



the house news

Fall 2016



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5th Annual Golf Scramble

We enjoyed a beautiful afternoon on the golf course at Nonesuch River Golf Club in Scarborough on Friday, September 16th as many of our friends and supporters joined us for our 5th annual "Montgomery Classic" golf scramble fundraiser. We are very appreciative of all of the golfers, sponsors and contributors who support this event and have helped us continue to steadily grow our golf scramble! This year we had the largest number of sponsors (11) and teams (9) in our 5 years of hosting this important fundraiser. Our 2016 sponsors included:

- Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution (Gift Bag Sponsor)
- Acme Body Shop, Inc.
- Communications Technology
- Hutchins Trucking
- Ion Networking
- Medical Billing Solutions & Consulting
- Ocean Communities Credit Union
- PrintMail of Maine
- Season's Event & Conference Center
- Saco Valley Credit Union
- Town & Country Federal Credit Union

Congratulations to the 1st place team of Brendan Poutre, Bill Poutre and Troy Johnson, whose names will be engraved on our Montgomery Classic Champions trophy for 2016 and won \$100.00 clubhouse certificates! Finishing a close second was Jack Adamo, Tommy Kane, Burke O'Brien and Mike Chipman. Our sincere thanks to each team that participated and we hope you will join us again next year!

We also want to congratulate Louise Trask for being the winner of our closest to the pin contest, her tee shot came to rest 9 feet 4 inches from going in the hole! Bill Poutre won our longest drive contest, one of many terrific shots he hit during the afternoon!

Each golfer had a shot at \$10,000.00 for a hole in one but no one was able to cash that in this year. George Lee's name was drawn (out of 6 golfers who made a qualifying putt) to take our putt for the cash (a 50 foot putt for \$2,500.00). He very nearly drained it, missing by little more than a foot but still taking home a set of 12 Titleist Pro V1 golf balls! Other golfers took home door prizes and we all gathered for a cookout after our round of golf. Thank you to our volunteers Herb and Doreen Blake Sr., Bob and Gail Joyce and Tommy D. for helping us during the event and also taking some great on course pictures. We look forward to next year as we anticipate continuing to expand



this event and continue to raise much needed funds for men in recovery! Please consider joining us in September 2017.

THE DIRECTOR'S TAKE



The name Norbert Sudhaus is not well known around the world but on one September day in 1972, he experienced a fleeting moment of fame and exhilaration.

The moment took place in the 1972 Summer Olympics in

Munich, West Germany at the end of the marathon race. Norbert, a German student, donned running shorts and a tank top and somehow eluded the notice of race officials as he ran into the Olympic stadium appearing to be on his way to the gold medal in the men's marathon!

It was only moments, before race commentators and officials realized that he was an imposter. The BBC commentator calling

the race, realizing that something was amiss, uttered these words, "This is puzzling, this man is not in the program and he looks as fresh as a buttercup"! The momentary rush of the collective ovation and cheering of the fans in the arena was quickly overtaken by booing as many began to realize that this man was not an Olympian and had only run the last quarter mile of the race. What was meant to be a gag turned into a moment of infamy frozen in time when authorities detained him as he angled off the track. The real gold medalist, American Frank Shorter had entered the stadium while Norbert was still circling the track and he shared afterward that it took him a moment to realize why some of the fans were booing as he had entered.

It has often been said that there are no shortcuts to any meaningful accomplishment. This statement holds true in the world of recovery; it can be a painstaking journey to sobriety. If shortcuts are taken, results will be at best temporary and short-lived. Many have found truth in the statement from the

AA Big Book, "Half measures availed us nothing".

Shortcuts, as in the case of Norbert Sudhaus, may give the appearance of success for a small period of time but reality soon catches up and things come crashing down. It takes brutal honesty on the road to recovery, both with oneself and in dealing with the wreckage that has been caused along the way. It also takes great courage to begin to take steps toward sobriety, addressing the many challenges in the present that have piled up because of alcoholism and/or drug addiction. Challenges that may include physical and mental health problems, legal issues, fines/restitution, lost driver's licenses, homelessness, loss of jobs/work challenges and broken relationships.

