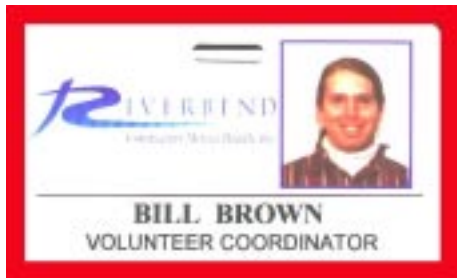
“If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.” - Antoine De Saint-Exupery

Submitted by Bill Brown



Spotlight on Members

The Communications Committee would like to spotlight members in a standing column of the NHAVA News. If you are interested, please send a bio and picture, if possible, at any time during the year and we will place them as room allows. Remember, networking



Bill comes to us from a small Louisiana place in the “sticks”, as they call it, but you’d never know it from his posh demeanor. He’s a well-traveled soul, having hung his hat in haunts from the west coast to the east, from southern Georgia to Saskatchewan. He’s been in the New En-

gland area for the last 5 years, which confirms the mental imbalance that obviously led him to work for Riverbend Community Mental Health running their Volunteer office (and which earned him honorary consumer status from many of their clients). Bill’s knowledge about volunteers comes from years of having been a “professional” one, having served full-time with organizations from Habitat for Humanity to Americorps*VISTA. Handling NHAVA is just one of his many civic duties; he often pays his taxes as well. When he’s not eating caviar at the club he is an aficionado of hiking, dancing and theatre (we’re so surprised).



Public Relations for

Bill shares with us that the year... “1999-2000 has been a productive time for me, working with Riverbend. I’ve written a lucrative grant, added to my staff, created several new programs of mentoring, speaking, tutoring and outdoor projects. In July, I was joined by a new Americorps*VISTA member, who is helping to make Riverbend’s Volunteer Department even busier! In September, we begin the Greenway to Recovery Trip, a consumer hike of the 52-mile Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway Trail.”

Internet Notes Submitted by Donald E. Chesnel

The Internet is a relatively new and very exciting aspect of our everyday lives. It now affects the majority of us in some way and we will certainly become more dependent on it in the years to come. In regards to NHAVA and the many facets of volunteer work and its administration, the Internet can provide us with many valuable ways to help supplement our existing programs. In most areas of the country, you can obtain unlimited Internet

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Committee Reports

Membership Committee

As one year comes to a close and we prepare to welcome 2001, NHAVA membership is still going strong.

Membership renewal envelopes have been sent out to all of our current members. Please try to return them with your check quickly. If your agency is sending a check, ask them to include your name on it there so that it can be applied to the appropriate membership.

Membership in NHAVA is renewed annually in December for the upcoming year. **There is an annual membership fee of \$25 for all members.** Checks should be made out to NHAVA.

If you will be changing jobs soon, please share this newsletter with your co-workers in your current office or workplace as well as bring the opportunity with you to your new work place. The best way we know to keep our organization strong is through your recommendation.

Committees are looking for new members. If you haven't joined a committee yet, check a box on your renewal envelope. There are many tasks to be done to keep us going strong. Share a skill, share your experience, share your resources.



Communications Committee

We in Public Relations (okay, it's pretty much just me) have recently lost our Web Designer volunteer. Paula Forrest was in charge of assimilating all of NHAVA's wonderful suggestions into a comprehensive web site for the future. If you are a competent web page artist, come join us (me) in PR and help get the word out about NHAVA to a whole new population.

If you know someone who can help in this regard, have them contact us (me!).

Bill Brown, Riverbend CMHC
PO Box 2032, Concord, NH 03302
phone: 228-1551 Email: bbrown@riverbendcmhc.org

Mentor Committee

Just a reminder that the mentor program is alive and well. Please contact **Dave Coombs** at 225-6697/800 464-6692 or e-mail coombsd@redcross-concordnh.org to sign up or for more information.



Christmas in April

Submitted by
Deborah Emery-Gigliotti from
<http://www.christmasinapril.org>.

It is hard for many to imagine that there are homeowners in America who have no hot water, no electricity, no indoor plumbing and holes in their walls that are large enough to walk through. It is hard to believe because we consider such unsafe living conditions to be symptomatic of developing nations - not of a nation that is as powerful and advanced as the United States.

Who We Help

Christmas in April provides assistance to people who own their own home but who, because of physical limitation or income, are not able to cover the costs of home repair. Typically, these individuals have a disability and/or are elderly, but low-income families and nonprofit facilities such as schools, shelters and daycare centers are also included.

When We Work

After months of extensive planning and preparation, Christmas in April culminates on National Rebuilding Day, usually the last Saturday in April.

