

\$2.00

The Waterville Valley *wigwag*

"serving the greater waterville valley metropolitan area"

VOLUME XV • NO. 3 WATERVILLE VALLEY, NEW HAMPSHIRE MARCH 1, 2017

A BUSY FEBRUARY IN THE VALLEY



**Green
Peak**



**Apres
Ski**



**House
Fire**



**50th
Celebration**



**Snow's
Re-opens**



**Rey
Gala**



**New
Pump
House**

The **WIG WAG** is published monthly. • Edited by David and Birdie Britton.

Submissions/subscription requests can be sent to PO Box 383, Waterville Valley, NH 03215 • wwwigwag@gmail.com • 978-270-3945 • 978-270-3943

PLANNING BOARD SUMMARY

Janet Carlisle

A regular meeting of the Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Terry Waite on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 8:00 AM. Also attending were full members Wendi Rathgeber, Richard Rita, Cheryl Saenger, John Recine, Nancy Knight, Bill Larsen (*ex-officio*) and alternate Ray Kucharski.

The minutes of the meetings of January 12, 2017 and January 19, 2017 were accepted as amended.

New Business

The matter of economic development of Waterville Valley was added to the tickler file.

Irit Levy, representing the Conservation Commission, expressed concerns about the lack of organization of the committee. A meeting of the commission will be held in March to address the problem. Terry Waite and Bill Larsen will attend.

Old Business

Subdivision Regulations Article V. Paragraph F. Phased or Partial Subdivision—There was a prolonged discussion of the problems surrounding this regulation. Terry Waite moved, it was seconded and passed, to revise the phrase at the beginning of Article 5 Paragraph F of the Subdivision Regulation which currently reads “phased or partial subdivisions” to read “phased or partial subdividing process”. A public hearing will be scheduled. In the future, a developer will receive a letter stating the details of the approval process.

Request for a Conservation Commission Planning Board Ex-Officio member was put off until after the planned March meeting of the committee.

Shared Parking and Restricted Parking—was put off until the April meeting.

Town Core Group Committee Report—Wendi Rathgeber reported that the Town Core Group was in a holding pattern until after Town Meeting. They have re-applied for one of the grants that was denied.

Communications—Mark Decoteau, Town Manager, distributed copies of the proposed Town Warrent to be voted on at Town Meeting. He also announced that due to problems with the provider, there will be no horses in the Valley this winter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM

RIVER ROAD HOUSE FIRE

David Britton



Turn on the propane to your gas grill and press the igniter. Nothing happens. Press again. Still nothing. Try once more. WOOOSH! That's the collected propane accepting the spark from the weak igniter. You jump back as if you'd seen a rattlesnake.

In miniature, that's what the unofficial story says happened to Brian Lash's beautiful house on River Road.

A propane leak occurred somewhere in the unoccupied house. The house filled with propane until the collected propane found the tiniest spark. (a light socket, a call to a cell phone, an electric chime). The WOOOSH could be heard from a mile away. The house was completely gone in less than one hour.

The official story, following inspections by the Fire Marshal, will not be told until sometime after the snow melts.

As a safety measure, propane is equipped with a strong odor. If you smell a strong propane odor at your house, call the fire department and leave the house. Alarm systems are available to protect unoccupied houses. Look up “alarm systems” on the internet or call one of the local property management companies for guidance.



GREEN PEAK

TOP: Skiers enjoy the new lift.
MIDDLE: Gov. Chris Sununu welcomes skiers.
BOTTOM: General Manager Tim Smith keeps an eye on things.



CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY THANKS



Paul and Marcia Leavitt were honored at the 50th Celebration for their service to the Waterville Valley community.

ALL SALES WITH SERVICE
PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR 10% DISCOUNT.

**Plymouth
Furniture
Company, Inc.**

ROOTED IN THE COMMUNITY .. SINCE 1923

FLOORING
Ceramic Tile • Vinyl • Hardwood • Laminate • Carpet
Furniture • Appliances • Countertops
Custom Window Treatments

151 Main Street • Plymouth, NH 03264 • (603) 536-1625

Recine Remodeling

Kitchens • Baths • Doors • Windows

John Recine
PO Box 48 ♦ Waterville Valley, NH 03215
johnjrecine@gmail.com
603.236.8104

REY GALA ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS

Lynne Landa

A huge thank you to all who sponsored, donated, and attended The Rey Center Annual Gala held on Saturday, February 11 at the Conference Center. It was a wonderful evening of dining, dancing to the sounds of The Bedford Big Band and a live and silent auction with Tom Gross as our entertaining auctioneer. Guests also viewed a short clip of the documentary film *Monkey Business* being made on the life of Hans and Margret Rey. The film, which features interviews with many Waterville Valley residents, will be released later this year. All proceeds of the event will be used to promote the mission of The Rey Center with programs in art, science and nature for adults and children.



DRESS LIKE A PIRATE DAY!!

Cynthia Powell



This year on January 28th was "Dress Like A Pirate Day" to support Adaptive! We had donation jars throughout the resort with 1¢ or more to receive a pirate eye patch, \$1 or more to receive a bandana, \$5 to receive a pirate buff! Pirates were everywhere; skiers and staff donned their pirate garb and expressed their inner Capt'n Jack Sparrow!

The Ski-A-Thon began in the morning with Robert Paul (a resort IT man,) dressed in full revolutionary regalia, shooting off his musket to start the race! Off went around a dozen teams with the challenge of gaining the most vertical.

The Après Ski Dinner and Auction Pirate Party was a success! Tom Gross was our host extraordinaire as he kept people laughing and enjoying the full spirit of the evening!

We wish to thank our sponsors The Haymes Foundation, Waterville Valley Foundation, Roper Real Estate, Amoskeag Beverages, The Coyote, Hammond and Wheeler Real Estate, Waterville Valley Realty, The Common Man, ABA4Kids and the Waterville Valley Resort!!

Many thanks to the whole community for supporting our events! Our events have been successful due to your many contributions. We continue to be a proud part of the fabric of Waterville Valley. The money raised is essential to continue WVAS's mission to provide opportunities for children and adults with special challenges the ability to be empowered through the joys of snowsports!!