These are just some of the many hurdles they may be facing as they begin the road to recovery. As you can imagine, this can lead to a sense of hopelessness. At Friendship House, we provide safe housing, support, guidance, accountability and a message of great Hope as men take their first steps toward a new life! "No one whose hope is in You will ever be put to shame" (Psalm 25:3).

Along with our friends and supporters, we celebrate the successes and milestones that our residents achieve. We are very thankful for all of your prayers, donations, support of our fundraisers, meals prepared and the generous financial support that you provide, which continue to impact the lives of men here! I wish you a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season!

Sincerely, Herb

MOMENT WITH THE MANAGEMENT

Hello dear friends and supporters.... There is so much to be grateful for! Yes, even in spite of all the negative news you catch around our world as of late. I dare say, attitude and outlook combine to make a great counterstrike against the plan of our adversary and his mission. There are so many people who see no purpose in life yet keep trying to get off the canvas, only to be knocked back down because of no hope! Herb and I find a never ending spew of self-defeating messages that are at work in most recovery patients who relapse. What does one do to combat this, you might ask? Someone must shine a light in a dark place. Each and every one of us has been sent an invitation to an abundant life. But many don't seem to find life all that exciting and they really can't wrap their head around this lovely gift. Can you imagine? Enter the Spirit of God! He wants to impart a transformation in us. At Friendship House, we work to help change our residents outlook on life and help them make a positive attitude adjustment. The men are given the chance to hear these life changing messages. They hear that they are loved no matter what or how far down the scale they have gone. They relearn how valuable work



becomes because of its great social interactions with others. Most importantly, they learn they are never alone in this fight, if they are wise and choose not to be. So we try to help them see the importance of turning it over to God. They learn that they are powerless to stop addiction and alcoholism. I want to say to all of you who support our mission here at Friendship House, THANK YOU! Because of you, God's light is allowed to shine and the gift of life is awakened. God bless all of you!

Yours truly, Bob J.

Our Fall Wish List!

(Thank you to all who made donations from our Summer Wish List, it was greatly appreciated)

- Household Cleaners
- Dishwasher Detergent Packs
- Hand Soaps, Sanitizer
- Kitchen Towels
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels and Toilet Tissue
- Sweatshirts, Hoodies
- Purpose Driven Life Books (New or Used)
- Work Gloves, Steel Toe Boots
- Laptop Computer for Resident Work-space

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Thank you to **Saco Valley Credit Union** for your generous donation through **the Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending Hunger**
- Thank you to **Portland Christian Church (Pastor Don Drake)** for your generous missions donation
- Thank you to **Trinity Lutheran Church** in Westbrook (**Pastor Karen Indorf**) for your generous designated special offering
- Thank you to **The Episcopal Church of St. Mary (The Reverend Nathan Ferrell)** for your generous donation of canned goods and food items
- Thank you to **Kim McAvinchey, Kris Phillips** and **Cheryl Scheinberg** for your generous donation **in memory of your father, Rodman Holmes**, we extend our sincere condolences to you all
- Thank you to **Alan and Sue Twombly** for your generous donation of cleaning supplies, household goods and hygiene items
- Thank you to **Carmen Goodglass** for providing the delicious lasagna dinner for our residents
- Thank you to **all of our friends and supporters** who made donations of items from our Summer Wish List
- Thank you to **Covenant Family Fellowship** for your generous monthly support
- Thank you to **all of our supporters who make monthly or quarterly donations**, you are greatly appreciated
- A special thanks to the following churches and individuals who continue to **provide delicious monthly meals and donations of household items**:
 - **First Parish Congregational Church UCC** (116 Main St, Yarmouth)
 - **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** (396 Gilman Rd, Yarmouth)
 - **Trinity Lutheran Church** (612 Main St, Westbrook)
 - **Congregation Bet Ha'am** (81 Westbrook St, South Portland)
 - **Holy Martyrs' Parish** (266 Foreside Rd, Falmouth)
 - **Emmaus Lutheran Church** (265 Middle Rd, Falmouth)
 - **Robin Goodwin**

