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Ardentown is now engaged in its first legal battle. At stake is our right to determine the quality of life here in Ardentown. If we fail to pursue our rights in the courts, if we fail to stand up for the ordinances we have legislated, we will jeopardize the effectiveness and credibility of our town government. We must not allow ourselves to lose in court just because strong financially backed commercial interests have more resources than does Ardentown.

When the Blue Bear Inn took Ardentown to court recently, we as a town were in a bind because we have no money nor budget for legal battles. Fortunately for all of us, Joseph Rosenthal, a lawyer and former Arden resident, stepped in again and without compensation, actually paying court costs out of his own pocket, battled the suit through the first phase, successfully. The court decided that Ardentown can constitutionally issue ordinances regulating drinking hours. However, we probably will again be taken to court by the Blue Bear Inn management who contend that the ordinance is not reasonable.

We need the services of Joseph Rosenthal more than ever. But, how can we ask him to continue helping us after he helped draft the acts of incorporation without compensation, helped win our constitutional right to pass ordinances and is actively advising us as to our rights. Who knows what future legal problems Ardentown will have?

Although it is not possible for us to compensate Joe for the hundreds of hours he has worked on our behalf, it is important that we take this opportunity to show him our appreciation in a substantial way. He has made many sacrifices for our town and for us. Let us now get together and collect as much money as we can as proof that we are aware of Joe's help, skill and effort and are willing to do our share of what needs to be done. Very soon you will be called upon by townspeople who will ask you to make a donation. Sending a check now will greatly expedite matters. Checks should be made out to The Joe Rosenthal Fund and sent to Mr. E. Brainard, 1513 The Mall, Ardentown.

Thank you very much,

Richard Cherrin