BE A GOOD CITIZEN
RECYCLE

FAKE NEWS

David Britton

Thanks to the several readers who pointed out that the “Email supposedly written by Warren Buffet (sic)” and printed in the February 1 *Wag* was “fake news.” The base salary of a first time member of Congress is, in fact, near the email’s claim of \$174,000. But no one is going to be given a lifelong pension of that amount. Thoughtful people may favor term limits and may wonder why members of Congress spend so much energy to get reelected. \$174,000 per year is far from sufficient incentive. As of 2012, the median salary for 32 New England prep school heads was \$450,000. “Real news”? What is that? If a journalist attends, say, a Trump Rally, takes one thousand photos, and selects one to appear on page one, that photo is real (not doctored or Photoshopped), but whether it truthfully represents what happened at the rally is another question. Who are the purveyors of “news”? The President’s Press Secretary, BNSF Railroad, My Pillow, ISIS, *The New York Times*, on down to Joe Blogger. What are their incentives to tell “the truth”? And the consumers of news...? Their curiosity, attention span, appetite, intellectual capacity?

WORLD-WIDE READERSHIP



John Monteiro and Brenda Warren proudly display their *Wig Wag* while visiting the Mosi-Oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls World Heritage Site.

Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park is home to one half of the Mosi-oa-Tunya—“The Smoke Which Thunders” — known worldwide as Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. The river forms the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe, so the falls are shared by the two countries, and the park is ‘twin’ to the Victoria Falls National Park on the Zimbabwean side

The park covers 25 sq. mi. and has two main sections, each with separate entrances: a wildlife park at its north-western end, and the land adjacent to the immense and awe-inspiring Victoria Falls, which in the rainy season is the world’s largest curtain of falling water. It extends downstream from the falls and to the south-east along the Batoka Gorges.



WHITE MOUNTAIN -ATHLETIC CLUB-

TWEAKING WAISTLINES SINCE 1995...

MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE
CALL 236-8303

Orbit Satellite & Sound Systems



Ronald J. Defosses

614 Laconia Rd., Unit 3
Tilton, NH 03276

2 Phillips Street
Rutland VT, 05701

store 888-566-1415

cell 603-393-7705

rjdenterprises@myfairpoint.net

www.orbitsatelliteandsoundsystems.com



Sales and Service

- Security Cameras - CCTV - DVR
- Audio/Video Systems
- Home Automation
- Home & Small Office Networking
- Computer Sales and Installation
- Structured Wiring
- Complete Custom Home Theater

All Mountain Rentals

“Kathy was very
professional”
-Property Owner

Renting NH Vacation Homes since 1998!

(603) 726-3344

**Locally Owned & Operated with exceptional
Knowledge, Experience and Dedication
To Help Rent your WV Vacation Home!**

Contact Kathy Today!

kathy@allmountainrentals.com

www.allmountainrentals.com

TRY THE WIG WAG CLASSIFIEDS

Need a ride? Want to borrow, barter, swap, or trade?
Have something to rent, sell, or give away? Looking
for a hiking/snowshoe/X-C ski partner? In need of
tech/computer help or a service of any kind?

\$6 per line per issue (50 characters per line)

"CAPTION THIS"

"Take care in the car wash." —Carolyn Damp

"Those things hurt the the MPG rating." —Dale Earnhart

"You did what? You glued on a live chicken?" —Tom Doelger

"VW litterbug?" —Gloria Babson

"Art for art's sake." —Paul Menneg

"Gorilla glue?" —David Eastern

"Don't sit under the apple with anyone else by me." —P. Roth

"Did you hear a rattling noise in first gear?" —David Britton

"Headed for MoMA." —A. Neeley

"Some of these things are alive." —James Gage

"The chihuahua loves the wind in his face." —Dobo

"How'd the bird nest get there?"

"I hear he's doing themes now. Bathroom, kitchen, play room."
—Cristo

"And he's a taxidermist too." —Robin Robinson

"Times change. Remember the Rolls Royce hood-ornament."
—M. Bendick

"What's next? A fooseball car?" —Pin Ball Wizard

"Let's make a clean sweep of it." —Caseu Stengal

"MACO deluxe." —J. Lugano

"Announcing Jeep's 2018 model." —Mary Molloy

**NEXT MONTH'S "CAPTION THIS"**

Please send your caption to wwwigwag@gmail.com.

Please sign your name. All captions will be in next issue of the *Wag*.

WV FEBRUARY REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOT

Roper Real Estate • 603-236-3636 • www.RoperRE.com

Currently on the Market

15	Single-family Homes.....	\$299,000–\$1,250,000
16	One-bedroom condos.....	\$60,000–\$115,000 (5 Golden Eagle, 8 Black Bear, 3 Windsor Hill)
19	Two-bedroom condos	\$114,000–\$232,000
20	Three-bedroom condos.....	\$178,500–\$669,900
6	Four-bedroom condos.....	\$224,000–\$439,000
3	Five-bedroom condos	\$268,500–\$499,000
1	Six-bedroom Presidential condo.....	\$699,000
12	Land parcels.....	\$184,000–\$395,000
5	Quarter Timeshare Units.....	\$19,900–\$22,900

Under Agreement

There are 12 properties presently under agreement:

- 3 One-bedroom Units
(1 Golden Eagle, 1 Black Bear and 1 Windsor Hill)
- 4 Two-bedroom Units
(1 Golden Eagle, 1 Windsor Hill, 1 Mtn. Meadow, 1 Forest Rim)
- 3 Three-bedroom Units
(1 Forest Rim, 2 Forest Knoll)
- 1 Four-bedroom Unit (Snow's Mountain Road)
- 1 Single-family Home (Snow's Mountain Road)

Recent Sales

There have been 4 sales this past month to report:

- 1 Two-bedroom unit Village Condo (\$140,000)
- 1 One-bedroom.....B unit at Windsor Hill (\$ 74,000)
- 3 Two-bedroom units
2 Mtn. Meadows (\$149,000/\$170,000), Northface (\$177,000)

Seasonal Variations in Real Estate Inventory

How does inventory vary throughout the year in the Waterville Valley Real Estate market? Below are the figures for the total number of units for sale (including single-family homes) for the past year. The high of 109 in July indicates that most people put their property on the market in the late Spring after ski season. The low of 74 in November reveals that the Fall still seems to generate the most activity.