2017 Banquet/Silent Auction

We have already begun preparation for our annual banquet/silent auction scheduled for Friday, March 31 at Seasons Event & Conference Center. This is a night we look forward to throughout the year, as friends and supporters gather to enjoy a fun and relaxing evening which includes a delicious buffet meal, testimonials and a silent auction with a wide variety of great items and services to bid on! **There are 3 major ways that you can participate/support this event:**

- (1) **PLAN ON ATTENDING** (If you have not yet joined us, please consider coming this year, you will have a fantastic evening)
- (2) **Sponsor a Table/Tables** (Cost is \$250.00 per table of 8, you can invite friends/family members to join you

for an enjoyable night)

- (3) **Donate an Item/Items for the Silent Auction** (Item examples: gift cards, certificates for services, tickets, jewelry, artwork)

In past years, individuals, businesses, churches, etc. have sponsored tables and invited family and friends, coworkers, fellow church members for an unforgettable evening! Look for the banquet/silent auction article in our winter newsletter (sent near the end of January) for more details and updates. We are hopeful that everyone who attended last year will join us once again and that we will have many that will plan on attending for the first time. Circle the calendar for March 31, 2017. Contact Herb 767-7403 with any questions or to express your intention to attend!

Around the Woodpile

Thank you to all of the men from Royal Ridge Church of God who came to Friendship House on Saturday, September 10th and helped us cut, split and stack wood. In 3-4 hours the entire yard full of wood was organized and readied for our upcoming heating season! We begin our splitting and stacking in late spring, preparing for the beginning of November when our Wood Dr. heating

unit is fired back up and used through the end of March/early April. All of our residents participate in this year round process of keeping the Wood Dr. fed and running during heating season and preparing for the year ahead. Thank you to all of our friends at Royal Ridge for all of your service, prayers and efforts on behalf of our house!

Service with a Smile

All of us here at Friendship House would like to thank Pastor Bob and Cindy Gustavson and all of the members of Emmaus Lutheran Church for the wonderful cookout you put on for us here at the house on Sunday, September 11th. It was a tremendous spread, from the delicious grilled hamburg-

ers and hot dogs, to the wide variety of salads, casseroles and desserts! Our residents were eating the leftovers for several days. Our residents enjoyed spending time with you, as well as the fantastic food. We greatly appreciate all of your service, prayers and friendship over the years!





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INSIDE: The latest news and changes at Friendship House

Friendship House began in 1985 when founder, Louise Montgomery, felt the Lord directing her to open a home for the homeless.

Friendship House, Inc. is a non-profit organization, governed by members of a volunteer Board of Directors who are committed to helping men in need by providing shelter and a warm family atmosphere for them in which to grow physically, emotionally and spiritually.



AS BILL SEES IT

Bill Wilson was one of the co-founders of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). The articles selected are from his book, "The AA Way Of Life" published in 1967.

"Too much of my life has been spent in dwelling upon the faults of others. This is a most subtle and perverse form of self-satisfaction, which permits us to remain comfortably unaware of our own defects. Too often we are heard to say, 'If it weren't for him (or her), how happy I'd be!'"

FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

OUR MISSION

To express the love of God through Christ to the poor and disadvantaged, by providing a safe home where hope and healing are extended to those who are broken spiritually, emotionally or physically.

Board of Directors

Ron Nevers - President
Dave Quigley
Ralph Blumenthal
Scott Garland
David Smallwood

Ex Officio

Sidney St. Felix Thaxter

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