How It Works

Christmas in April takes its cue from the old fashioned idea of "barn raising," with as many as 75 skilled and unskilled volunteers assigned to a particular project. Homeowners are frequently amazed at the sheer number of people who come out to lend them a helping hand. They are even more amazed at the massive amount of work that can be accomplished by caring volunteers in a short period of time!

Why It Works

Christmas in April does more with less. Every dollar spent is leveraged with over \$4 in donated goods and services. It works because it's neighbor-helping-neighbor to build safer and stronger communities.

Who Sponsors Christmas In April?

Funds come from corporations, individuals, labor organizations, foundations, civic organizations and religious organizations interested in helping build a better community.

How Widespread Is The Christmas In April Program?

There are presently 245 affiliates serving over 720 cities and towns across the country. The vast majority of affiliates go by the name "Christmas in April," but a couple are "Christmas in May," "Christmas in July" and "Christmas in October."

How Are Homeowners Selected?

The selection process takes place locally. Qualified homeowners are low-income, elderly or disabled, and unable to make the needed repairs themselves. Referrals come from a variety of sources including nonprofit agencies, police departments, social service organizations, churches, synagogues and individuals.

Is Christmas In April Affiliated With A Particular Church Or Religion?

No. The program embraces all people: all faiths, walks of life, racial and ethnic groups, ages and sexes.

Is There A Charge For Christmas In April's Services?

No. All repairs are free. Our work is done with families, not for them. Homeowners and family members are asked to participate as extensively as possible in the rehabilitation of their house.

How Can I Start A Christmas In April Program?

Christmas in April is a nationally trademarked organization. Anyone interested in organizing a Christmas in April program should contact Christmas in April ★ USA at (202) 483-9083 or (800) 4-REHAB-9 to request further information.

How Can I Contact Christmas In April?

Contact us at:
Christmas in April
★ USA
1536 16th Street,
NW
Washington, DC
20036-1402
Toll Free: 1 (800)
473-4229
Telephone: (202)
483-9083
Fax: (202)483-9081



NHAVA Membership Meeting

Minutes of October 25, 2000
Elliot Hospital, Manchester, NH

The Treasurer's Report: There is an account balance of \$2,640.98. The report was accepted by the membership. NHAVA's Board will develop next year's budget at their December meeting to be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Secretary's Report: Minutes are always available for member review.

Membership Committee Report: Visitors were invited as guests to attend today's meeting for an introduction to NHAVA. It was suggested that they join at the January meeting. Maureen Skelly indicated a total of 95 members, and she encouraged members to pass out NHAVA flyers to get new people involved.

Legislative Committee Report: Don Chesnel explained that the April 2001 membership meeting program will be a breakfast gathering with a speaker followed by a tour of the State House, and an invitation to attend a committee hearing. The next Legislative Committee meeting is January 12.

Communications Committee Report: Deborah Emery-Gigliotti thanked committee members for a great job on the newsletter and indicated that the content is a reflection of member input. She asked that items about volunteer coordinators and their projects be sent on an ongoing basis via the NHAVA e-mail or by snail-mail.

Public Relations Committee Report: Bill Brown is looking for help on the PR

Committee. He'd also appreciate ideas from members on subjects and types of news articles to promote NHAVA and volunteerism.

Bill highlighted the use of a webpage as an excellent, and free, public relations and membership tool, and a link to appropriate venues such as AMA and NH non-profits. Re. the webpage, Bill is looking for ideas to include. Currently, the web site can be accessed at *angelfire.com*. Members indicated their feeling that it would pay to purchase a domain name with NHAVA in it.

Program Committee Report: Alexis began by encouraging members to talk with those who work with volunteer software such as Volunteer Works by Redridge, RSVP Reporter, and Fall Trax.

The January Annual Meeting program was to feature guest speaker Bonnie Jennings Steele from Stamford Hospital in Connecticut. She is President Elect of the American Hospital Association. The topic will be on marketing volunteer programs. However, Ms. Steele has since cancelled. See updated information on the program elsewhere in this newsletter.

Miscellaneous:

Dave Coombs is the person to see if members are interested in being a mentor or in being mentored.

Nomination forms and volunteer service descriptions for election of new officers were made available. Members may nominate themselves or someone else.

Donna attended a Conference of New England Association of Directors of Healthcare Volunteer Services. There may be a collaborative meeting opportunity with the Association next year.