**2016–2017 Waterville Valley Real Estate Sales
(Includes Single-family Homes)**

Feb '17	80	Oct '16	93	June '16	91
Jan '17	80	Sept '16	93	May '16	82
Dec '16	76	Aug '16	100	April '16	83
Nov '16	74	July '16	109		

WHO'S WHO—BILL CHENEY (More about the Waterville Inn Fire)

David Britton



Bill Cheney has worked in Waterville for over fifty years. In February 1967, at age 15, he was working as a dishwasher in the Old Waterville Inn. Below, in summary form, is his account of what happened when the Inn caught fire:

On that day Ron Morrison, an 18-year-old employee, was getting married to a young female employee. Chief Chef George Nasser and some of the staff were involved in the wedding dinner. The Assistant Chef, a guy we called "Lou Babe," was in charge of the kitchen. He had stepped out for a moment and a grease fire started on the grill. We extinguished the fire, then removed the grease-screen

above the grill. We sprayed extinguisher throughout the opening above us. Five minutes later another employee came down, saying her room was filling with smoke.

Ron Butler and I ran upstairs. We banged a hole through the floor above the grill. Everything was already in flames. We had no way to stop that fire and it was spreading fast.

Earlier in the day, a bucket-loader working around the lower Snow's Mountain slopes had unwittingly severed a line to the Inn's 55K water tank. The water had quietly spilled out onto the ground and there wasn't enough left to feed the newly installed sprinkler system. To further complicate the situation, a blizzard was underway, the worst storm of the year. The roads had not been plowed. The firetruck coming up from Campton had to push snow ahead of itself. The firetruck probably couldn't have saved much anyway. The Inn was gone in slightly more than one hour.

Back then the 15-year-old Bill Cheney, who lived on Mad River Road in Thornton, was too young to drive a car. On Fridays he hitched rides into the Valley, slept in a room upstairs in the Inn, and hitched home on Sunday nights. Since then he has worked in the Valley in numerous capacities. He worked on the ski lifts. He has been responsible for roads, water, and sewer lines for the Town. He is pretty much a human map of where everything is. He continues to work for the Town, and can often be found in the vicinity of the storage building across from the Town offices.

HALL OF FAME TICKETS AVAILABLE

HoF Committee

Tickets are available for purchase at the www.waterville.com website for to the always memorable Waterville Valley Hall of Fame Induction Celebration, Saturday, March 25, 2017 at the Waterville Valley Conference Center.

Come enjoy the camaraderie of the Hall and help induct Snowboard guru Bill Enos, long-time Waterville Valley athlete, supporter and visionary Birdie Britton and Freestyle founder and visionary Jack Sanders.

Doors open at 5:30 PM, 6:00 PM for appetizers and beverages. Dinner at 7:00 PM, and the program will begin around 8:00 PM.

Tom Gross will emcee the 4th annual Hall of Fame evening which will include a short video presentation of the inductee's created by EVP Marketing and Media followed by individual presenters for each inductee, followed by their acceptance speech.

The cost is \$49 per ticket or \$490 for a reserved table of 10.

It is always a special evening and we hope you will all come out to support this year's Hall of Fame and the three great recipients.

Previous Hall of Fame inductees include Tom Corcoran, Anna McIntyre, Jim Shea, Wayne Wong, Todd and Cynthia Baldwin, Ron Boulay, Dick Guiliano, Dick Knight, Nick and Susie Preston, Kathy Chandler, Lenny Emery, Andre and Maria Meyer, Michael and Helen Paquin and Terry Roper.

Tuesday Mah Jongg



Join us at the Osceola Library

(Across from the tennis courts)

12:00

If you are interested please email Tina at
tina@thekoppels.com

TUBING—A DESTINATION ATTRACTION?

David Britton

Any of you remember the old tubing concession? In the woods between the triple chair and the J-bar? I think it was a single track with banked corners. People and tubes rode the triple to a steep dismount station about 400 yards from the base. I doubt if even one paying customer rode a tube non-stop down that track.

During the recent vacation week, something in excess of 2,500 paying customers (\$15 pp) used the tubing concession on the golf course. Who would have thought?

Gunstock's tracks are three times as long. Many concessions use a magic carpet to transport riders and tubes back to the top. Why is our little hill so popular?

The longer tracks frequently have no "run out." Down you come in a restricted track then abruptly stop with the aid of a braking device. Our track has a long flat run-out. People compete for distance. They do 360's as their tube slows. A snowmobile picks up tubes at the end of the runout and returns them to the top..

Riders trudge back across the flat, jostling and trash-talking. If we had a magic carpet, the carpet would offer a lonely ride and it would move more slowly than a typical group walks.

Mom and Dad can sip a toddy inside the heated golf clubhouse, while the kids practice their gliding techniques. The tubing, it turns out, is often not an added diversion for families who have spent the day skiing on Tecumseh. Families are coming to Waterville for a day trip, solely to use the tubes.

Who would have thought?



DOLLARS and SENSE

Andrew Cutler and Robert LaBond

We expect 2017 to continue to exhibit the exuberance and the volatility that emerged late in 2016. In a very positive indicator for equities, both U.S. and global markets—including Europe, Japan, and some emerging markets—are showing significant market breadth that continues to increase. Market breadth is a measure of companies that have created new 52-week highs compared to those that have created new lows, and markets rarely slacken while market breadth is expanding.

In the U.S., economic and earnings growth are encouraged by the anticipated policy shift from monetary to fiscal stimulus. Small businesses and consumers are gaining confidence against a backdrop of promised fiscal spending on infrastructure, potential corporate tax cuts, and deregulation. The effect of more difficult issues like trade, immigration and rising interest rates will take longer to unfold.

