

Rossbrook House has been a part of my life for over 50 years. When the Sisters of the Holy Names first moved to 588 Ross Avenue on July 27, 1974, we opened our home and our hearts to the youth of the area. Six months later we got the Church at the end of the Street. Initially, I helped where I was needed. After the older youth moved down to the church, I worked for about 10 years with the 'little ones', running "Club" in the basement, until Sister Gerry got sick and we moved to Rossbrook House. I later volunteered with the homework club.

One thing that people might not know is that I named Rossbrook House. There was a contest to find a name...the prize, a Big Mac. I simply took Ross and combined with Sherbrook, thus the name Rossbrook House. It still makes me smile.

Rossbrook has made a real difference in my life. I have met wonderful people there. What has delighted me over the years is the connection between Rossbrook House and my students and friends from St. Mary's and my Holy Names Community. A number of 'my girls' volunteered with me at 'Club' in the basement, then later at Rossbrook. Some volunteered to replace Sister Carol at Meegwetch House in the summer. Bringing our St. Mary's grade eleven girls each year for a tour and talk has been meaningful. Girls from Rossbrook and St. Mary's sang with Shania Twain which was quite an adventure. Some of our sisters were Santa Claus every Christmas at Meegwetch House; some took the girls on trips. Seeing these two aspects of my life together has been **a joy and a blessing.**

Rossbrook House is a wonderful, supportive community. It is a place where youth and those connected with them can thrive. There is nothing more gratifying than to watch young people grow and develop into fine adults who make real difference in society!

--Sister Marylyn Gibney, SNJM