Mark Your Calendar



Next Membership Meeting

Jan. 17, 2001
Annual Meeting

Apr. 26, 2001
Legislative Day

July 25, 2001

Oct. 25, 2001

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Legislative Day for NHAVA Members

Submitted by the Legislative Committee

Circle your calendar right now for Thursday, **April 26, 2001** for an exciting NHAVA program. Learn how you, an individual, can influence legislation in New Hampshire. Learn the process and observe it in action. Your only cost for the day will be lunch on your own.

We are pleased to sponsor this program. This is the plan for the Day:

Location: Holiday Inn, Concord

8:30 - 9:15 Buffet Breakfast

9:30 - 10:00 Speaker: How to influence the Making and Changing of NH Laws.

10:00 - What to expect at a committee meeting/hearing

Location: Legislative Office Building (a few blocks from the Holiday Inn)

10:15 Choose one or more committee meetings/hearings to attend. You will be given a list.

Lunch on your own (There is a selection of restaurants nearby or brown bag it.)

Location: State House

TBA = Tour of the State House especially for NHAVA and the Circle of Home and Family

Afternoon - You are encouraged to go to the State Library (across the street from the State House) to look at the extensive collection of books and tapes related to volunteerism. These books are available through your local library's intrastate loan system. *OR*, You may attend more committee meetings/hearings.

We hope to see you all taking advantage of this interesting Legislative Day event.

Minutes of October 25, 2000

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A request was made to send address changes to the NHAVA e-mail address.

Program: After formal networking, the business meeting was adjourned. Members broke into five groups for peer presentations and evaluations in line with NHAVA's mission to provide education, networking, and recognition opportunities for members. The presenters and programs included:

- 1) **Norah Sutton:** Facts Important to a Volunteer Program, based on her experience at Hunt Community.
- 2) **Bill Brown:** Public Relation Innovations: Tools for PR
- 3) **Jean Desany:** Finding Bunches of Volunteers; bring together non-profits and service groups to form partnerships
- 4) **Alexis Walker:** Volunteer NH!
- 5) **Deborah Emery-Gigliotti:** Special Events

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Churchill, Secretary

access for an average monthly fee of \$20.00 to \$25.00. There are even free services now available. Here are a few suggestions, ideas and comments on this subject:

Internet Notes - *Continued from page 2*

E-Mail: As the majority of you realize, E-mail is an instantaneous way to communicate with Municipal Representatives, State / Federal Legislators / officials in the volunteer world, NHAVA Members and numerous State Agencies. Messages and memo attachments, pictures, etc. can be sent instantly to anyone with a valid e-mail address. Most State Legislators and Government Officials are now on line and have e

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mail addresses. E-mail is provided as part of virtually every Internet Service and there are some programs available such as "Juno E-mail" which do not require you to have
Internet Notes - Continued from page 6

Internet access. However, you may be charged by the phone company for a toll call if you're not within reach of one of the numbers provided by the service. You need to check this out carefully to ensure you're dialing a local number for Internet access or for using an e mail service. This can get very expensive if you're not paying attention!

Local/State/Federal Websites: As volunteer administrators, we need to keep up to date on many aspects of what is going on in our State Government and the volunteer world. Almost every State Legislature in the country and many Local, State and Government Agencies are now "On Line". The US House of Representatives and the Senate are "plugged in" with their own web sites. These pages contain a vast amount of information, personnel directories, direct links to Legislators, impending Legislation, copies of completed Legislation, copies of State Laws, Charters, historical items, e mail

Suggested Websites to Visit

NH State Govt. Website	http://www.state.nh.us
Project Vote Smart	http://www.vote-smart.org/ce
US Congress	http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/index.html
Voter Information Services	http://www.vis.org
Hot Links to Govt./Legal Sites	http://www.lee.edu/adminis/pres/library/gov.html
Campaigns/Elections Info	http://www.campaignline.com
Voter.com (State Info)	http://www.voter.com
GuideStar (501C3 site)	http://www.guidestar.org

addresses, phone numbers, etc. If you have Internet access, you may want to visit the following websites and pages as examples of various types of information and access available. Please make sure you check out New Hampshire's site, it will provide you with access to many, many sources of information.

"Search Engines": Most Internet providers have a "Home" Page with many features. These "Home" Pages are a starting point to travel through or to "Surf" the Internet. Almost every "Home" Page has what is known as a "Search" feature, (sometimes referred to as a "Search Engine") which can be used by inserting what is known as a "Keyword". For example, you could enter a word such as "Legislature" or "State Legislature", etc., press or click on the "Search" button and you will be instantly provided with Websites that have the "Keyword" listed in them. You can also narrow your search by adding additional words related to the subject matter. "Search Engines" can be extremely useful in locating a specific item very quickly on the Internet.