We are in the late cycle of expansion – with a plateau in the rate of acceleration of economic and earnings growth—but returns tend to be best when the cycle is peaking at the end of an economic expansion.

We continue to favor value, including financials and industrials, and to avoid bonds.

JACK SANDERS NAMED HONORARY FOUNDATION FELLOW

NH Bar Association e-Bulletin



Longtime NH Bar Foundation supporter Wilfred "Jack" Sanders has been selected as the foundation's 2017 Honorary Fellow. Sanders, who is of counsel at Pierce Atwood and chair of the Campaign for Legal Services Leadership Council, will be recognized at the Bar Foundation's Fellows & Donors Reception immediately following the NHBA

Midyear Meeting on Friday, March 10, at the Radisson Hotel/Centr of NH in Manchester.

All Bar members are invited to attend. In addition to the recognition of Sanders, the event will feature remarks by Dan Barrick, news director at NH Public Radio, which recently received a Bar Foundation grant to support its criminal justice reporting.

DOGS OF WATERVILLE VALLEY— JAMBA & BELLE TURNER

Margaret Turner



WAG: Jamba and Belle, nice to meet you.

JAMBA: Ah, c'mon. Everyone knows us. We are famous in the Valley. Even have a children's book written about us on sale at Toad Hall.

WAG: True, you do get around.

JAMBA: I just turned 11 last December, and I have been off-leash for most of my life, except on those special occasions when Mom decides I need a leash.

WAG: Such as?

JAMBA: When Town Square has a lot of people, or when someone asks Mom to do it, or whenever I visit New York City. I have never been in a fight with another dog, or bitten another dog or human. I have been bitten twice by dogs on leash.

WAG: Really? I thought dogs on leash were under control.

JAMBA: Human myth. Putting a dog on leash forces them to meet other dogs in an unnatural way. The polite dog way is to approach from the side and to do the sniffing arc. Leashes don't allow us to be polite. In fact, some dogs have what is called leash aggression.

WAG: Huh?

JAMBA: My sister Belle is a moderate example of this. She is always barking and growling at approaching dogs when she is on her leash. They must think she is unfriendly, but she is just noisy. Off leash, she has a completely different personality.

BELLE: Hey, I can speak for myself.

WAG: Go ahead.

BELLE: Well I am 10 years old, weigh 12 pounds, and Mom keeps me on a leash because I am so small I can't be seen very well. Believe me, I would be out there barking down the blue buses, the garbage truck, and snow plows and anything else that is big and noisy if I could.

WAG: Which probably explains your leash. Do you ever get to play off-leash?

BELLE: Yeah, in the yard with my electronic collar, out in the woods, and on the trails along the river. I love it, and can find my way home from anywhere in the Valley, even with 21 porcupine quills in my leg. I'm a spirited adventurer.

WAG: Which probably further explains your leash. But I want to ask you about another dirty subject. Dog poop.

JAMBA: Well, when you gotta go, you gotta go. Now most of the dog parents who live in the Valley full time are very responsible and pick up after us dogs. And a lot of times, when I am off leash, I just go out in the woods where I can get some privacy. I am a little concerned about visiting dog parents who have their dogs on a leash and let them poop right on the road, the trail, or the sidewalk without picking up. I guess we'll see more of that if all dogs have to be on a leash at all times here in Waterville Valley. Sad. And disgusting

BELLE: Enough about poop. I like living here better than Brooklyn. And most of the dogs I know are quite friendly.

WAG: But I heard a rumor that you have been in trouble with the law, Jamba.

JAMBA: You had to bring that up. One dog in 11 years and now I am a criminal worthy of reporting to the police. Belle was on leash and barking, we were in a narrow passage, and I barked in the face of an approaching dog who was on a leash and throwing a fit. Just barked. Mom did apologize for me, more than once. No dogs or people were harmed in this 5 second encounter.

WAG: But some dogs just don't get along with other dogs, right?

JAMBA: And maybe they should be on leash at all times and out of public areas so that the rest of us who are friendly can continue to enjoy Waterville Valley with our families. It's just common sense dog etiquette as recommended in the WV Dog Ordinance brochure published by WV Public Safety last year.

BELLE: Or maybe the town should build a wall and prevent the immigration of dogs who might misbehave and their owners, and deport all unfriendly dogs immediately.

JAMBA: Enough, Belle, enough. Strange dog, my sister

On Tuesday, March 14, there will be a Town Meeting warrant article that proposes changing our 30-year-old dog ordinance to require all dogs to be under physical restraint at all times everywhere in Waterville Valley. This means whenever you step off your private property the leash must go on and stay on. In the woods. On the trails. On Packard's Field. In the river. Support responsible and intelligent dog ownership—come to Town Meeting and vote NO on Article 11.

MAH JONGG ANYONE!



Shelly Zelbow, Cheryl Moak, and Jean Mullen (Tina Koppel not pictured) enjoy the fun and thoughtfulness of Mah Jongg at the Osceola Library every Tuesday from 12:00–2:00 PM. Unlike the Chinese — no money involved. Beginners are welcome. It is a game widely played in Asia, and it originated in China during the Qing dynasty (1644–1912). Similar to the card game Rummy, Mah Jongg is a game of skill, strategy, calculation, and chance. Many countries have different rules. Chinese like to stake money in the game. The U.S. rules are based on the National Mah Jongg League card which displays all the acceptable Mah Jongg hands for the current year. The card changes annually in the spring.

