

UNDER THE BRIDGE

Newsletter for Last House On The Block Society



February 2014

Welcome to the second issue of Under The Bridge, the newsletter for Last House on the Block Society. There have been some minor changes to the format and the content of the newsletter. We've added this section, the Editorial, as well as a Calendar of Community Events, and more info on the Board of Directors.

We also have a section in the newsletter for personal stories and/or articles. Last month's piece was written by me and was based on my own personal struggle in early recovery. We do not have anything in that section for this month and we do encourage our readers to submit their own stories or articles. So if you have a story about life under the bridge or on the streets or if you are working or volunteering in this field, we'd like to hear from you.

Submissions should be addressed to:

Last House on the Block Society, 38 Trentonian Lane, Dartmouth, NS B2W 0C4.

You may also email them to us at : lasthouseontheblock@outlook.com

I know when I was living under the bridge, I did not own a typewriter and I would not have been able to purchase an envelope or a stamp. Don't let that stop you. Find a way to contact us and we will write your story for you.

Letters To The Editor

For 18 years I was not able to enjoy Christmas. I had recovered from my own alcoholism, had met a wonderful husband, was again experiencing the love of my children, and had a fulfilling career in personal care of seniors, yet still there was something missing. My mother had passed away 18 years ago, in December, and I could not overcome the negative feelings of not having my mother around at Christmas. Then I became involved with Last House on the Block Society and the Scarf Project. The making and giving of these scarves to others has put the joy back into Christmas for me.

Submitted by: Nancy Schultz - Founding Director, Last House on the Block Society.

SANTA UNDER THE BRIDGE (reprinted from last issue)

Our first project was the making of hand-knitted Diversity Scarves which could be donated to persons in recovery.

These scarves are fashioned from 3 different colors, from odds and ends and discarded bundles of wool which, when combined, become a creation of beauty and warmth. Each scarf is unique and can be worn by any gender, from any fellowship, thereby symbolizing that although we are each unique, our diversity only enhances our beauty.

Winters in Halifax and Dartmouth can be harsh and even more so for those who wander the streets seeking shelter from the storms.

A committee of volunteer knitters was formed and managed to knit 40 scarves within the months of November and December. 11 scarves were donated as xmas gifts to Margeurite Center, a longterm facility for women in recovery from addictions and abuse. 16 scarves were donated to Direction 180, a community outreach for methadone clients, 12 scarves were donated to a xmas event for members of Alcoholics Anonymous, and the remaining scarves were donated to a xmas event for members of Narcotics Anonymous. For this last event, we also made some junior-sized scarves as gifts for their children. As well, we donated 60 pairs of socks to Freedom Foundation of NS, a transition home for men in recovery from addictions.

The project was dubbed Santa Under The Bridge and we plan to continue it as an annual event.

If you are interested in becoming involved in this or any new projects, please drop us an email at

lasthouseontheblock@outlook.com

About Us

Last House on the Block Society is a non-profit organization that provides community outreach and/or information services to men and women in recovery from addictions to alcohol, drugs and gambling.

By directing persons in recovery to treatment services, self-help meetings, life skills, leisure activities, training and employment agencies, and by offering them support and encouragement, we hope to help them build a positive self-image so that they may re-integrate back into society.

Whenever possible, we will donate items of clothing to persons in recovery from addictions.

Board of Directors

					
Bernie	Larry	Nancy	Heather	Harold	Deanna

How to Contact Us

Our mailing address is:

38 Trentonian Lane, Woodlawn Village, Dartmouth. NS, B2W 0C4

Check out our website:

<http://lasthouseontheblocksociety.weebly.com>

Like our facebook page:

www.facebook.com/LastHouseOnTheBlockSociety

or become a member of our facebook group:

www.facebook.com/groups/lasthouseontheblocksociety

Follow us on Twitter @lasthouseonthebloc

or just send us an email and ask a question:

lasthouseontheblock@outlook.com

Submissions for Under The Bridge should be sent to the Editor, either by mail or email to the address above.

How To Get Involved

There are different ways to help with Last House On The Block Society.

You can donate money or items (as many of you do). Please visit our website for info on how to donate. You can be one of our knitters (if knitting or crocheting is your thing). You can volunteer for fundraising events by getting on the fund-raising committee. Or if you'd like to be directly involved in the decision-making process, you can make application to serve on our voluntary board of directors. Its a two-year term. We currently have 6 board members which is enough to operate the society, although our full complement is 11 board members. If you are in recovery from an addiction, we would prefer one year clean or sober.

Calendar Of Community Events

What	When	Where	Why
Midwinter AA Roundup *Registration - \$25 Banquet - \$35	Holiday Inn Wyse Road - Dartmouth	Friday February 28 – Sunday March 2	Annual celebration of fellowship and sobriety for members of AA, Al-Anon and friends.

If your organization has an event you'd like to have listed here, please email us the information.

Copyright 2014 Last House On The Block Society, 38 Trentonian Lane, Dartmouth, NS B2W 0C4.

For email subscription: lasthouseontheblock@outlook.com