



Homes Available

Fletcher: Share a home with an independent, outgoing man in his 70s who loves to travel, cook and meet new people. Help bring in firewood and walk the dog. Private bath and furnished bed. Postcard views! \$300/month (all included).

Hinesburg: Share a home with a young family interested in mindfulness, meditation, yoga and creative endeavors. Seeking a housemate who will be a part of the family. \$300/month; shared light housekeeping.

Middlebury: Pay no rent in exchange for providing evening companionship (flexible schedule) and overnight presence for senior man interested in history & politics. Familiarity with memory loss a plus.

So. Burlington: Share an apartment with an upbeat, active woman in her 30s with Down syndrome. Pay no rent (small share of utilities) in exchange for 15 hours/week of support, including some companionship, 2-3 meals together per week, and encouraging healthy lifestyle choices.

Williston: Share a home with a lively, talkative man in his 80s who loves fixing things around the house. In exchange for a reduced rent, provide evening conversation and companionship, cook 3 meals each week, and share the basic housekeeping. Sorry, no pets.

And More.....Call us!

Other homes available in Addison, Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle counties

THREE'S Company IN WINOOSKI

Alyce who just celebrated her 90th birthday in her Winoooski home, is a talkative French Canadian mother of six, with over 50 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Alyce worked part-time as a caregiver well into her 80s, and was very active with the Genealogical Society and the Historical Society. She even wrote a book about her own family history tracing their Winoooski roots back to 1881!

At the age of 83, she contacted HomeShare Vermont wanting to share her home to help someone who needed an affordable place to live. She chose to work with HomeShare Vermont for the benefit of the screening and background checks. Alyce is visually impaired and has had some health scares, so she was also interested in having some help around the house and yard, as well as a minimal amount of rent—just enough to cover the cost of her weekly bingo games!

Seven years later, Alyce shares her home with two unrelated housemates. Nabil, a 27-year-old man from Morocco, has shared her home for 4 ½ years. When he applied to HomeShare Vermont, he was new to the United States, having moved



Photo by Karen Pike

Nabil, Alyce, and Liliane

here in hopes of more opportunity to support his family back home. He works hard at

.....
"I would not be able to stay at home without them. They're a big help and I'm glad to have them here."—Alyce
.....

a local hotel and restaurant, but devotes part of each day to Alyce. Companionship with Alyce has also helped him with his goal of improving his English skills.

Six months ago, Alyce decided she liked the idea of having another woman in the house, and we introduced her to 24-year-old Liliane, a

refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Liliane has experienced many hardships, yet her positive, kind, and determined spirit endures. Like Nabil, Liliane works hard in her jobs, in addition to attending school. Her goal is to save enough money to support herself through nursing school.

Together Nabil and Liliane provide transportation, companionship, a protective presence, and help around the home. At the same time, Alyce likes providing them affordable housing. Best of all, homesharing has created a caring bond between three wonderful people. ▶



HomeShare Happenings

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Meet Manya



Manya Dickinson

At the HomeShare Annual Meeting, the board of directors elected Manya Dickinson of Middlebury for a three year term. As a retired special education teacher of 24 years, her people skills are a great fit with HomeShare Vermont. Manya has been a staff volunteer with HomeShare for the past six years helping to make great matches in Addison County. Now we are thrilled to have her join the board.

And the Winner Is...

In January 28, 2015 the wait to learn who would be the winners of this year's Inns Raffle was over. A potluck for the board and staff was held here at our offices during which a fun Academy Award themed celebration ensued. Participation of board members in the sales of tickets was recognized and tickets were drawn. Special "Oscars" were presented to board members who sold 50 or more tickets. Recently retired Board member, Julie Burger Pierson, was recognized with a "Lifetime Achievement Award" for selling thousands of tickets over her tenure with HomeShare. This year the sales of 1,300 raffle tickets raised over \$10,000 for us. Thanks to everyone who sold or bought tickets.



Phil Fiermonte and Estelle Deane take turns drawing winning tickets.

Below are the lucky winners and the marvelous inns who participated this year. Many thanks go to the Innkeepers who so generously donated overnights. Please think of these Inns for your Vermont vacations or when you have friends visit.

