



FIELD NOTES FROM THE FARM FEBRUARY 2022

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YEAR

We hope you've been enjoying these newsletters and have been learning more about Inn Along the Way (IAW) and all the helping hands that have been moving it forward.

Alida Zimmerman has been sharing beautiful thoughts and information with all of you since she started doing the newsletters in October of 2020. She highlighted volunteers and provided insight into what has been happening at Inn Along the Way. We will miss her creative writings as she transitions into her next opportunity.

Although I cannot fill her shoes as beautifully as she did, she shared with me that "Change is never easy, but usually necessary – especially when it comes to a new pair of shoes!" My name is MaryAnn Look and I'll be breaking in this new pair of shoes! The newsletter may look a little different but be filled with information to help keep you current on all the activity going on.

SEASONS ON A FARM

Winter – a time for the fields to rest and prepare for the new year

We are currently in the throes of one of the snowiest winters we've had in quite some time. Under all the snow the ground is resting and getting ready for another growing season. Inn Along the Way may look like it's resting, too – from an outsider's point of view, but I can assure you that there are many things that are getting done inside. In this newsletter, we are going to look at what it's taken to get our first respite room ready for our first guest.

The room has been named "The Norland," to honor one of our faithful supporters. Inside The Norland, there are simple furnishings: a bed, chair, lamps, window coverings, tables, and closet. So, really, how much is there to say about such a simple room? LOTS!

"It takes a village"



Getting the room to the point where furnishings could be brought in involved carpenters, electricians, plumbers, flooring installers and painters. It would be difficult to name everyone who helped bring the room together, but we would like to tell you a little bit about some of the items that make the room feel homey and comfortable. You see the 4-poster bed? It was found by a volunteer who thought it would be perfect for the Inn. He restored it to its current beauty and donated it to IAW. He also made a storage unit for the closet. We were able to put a mattress and box spring on the bed with help from Sproul's Furniture with bedding coming from more friends.



The wicker chair in the corner was one of several wicker items donated to the Inn, while the chair throw was crocheted and donated by a friend in Arizona!! Still another supporter made the pillow and decorated it with the embroidery/applique "You are my sunshine."

The beautiful drapes were made of donated Olicana fabric from England and fashioned by still another volunteer. Rounding out the accessories are a coverlet, lamps, and tables. Some of these articles were donated specifically for the room and others were donated for the barn sale but found to be the perfect addition. There was even a shower curtain brought in by a stranger because she thought we needed it.



Many thanks to our 'village': Mike, Amelia, Tim & Betsey, Claudia, Zina, Sharon, Mary, Beth, and Sproul's Furniture.

Spring – a time for planting

We will be transitioning into spring soon and we know that there will be a lot of seeds to be planted and some that will germinate on their own. We'll talk more about this in the next newsletter.

Summer – a time for growing

The garden committee will continue to take care of the gardens and will share flowers and produce as it becomes available.

Fall – a time for harvesting

You'll find more bounty available at the stand by Main Street.

SPECIAL THANKS

Borland Hills Farm Fund has provided us with more, much needed, technological capabilities. We now have WiFi extenders in the barn for symposiums, grief groups, and other gatherings. Thanks to Borland Hills, we were also able to add an Owl Pro that will assist with all our hybrid meetings.

We also want to thank Diane Impallomeni for her donation of the Shark vacuum and cleaning supplies.

As with any project this size, there are many volunteers and donors that are virtually invisible. We want to thank everyone who is helping to make this vision a reality – even if we haven't mentioned your name.

Inn Along the Way's First Annual John Gallagher Award

2022 marks the creation of an annual award to recognize a person who has gone over and above in their contribution of time and effort to the mission of IAW. As may be expected, the Award is named for the initial recipient, John Gallagher.

Though many of our volunteers go above and beyond, John stands out because of his willingness to do whatever needs doing. His contributions range from baking pies for the Thanksgiving baskets to mowing lawns to replacing shingles and windows. Simply stated, he is the 'go-to' person whenever there is a need around the Inn and because of his familiarity with the buildings and grounds has served as a compass as we have moved forward. John is equally dedicated to our community, having served 50 years as an EMT.

THANK YOU, JOHN, FOR ALL YOU DO AND CONGRATULATIONS!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Information & Dates –

We are in the process of creating a new website which will host a calendar, but for now future events and information, can be viewed at:

<https://www.innalongtheway.org/>, then click on the Calendar tab.

We are continuing to host grief and caregivers support groups. For more information or to sign up, call Sherry, at 207-751-6261, or contact us at

info@innalongtheway.org.

WAYS OF GIVING

There are numerous ways to make financial donations.

For more information, go to:

<https://www.innalongtheway.org/contribute>

Respectfully submitted.

MaryAnn Look