"Volunteer" Websites: A Website involved with "America's Promise-The Alliance for Youth" and many other volunteer efforts that you can visit on the web and register

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your organization is: SERVENET (Youth Service America) <http://www.servenet.org>. Also visit: Action Without Borders at: <http://www.idealists.org>. This is a huge Volunteer **Internet Notes** - *Continued from page 7*

Site with over 15,000 Organizations listed. Register your organization for free. This is a great resource center for interfacing with other volunteer groups and for networking our organization with many other nonprofit volunteer groups. As an example of a local volunteer page, visit New Hampshire's AmeriCorps site is located on the net as follows: <http://webster.state.nh.us/ameriCorps> .

Closing Thoughts: Please keep in mind that while the Internet can provide us with a wealth of information, knowledge and instant communications access to many people involved with volunteer work and its administration, sometimes the situation at hand can be handled best by employing "old fashioned" methods, such as formal letters sent via the conventional mail or phone calls and "face to face" contact. In spite of all the electronic advances available to us in this day and age, sometimes the personal touch still works best - use your best judgment when evaluating the situation. Perhaps a blend of the "old" and the "new" will be a winning combination to ensure your program is operating at it's peak efficiency!

Note: Although I don't consider myself a computer "geek", I have been online for about 4 years, and have worked with my daughter Tina and her husband Ed (who are computer geeks) on developing a website for the NH State Elks. They have taught me a lot of things about the Internet. I would be glad to discuss my thoughts and experiences on Internet use, research, etc. If you have ideas, knowledge of this subject, etc., I would be very pleased to hear from you. I am certain there are other people involved with volunteerism and internet use who are exploring and learning various aspects of this new field. If you would like to contact me, I can be reached at dches@concentric.net

Visit the NH State Elks Website at: <http://www.StateNH.com/nhelks>

VolunteerMatch Website

Submitted by Trish Churchill

VolunteerMatch is a nonprofit Internet service dedicated to helping your organization with its volunteer recruiting efforts. VolunteerMatch has introduced nearly 300,000 volunteers to more than 11,000 nonprofits nationwide, giving their web stie (<http://www.volunteermatch.org>) the Internet's largest database of current volunteer opportunities. To simplify your volunteer recruiting efforts, become a member of VolunteerMatch today.

To Register:

- 1) Go to [Http://www.volunteermatch.org/post](http://www.volunteermatch.org/post) and click on "Sign up."
- 2) Enter information about yourself as the administrator.
- 3) Enter your organization's contact information, Employment Identification Number (EIN), mission statement, description, and link to your website.
- 4) Add your volunteer opportunities.

**DIRECTIONS TO NHAVA MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17, 2001
AT THE HOLIDAY INN, CONCORD, NH

I93 NORTH & SOUTH at Exit 14:

I-93 to exit 14; turn west to downtown Concord; at the lights at N Main St turn right; the Holiday Inn is on the right. (We'll be in the Bartlett Room).

From the Seacoast:

From Route 393, to lights at end. Turn left onto North Main Street. Pass through 2 lights, turn left onto Storrs Street - Holiday Inn is on corner of Main and Storrs. Extra parking is on Storrs Street, behind the Holiday Inn.

From the West:

Take Highway 89 to I93 NORTH, follow above directions from Exit 14.



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*Please note the deadline
for submission to the
**April 2001 NHAVA News is
March 5, 2001.***

*Email all correspondence to the
NHAVA email address or
"snail mail" it to the ad-
dress to the right.*

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Email: tchurchill@sphf.org

Treasurer Debbie Cheever

Phone: 603/225-5505

Email: Deborah.Cheever@UNH.edu

Please RSVP for the **Annual Meeting,**
January 17, 2001 at \$10 per person.

Attach list of more names, if needed.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Enclosed please find a check made payable to NHAVA in the amount of \$_____ as a donation for the NHAVA Annual Meeting of Jan. 17, 2001.

Send check and this form to: Deb Cheever, UNH Cooperative Extension, 315 Daniel Webster Highway, Boscawen, NH 03303.

NHAVA Meeting
April 26, 2001
Legislative Day
SIGN UP NOW!

Please send this information by mail, fax, or email to:

Sue Rapter, Volunteer Coord.

NH Hospital

36 Clinton Street

concord, NH 03301

FAX: (603)271-5962

Email: srapter@dhhs.state.nh.us

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**PRE-REGISTRATION
IS REQUIRED.**

Please complete the above forms IMMEDIATELY and forward them to the correct person. - Thanks.

NHAVA
PO Box 3364
Concord, NH
03302-3364