As in a deck of cards, there are suits (cracks, bams, and dots) each with numbers 1 thru 9. Four dragons are in different colors and may complement suits: red (cracks), green (bams) and white (dots) which also symbolize the number zero in any suit. There are 4 winds: North, South, East and West. There are 8 Jokers and 8 Flowers. Each player gets 3 rounds of two pairs of tiles. The East player takes the first and third tiles, and remaining players each receive one more tile. With fourteen tiles, East discards without picking. Play goes to the right. Each player picks and discards a tile. The object of the game is to be the first player to complete the hand as shown on the current card using all 14 tiles.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the John and renamed it the Jim. I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

THE REY CENTER ENCOUNTER

Tina Koppel

Taxes Q&A

Who loves to study tax law?? (Personally, I find it a great remedy for insomnia). Mike Koppel does — actually loves it and has a special knack of making it sort of “fun”—really. Come hear “Everything You Wanted to Know About Taxes But Were Afraid to Ask”. Case studies, personal experience and concrete examples will be discussed. (Place to be determined). Light refreshments will be served.

Stargazing

For all you astronomy fans, The Rey Center’s Dark Sky Stargazing and indoor presentation will be held on March 25 at 7:30 PM at the Curious George Cottage. It was a big hit last month—come and see why!!

Literary Group

Literary group continues to be held at the Cottage every Saturday from 4:30–6:00 PM. BYOB wine and snacks—yum!

Story Time

And last but not least, children and grandchildren (accompanied by an adult) are welcome to explore/play at the Curious George Cottage and stay for Story Time at 11:00 AM every Saturday. Special kudos to our therapy/service dog, Rocket, whose patience and gentleness brings so much pleasure to our young guests. Woof! With much love.

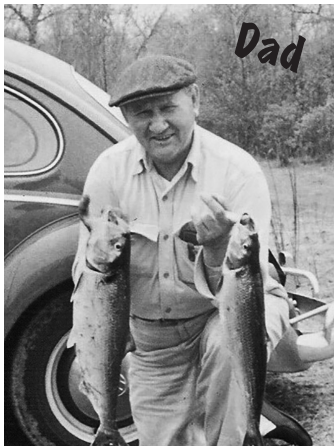


Annual Gala Success

Gala news!! This is the morning after, folks, and a great time was had by all. If you missed it, hope to see you next year. For all of you who were there—you looked stunning! The Bedford Big Band played all the classics—great for dancing! Food was wonderful, particularly the “shrimp station”. Kudos to our illustrious and talented auctioneer who gently encouraged guests to bid for some spectacular items. Many many thanks to all the dedicated people who made this evening possible.



FLYFISHING NEW ENGLAND



Lou Zambello was guest speaker at a recent Pemigewasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited meeting and spoke about fishing New England's waters and discussed his new book; *Flyfisher's Guide to New England*. The guidebook covers 500 lakes and ponds plus 650 rivers and streams, along with full-color maps, GPS coordinates, access points, public land, access roads, boat ramps, parking areas, named holes and pools and more. It would take years to accumulate that amount of data.

If I were a beginner flyfisher the book would be an invaluable source of information. In today's fast-pace world guidebooks, and especially flyfishing-guides, can be a real timesaver on getting you over fish.

Back in my day, there were no guidebooks, guides or GPS coordinates. Luckily, my Dad had a sense of adventure and liked to find new places to fish. We often took weekend- or even week-long fishing trips to exotic waters in New England. We searched road-maps and topo-maps in order to find these new waters. Sometimes, if we were lucky, we got word-of-mouth tips from other fishermen about some hot spot.

Later in my fishing career, I explored New England's water with a few fishing buddies. Being located in the White Mountains a good many waters were within reach of a day trip. Other times my fishing companions and I would set off for several days to explore more distant waters in different states.

I always considered the search effort a large part of the adventures. The searches really built up the anticipation and excitement of each trip. Sometimes I think new anglers don't realize that memories are built about more things than just catching fish.

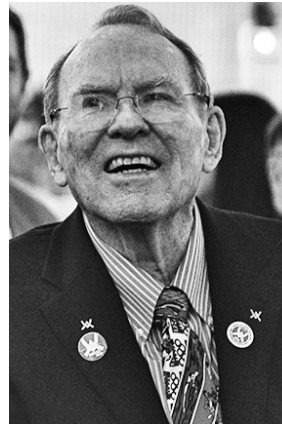
But now I'm on the backcast of my flyfishing career and my reading of the book took on a different aspect. About halfway through the book I realized I was not really looking for new places to fish. I found myself drifting back in time remembering my Dad or the other flyfishing companion(s) that accompanied me on the trip to the stream or pond I was reading about.

CONKLIN CORNER

Brenda & Preston Conklin

THANK YOU TOM CORCORAN MASTER OF THE MOUNTAIN

Excerpts from the *NH Times* 12/16/1981



Tom Corcoran, 2017
at 50th Celebration

Tom Corcoran's helicopter was supposed to be flying over just two potential ski sites, Ragged Mountain in Danbury and Mt. Saunders in Bartlett. But Corcoran insisted that the pilot fly over Waterville Valley as well. Corcoran had seen a proposed plan for skiing at Waterville, and it intrigued him. From the air he knew immediately that his interest was justified. "It jumped right out at me," says Corcoran. "All the things I wanted were there." Waterville had four big mountains ringing a pristine valley. The exposure was right for plenty of snow. Interstate 93 was a link to the Boston market. Best of all — 500 acres of the town of Waterville

were owned privately; the rest was owned by the U.S. Forest Service. A person who bought that private land could develop it according to his own design.

Tom Corcoran had such a design in mind when, beginning in 1965, he thought about ski trails, roads, condominiums, probably even the shape of the wine glasses the restaurants would use. His plan called for the construction of a Western-style ski village, a place where the skier could roll out of bed, walk outside, and take a lift to the top of the mountain. The village would be small and self-contained. There would be no access road with ski motels and fast food restaurants. It was going to be the sort of resort no one had ever built in the East.

The high point of Corcoran's ski career was the 1960 Olympics in Squaw Valley. He finished ninth in the slalom and fourth in the giant slalom, the best performance ever turned in by an American man in the giant slalom (ed: as of 1981). With an MBA from Harvard, Corcoran worked in finance on the West Coast before moving to the Aspen Corp. for a perfect job that combined both skiing and business. He did a feasibility study for Buttermilk Mountain, and after Aspen Corp. acquired the area, Corcoran became its general manager. He struck up a friendship with Robert Kennedy, working on Kennedy's Senate and Presidential campaigns. When Corcoran bought most of the private land in the valley, the town of Waterville (renamed Waterville Valley in 1967) had a population of about 20.