WINNER

Ann & Seth Waller

Helen MacAndrews

Anne Eberle

Jane Deubler

Scott Baldwin

Margaret Pond

Dan Stoddard

Lorraine Welch

Katherine Snelson

Constance Kenna

Bert Cicchetti

Stewart Pierson

Candace Page

Adina Panitch

Brian Reed

Christine Sumner

Helen Head

Susan Wood

Pamela Burger

Katherine Hutchinson

Karen Eddy

Carl Bohlen

Richard Pierson

Maureen Scott

Mark Gilbert

Maureen Pidgeon

Vicky Smith

Marian Fritz

Phil Fiermonte

Isabelle Hayes

INN

Adams Landing B & B

Arlington Inn

Back Inn Time B & B

Blueberry Hill Inn

Brandon Inn

Catamount B & B

Charleston House

Charleston House

Couture's Maple Shop & B & B

Crescent Bay Farm B & B

Dorset Inn

Echo Lake Inn

Ferry Watch Inn

Firefly B & B

Firefly B & B

Heart of the Village Inn

Inn at Buck Hollow Farm

Inn on the Green

Lang House on Main Street

Middlebury Inn

North Hero House Inn

Parent Farmhouse B & B

Shore Acres Inn

Sinclair Inn

The Essex

Thomas Mott Homestead B & B

Thomas Mott Homestead B & B

TownPlace Suites by Marriott

Waitsfield Inn

Willard Street Inn

TOWN

Grand Isle

Arlington

St. Albans

Goshen

Brandon

Williston

Woodstock

Woodstock

Westfield

South Hero

Dorset

Ludlow

Grand Isle

Lincoln

Lincoln

Shelburne

Fairfax

Middlebury

Burlington

Middlebury

North Hero

Georgia

North Hero

Jericho

Essex

Alburgh

Alburgh

Williston

Waitsfield

Burlington

A FAMILY'S *Testimonial*

"HomeShare Vermont has been a real blessing to our family. My mom started showing signs of Alzheimer's a few years ago, and the thing that seemed to scare her most was the idea of not being able to remain in her house. Thankfully, she lives in a townhouse with an upstairs that has its own bedroom and bathroom – rooms that are really just guest rooms empty almost all the time.

As my mom's memory worsened, my wife and I realized that our visits alone were becoming insufficient to check up on my mom – to make sure she hadn't hurt herself, leave a pot to burn, etc. We thought it would be wonderful just to have an additional set of eyes in the house.

This is where HomeShare Vermont came in. Admittedly, it's asking a lot of someone to decide to take an Alzheimer's patient as a house mate. However, some of the vivacious aspects of my mom have remained as the Alzheimer's has progressed.

The first year we used HomeShare Vermont, it took a few tries to find the right person. However, the team was relentless in its matchmaking efforts, and we eventually found a nursing student who was wonderful and caring for my mom during the year she was with us. When it was

time for her to move on, we started the search again and located another great home sharer. This person is a seasonal employee, which works out perfectly – she is at home more in the winter when my mom is most shut in and can use the most companionship.

HomeShare Vermont took the time and had the compassion to get to know us well enough to understand our needs. HomeShare Vermont then used the same care in explaining those needs to the candidate home sharers. As might be expected, my mom had a bit of anxiety about who would be living with her, but by doing such careful screening in advance, it minimized her concern.

Whether you are a person seeking to share someone else's home or a homeowner with some unused space in your house, it makes very good sense to consider HomeShare Vermont. It just feels so much like a perfect solution to some very common problems. We are extremely grateful of everything that HomeShare Vermont has done for us."

*Stuart Meyer
Williston*

Passing of a Friend



Dorothy "Dot" Howe was the Office Manager at HomeShare Vermont from 1998-2009. Dot had "officially retired" but she was not one to sit back and do nothing. She loved to work and keep busy and when she sought a new job we were lucky to hire her. She started with us when we were Project Home and helped us through two office moves. She taught herself computer programs and developed databases that we still use today. In 2008 the HomeShare Vermont Board of Directors acknowledged her hard work and dedication with "The Above and Beyond Award". At that time, Peter Cameron, on behalf of the Board noted, "not only can she do everything but it's her great spirit and attitude that is inspirational." Dot is a big reason why we are a strong and successful organization today. Her grace and sense of perspective and good humor were invaluable to all those she had contact with. It is fitting that in her last year we were able to help her live a more comfortable life with the assistance of HomeShare caregivers. In fact, she was the last new client we took on before we had to close the Caregiving Program.

Thank you to the donors listed below who gave a gift to HomeShare Vermont in Dot's memory.

Stewart & Becky Arnold
Kerry & Dominick Cassone
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Holly Reed



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RAFFLE FOR A *Rocker!*



Now is your chance to win an heirloom quality cherry wood Vermont Folk Rocker valued at over \$1,500. Beautifully hand-crafted in Starksboro by Jim Geier, these rockers

are incredibly comfortable and built to last generations. Raffle tickets are \$20 each and only 250 will be sold. We've sold out in the past—so don't delay. Drawing will be April 9th—no need to be present to win.

Free delivery in our service area. Other areas shipping charges apply.

Please Join Us!

a fundraising event to benefit
HomeShare Vermont

"How to Exercise for a Healthy Mind"

Featuring Amy Welch, PhD, Associate Professor
in Health Sciences at Johnson State College



Amy Welch

Thursday, April 9, 2015
4:00 to 6:00 pm, \$10 admission
Program starts at 4:45, Raffle drawing at 5:45
In the Dining Room at Grandway Commons
412 Farrell Street, So. Burlington

Refreshments by Catering by Dale

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Concept 2

**EVENT and RAFFLE Tickets can be purchased by calling our office at (802) 863-5625
or visiting our website at www.HomeShareVermont.org**