RAVEN OR CROW?

Mike Mahoney



Large black birds are often seen and heard flying high in the thermal currents above the White Mountains. Many people think these are crows when in fact these birds are equally likely (possibly *more* likely) to be ravens. The obvious question is how to distinguish one species from the other. Both of these birds are incredibly intelligent and are among the smartest of birds. In fact their intelligence is on the same level as the chimpanzee! These birds can make human-like sounds and, incredibly, are known to design and use “tools” to perform tasks. Both species are able to solve relatively complex problems, understand cause and effect, and are able to recognize and remember faces.

So how is one distinguished from the other? In general, ravens are larger than crows. They also have thicker, stronger bills and longer legs. The tails of the raven and the crow are also very different. In fact, this is probably one of the easiest ways to distinguish them in flight. The tail feathers of the American Crow are all of equal length while the middle tail feathers of the Common Raven are longer than the tail feathers on the sides of the tail. As such, the tail of the crow appears to be square or fan shaped while the tail of the raven appears to be more rounded or wedge shaped (as in the picture above). Ravens also have longer “fingers” on the tips of their wings while the crow has blunter wings. As far as flight goes, the raven will “soar” in flight for longer periods of time much more like a hawk or an eagle. They are also known to perform aerobatics in flight. Crows, on the other hand, only soar for a few seconds at a time and don’t perform aerobatics. Voice is another distinguishing factor. A crow will make the familiar “caw-caw” while the raven will make a loud, low, “croaking”. The raven has a very distinctive voice and, at times, can almost sound like it is talking.

Interesting Crow and Raven Facts

- The average lifespan of a crow is eight years whereas the average lifespan of a raven is thirty years.
- A group of crows is called a “murder of crows” or a “congress of crows”. One purported reason for this is that a group of crows will gather and decide the capital fate of another crow.

- A group of ravens is called a “conspiracy of ravens”, an “unkindness of ravens”, or a “constable of ravens”.
- Ravens and crows are both of the genus *corvus*. Ravens are the largest birds in the genus and are twice the size of crows.
- Ravens soar while in flight while crows utilize much more wing movement to stay aloft.
- Ravens are known to have been taught human speech and have even been taught to count.
- In one experiment food was put in a clear plastic cup with a lid on it. The crow was observed pecking at the cup until it finally gave up and didn’t get the food. The raven took a different approach and pulled at the cover until it came off and it ate all of the food.
- The poem “The Raven” made Edgar Allan Poe an instant celebrity.
- Ravens eat insects, small animals, and roadkill (carrion). They are true scavengers. They also eat grains and small fruits as well as eggs and the young of other animals. Crows are also known as scavengers but less so than ravens. They too will eat carrion but more of their diet consists of fruits, grains, insects, etc. Crows will also raid nests for eggs and young birds.
- Both ravens and crows will store excess food by burying it in the grass, the small cavities of trees, or any other place that provides a convenient hiding spot.
- Male and female crows both build the nest. The nest consists of three layers. The outer layer of sticks, followed by a middle layer of mud and grass, and finally a soft layer made of mulch, fur, twine, paper, etc.
- The Tower of London has always been the home of at least one pair of ravens. Legend had it that if the ravens were removed the Kingdom of England would fall.
- In Greek and Roman mythology ravens were thought to bring good luck and were messengers from the gods.
- Often getting a bum rap, in Celtic legend it was thought that Celtic goddesses of war took the form of ravens and in Swedish legend it was thought that ravens were the ghosts of people that had been murdered.
- Ravens are so intelligent that they have been known to play dead next to carrion in order to scare other ravens away.

Hopefully the next time you see a large black, vocal, bird flying high above the White Mountains you will now know whether it is a raven or a crow.

BECOME A “RESORT INSIDER”

Find out what’s happening in the Valley. Read the weekly *Resort Insider* schedule of activities and events. Download a copy on Thursday afternoons at wvnh.com/resort-insider. If you would like to receive it by email, contact wci@wvnh.com or 603-236-3333.

WATERVILLE VALLEY COED BROOMBALL LEAGUE Week 9 Game Results

Ramon (Ray) O'Hara – League Administrator

CJ'S Penalty Box Clinches 1ST Place Finish, Mad River Tavern and XXX in Playoffs

CJ's Penalty Box vs. Crushers

CJ's continued to dominate this league finishing in first place for 7 out of the last 8 years of Waterville Valley Broomball play. The league's most powerful offense and defense combined to defeat the Crushers who were fighting to hold on to the 4th place play-off spot. In this game, CJ's Jay Duguay took the lead as the men's leading scorer notching two goals and leading his team to a hard fought 3-1 victory. **FINAL: CJs 3 Crushers 1**

Mad River Tavern vs. XXX

The opening game of the night pitted Mad River Tavern against XXX with both teams competing to secure a second place playoff position. This game was a defensive battle throughout as great team defense and strong goal tending kept the respective offenses in check throughout the first period and second period. With less than 3 minutes remaining in the game, team captain, Andy McDonald, put Mad River Tavern (MRT) on the board scoring off a rebound just outside the crease. As the clock ticked down to under two minutes XXX pulled their goal tender... with 24 seconds remaining MRT scored an empty net goal, on a breakaway, for a 2-0 win and sole possession of 2nd place. **FINAL: MRT 2 XXX 0**

Campton Mtn Yetis vs. Rolling Rocks

The 7:30 game featured the 5th place Campton Mountain Yetis — still within reach of a playoff spot against the winless Waterville Valley Rolling Rocks enduring the worst season in their storied history. Since their entry into the league 8 years ago, the "Yetis" had never defeated the "Rolling Rocks". The Yetis ended that "curse" with a 3-1 win earlier this season. This night was a reflection of the "Rocks" season...solid team defense but a virtually non-existent offense. The Rolling Rocks were "in" the game to the end with the game tied at 1-1 going into the final period. The Yetis scored the deciding goal early in the final period and held on for a 2-1 win and a series sweep this season. **FINAL: Yetis 2 Rocks 1**

The Waterville Valley Ice Arena is host for the Waterville Valley Coed Broomball League – Admission is FREE!

AMOSKEAG BEVERAGES of Manchester and Concord sponsors the Waterville Valley Coed Broomball League — now in their 38th year. Check out the league web site: www.wvbroomball.com

NEW PUMP HOUSE



RAGE IN PARADISE

David Britton

Several years ago I was standing around the finish line of a Masters Ski Race on World Cup. A beginning skier—not a racer—made the mistake of skiing through the finish line, throwing off the electric-eye timing. He was greeted with an explosion of rage, condemnations of his character and intelligence; the yelling and vilifications stopped just short of attacks upon his mother. Call it righteous indignation, if you want. But where does this rage come from?

Good question. And well worth asking since there have been several explosions of rage on the X/C trails. Dog-lovers and pedestrians versus X/C purists.

One incident involved an X/C skier who politely informed a man with an off-leash dog that the dog shouldn't be on a groomed trail. The man loved his dog. Result: Vesuvius language and a significant punch (X/C skier, footwork hampered, went down and briefly lost consciousness).

More recently, a X/C skier overtook a man walking on the side of a groomed trail with his dog. This time it was the X/C skier who went postal; the dog-lover experienced vilification and physical threats.

This rage is not quite the same as the rage one feels when he drops his hammer from a high spot on a ladder. Cursing the hammer or the heavens may be regrettable, but with sufficient flamboyance, it can be therapeutic for the offended and high comedy for an observer.

Attacking another human is not high comedy. Belief that one is defending a worthy cause may be the catalyst: "I am a purist; I defend the environment against all dogs, snowmobiles, and Trump supporters." "I am an animal rights activist; I spit on your mink coat."

Consider, by way of an analogy, a groomed slalom training course on Tecumseh. No one is going to walk without skis in that course even if the snow is firm enough so no deep footprints would result. No one will walk a dog there, or leave dog poop in among the gates. Certainly no one would let a friendly dog rush to greet a descending racer.

Tradition prohibits such behavior. That sort of thing is simply "not done"—not on an established ski hill.

But these groomed X/C trails are not established ski hill trails. People have walked their dogs on exactly these same paths spring, summer, and fall. People may think this is National Forest Land—that is, public land, a land of many uses. They may think they have a right to behave exactly as they did during spring, summer, and fall.

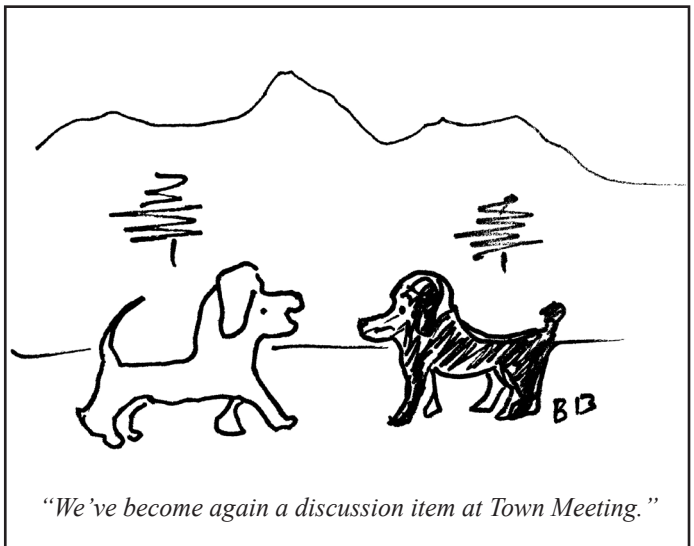
I don't want to get into what a summer mountain biker or runner on a timed-run thinks when a dog rushes forward for a tail-wagging, friendly greeting.

I will suggest, again, a doggie play park would be wonderful in giving dogs a chance to romp around and socialize. It could be an easy way for humans to meet their dog-owning neighbors. It might also help relieve rage-producing conflicts and some safety issues.

MORE DOG STORIES NEEDED

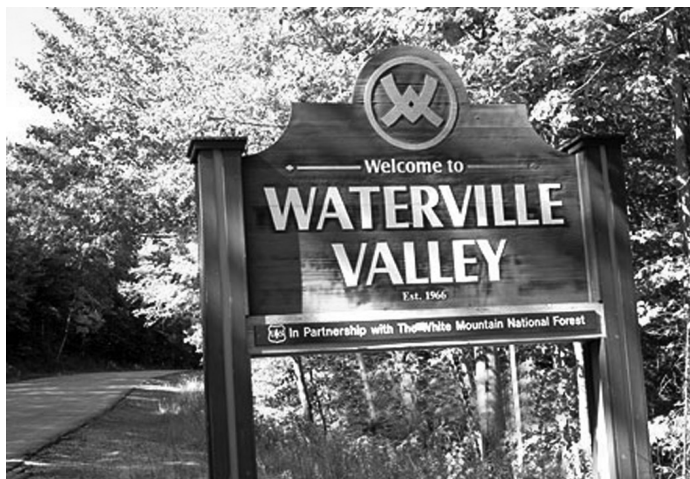
The last 5 issues of the *Wag* have included a 150–350 word description of a Waterville dog, plus photo. These have been popular with both literate dogs and dog-interested humans. We need more. Please consider submitting a photo and description of your dog to wwwigwag@gmail.com.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators, but we still haven't met.



SERVICES

NIXLE—Sign up for free at NIXLE.com to be instantly informed via email or text about WV events and public safety, such as traffic, fire, public works, weather advisories, power, road closures, school. Text your zip code to 888777 to Opt-IN.



YOUR AD COULD REACH THE VALLEY!

Business Card \$30 per issue • \$265 year (12 issues)
 Quarter Page \$60 per issue • \$505 year (12 issues)
 Half Page \$120 per issue • \$985 year (12 issues)
 Full Page \$240 per issue • \$1945 year (12 issues)

ADS NOT PROVIDED AS PDFs INCUR A SET-UP FEE
 (BC \$20 • Qtr Pg \$30 • Half Pg \$45 • Full Pg \$60)

Classifieds—\$6/line per issue (50 characters per line)

Send PDF for display ads or text for Classifieds to
wwwigwag@gmail.com

Vieques, Puerto Rico



Vieques is relatively free of tourists. There continue to be real estate opportunities. Because of trade winds and reliable sunshine, weather is always good. August in Vieques is more pleasant than August in Boston, Hartford, or New York City.

Large villa, swimming pool. Beautiful view across Caribbean to the mountains of the main island. Rent the entire villa (six bedrooms) or one of the three self-sufficient apartments that make up the villa. A beautiful, peaceful, unspoiled island—deserted beaches, herds of wild horses, bioluminescent bay. Twenty restaurants, several hotels, small airport. Call 978 270-3945.

Photos and rates: www.casadeluzvieques.com

Got a Full House?

We can help you deal.



Care Free • Convenient • Cost Effective

726-2030

Exit 28 Off I-93 • Campton



PO Box 383 • Waterville Valley, NH 03215

SUBSCRIBE!
FOR 12 PDF ISSUES SENT VIA EMAIL
SEND CHECK FOR \$17 TO:
WIGWAG, PO BOX 383
WATERVILLE VALLEY NH 03215
INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.



**Condos - Homes - Land
Buyer Representation**
*Establishing trust, honesty &
integrity one sale at a time!*
(603) 236 - 3636

Featured Homes and Condos

Great price on 13 Stone Tower Lane!

NEW LISTING! On the valley floor with great yard space. 2,400 + sqft with an attached 2 car garage! Short walk to Academy. \$475K

Renovated Noon Peak T.House for \$289K!

3 Bedroom + Den/4th Bedroom, largest layout with expanded mudroom. This is a great buy!

Gorgeous Village Condo 2 Bd. for \$158,900

Every part of this condo has been renovated beautifully. Gorgeous woodwork. Don't delay.

**100% Buyer Friendly website puts
the entire MLS at your fingertips!**

www.RoperRE.com

PRIME HOME SITES

CASCADE RIDGE
WATERVILLE VALLEY



Cascade Ridge & Moose Run Lots

Available for a VERY LIMITED TIME

At Significantly LESS Than Assessed Values

**NOW
\$184,000**

**BUY NOW FOR
INVESTMENT OR
FUTURE BUILDING**

Don't let this
opportunity
pass you by



Offer expires
March 23, 2017
Call for details

603-236-8333 • wvnh.com

2017 TOWN MEETING

To the inhabitants of the Town of Waterville Valley in the County of Grafton and the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Recreation Department Gymnasium in said Waterville Valley on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, polls to open for voting on Articles One through Ten at Twelve o'clock Noon and to close no earlier than Five o'clock in the afternoon. You are further notified to meet at said Recreation Department Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at Five Thirty in the afternoon at which time action will be taken upon the remaining articles on this warrant.

Articles 1 - 10 will be acted on by official ballot:

ARTICLE 11 – To see if the town will vote to amend Selectmen's Ordinance #7-Dog Ordinance, Section 1.3.1.1, adopted by Article 37 of the 1987 Town Meeting, by amending the definition of "at large" as follows: "In this ordinance, 'at large' means not under the control of the owner or any person by means of personal presence and attention and physical restraint so as to control the conduct of such dog. (Majority Vote Required) In Wig Wag language: "In all public places, dog must be attached to one end of leash; the other end of leash must be attached to a human who is awake and capable of controlling dog. Examples: dog can't run on Packard Field dragging a six-foot leash not attached to a human; a leash can't be tied to the bicycle rack while human collects the mail and the news.

ARTICLE 12 – To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 for the purpose of designing and installing road and trail signs at the entrance to town and along roads and trails within the Town of Waterville Valley. \$60,000 of this appropriation is to come from the December 31, 2016 Fund Balance available on January 1, 2017 and the balance of \$60,000 to come from a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. No amount will be raised by general taxation. Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority vote required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 13 – To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a new emergency generator at the wastewater treatment plant. This appropriation is to come from general taxation. Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority vote required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 14 – To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of evaluating and repairing drinking water well #3. This appropriation is to come from the December 31, 2016 Fund Balance available on January 1, 2017. No amount will be raised by general taxation. Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority vote required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 15 – To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of repairs to the water and sewer systems. This appropriation is to come from the December 31, 2016 Fund Balance available on January 1, 2017. No amount will be raised by general taxation. Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority vote required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 16 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 from general taxation to be added to the capital reserve accounts previously established as listed below. This appropriation is to come from general taxation. The Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority Vote Required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

Corcoran Pond Capital Reserve Account — \$20,000

Ladder Truck Capital Reserve Account — \$20,000

Road Repair Capital Reserve Account — \$20,000

Fire Apparatus Maintenance and Replacement Capital Reserve Account — \$10,000

Public Works Backhoe Maintenance and Replacement Capital Reserve Account — \$10,000

ARTICLE 17 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 from general taxation for funding of town events in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary Celebration. This appropriation is to come from general taxation. The Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority Vote Required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 18 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for professional planning assistance to the Planning Board on revisions to the Town Zoning Ordinance. This appropriation is to come from general taxation. The Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority Vote Required) (Amount NOT included in Article 19)

ARTICLE 19 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$3,803,671 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations from any of the preceding articles. The Selectmen Recommend Approval by vote of 3 to 0. (Majority Vote Required)

General Government	\$ 782,809
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 118,018
Public Safety	\$ 846,002
Highways & Streets.....	\$ 357,228
Solid Waste & Recycling	\$ 301,442
Water & Sewer	\$ 393,371
Health & Welfare	\$ 3,500
Culture & Recreation	\$ 317,922
Conservation	\$ 250
Debt Service.....	\$ 625,053
Capital Outlay	\$ 58,076
TOTAL	\$ 3,803,671