

Mountain View



A newsletter by and for the Randolph Community, published by the Randolph

The Annual Randolph Community Forest Day

August 1, 2015

by David Wilcox

Forest Day will fall, as always, on the first Saturday in August. This year the date is August 1st. The theme of this year's Forest Day will be "Wildlife and the improvement of wildlife habitat on the Randolph Community Forest".

The day will begin with a meeting at the Randolph Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. The Forest Commission will report on activities carried out on the Forest during the past year. There will also be one or more presentations echoing the wildlife habitat theme, including a discussion of a recent initiative called "Dirt to Trees to Wildlife," supported by the Forest Commission, which aims to make it easier to manage woodlands for specific types of wildlife.

After the presentations at the Town Hall, at about 10:00 a.m., the tour will begin. The first stop will be at the Bowman Junction parking lot from where those wishing to do so may take the short hike in to Rollo Falls, the headwaters of the Moose River. This is at the heart of the most recent addition to the Randolph Community Forest; 72 acres of woodlands around the Falls, an acquisition made possible by Roberta Arbree and Bob Potter.

We will also hear a report on a wildlife action plan for the Israel's River corridor, currently in preparation. The plan will cover the corridor within the Randolph Community Forest from the Rollo Falls property along the Israel's River to the Farrar Farm. There are a number of old apple trees in this area which make a useful contribution to the improvement of habitats. How to manage these trees to maximize that contribution will be explored.

The next destination of the tour will be the Pond of Safety Road. The Randolph Community Forest has, over the last ten years, been implementing wildlife habitat improvements, financed in part by a WHIP grant from the National Resources Conservation Service. Some of those projects created permanent open spaces within the Forest; some reintroduced softwoods into areas where they once naturally grew. Both were beneficial to the habitats of various species of wildlife. Many of these projects are located along the Pond of Safety Road and the tour will stop at several of them.

Finally, the tour will end at the Pond of Safety where the US Forest Service is in the process of stabilizing the shore of the Pond and creating a new, walker-friendly pathway down to the Pond from the parking lot.

All are welcome, including children. Bring a lunch and insect repellent. Wear boots or shoes appropriate for light hiking. We look forward to seeing you on August 1st.



Rollo Falls by Gail Scott

Randolph Art Show

The Annual Randolph Art Show, with opening reception, will begin on Sunday, July 5th at the Town Hall from 4-6 p.m. Entry forms and more information will be sent in early June to those who have exhibited in the past. Persons who have not exhibited in the past but would like to, may e-mail Karen Eitel at karennewell.eitel@gmail.com, or phone Betsy Hess at (603) 466-5718.

This year's show will be dedicated to Mary Gail Scott. A retrospective of Gail's work will be featured on stage. All are welcome to attend.

Continued from pg. 9...

Word must have gotten around, for in February 2011, the Friends of the Randolph Library asked me to introduce and show "a family-friendly" opera that might attract young people. *Mlada* by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, most famous for the orchestral showpiece *Scheherazade*, is based on a Russian fairy tale completely unknown in the West. It combines fantasy, color, and spectacle, and has a happy ending. On a Sunday afternoon, a fair crowd gathered in the Town Hall, including a few young people. I suspect, however, that the success of the occasion was due more to the pot-luck supper which followed than to the opera presentation.

In the winter of 2014, the Met in HD series offered two relatively unfamiliar Slavic operas, *Rusalka* by Antonin Dvorak, a fairy tale with an unhappy ending, and *Prince Igor* by Alexander Borodin, a nationalist-historical epic with Oriental colorations. As Slavic music is a particular enthusiasm of mine, perhaps because of my Polish genes, I presented preview sessions for both of them. However, the avant-garde, "visionary" production of *Prince Igor* by the Met's director bore no resemblance to the traditional production I had introduced to our group. As Joan Rising remarked, "The only thing familiar was the music."

In its current season, the Metropolitan Opera offered some works dating from the turn of the 20th Century and up to the 1930's. However, the Live in HD series offered only *Bluebeard's Castle* by Bela Bartok, dating from 1917, and the famous double-bill of *Cavalleria*

Rusticana (Pietro Mascagni) and *Pagliacci* (Ruggero Leoncavallo), dating from the 1890's. To flesh out this repertoire, our group had a series of seminars focused on the "Artistic Isms in Early Modern Opera", Opera 201, as it were.

Impressionism: *Pélleas et Mélisande* by Claude Debussy.

Expressionism: *Wozzeck* by Alban Berg and *Bluebeard's Castle*.

Neoclassicism: Sergei Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges*.

Surrealism: *The Cunning Little Vixen* by Leos Janacek.

Verismo (Realism): Umberto Giordano's *Andrea Chenier*.

In addition to these full-length operas, we watched excerpts from other operas of the period: works by Ravel, Busoni, Puccini, d'Albert, Richard Strauss, Stravinsky, Korngold, Schreker, Rimsky-Korsakov, and, yes, even a little Schoenberg.

Alas, the Randolph Opera Group suffers from the same malady as the Metropolitan Opera and other classical music organizations. As the audience gets older there are fewer, newer, younger people to carry on the interest and enthusiasm.

Bob Kruszyna, April 6, 2015



Harriet Kruszyna helps out at the Old Library Shop last summer. D Aube Photo



Ben and Arlene Eisenburg, Nancy Penney and Marie Beringer are among the many who continue to enjoy Opera with Bob. Harriet Kruszyna Photo 2015

Klaus, Jussi, Pianos, Soundboards and Singing



Part 2 ... continued from 12/14 issue By Bill Minifie

I found pictures in a book on Steinway similar to Klaus' piano that sold for \$950.00 in 1888. When I removed the bottom front

panel of Klaus' piano and looked up inside I caught a glimpse of the 8 sided rosette, identical to the images in the book, cast into the frame of the piano.

The piano needs major work: The strings need replacing as well as the pin block and pins: they are worn and in some cases even rusty, and finally the felt hammers, that strike the keys, have been filed down, more than once, and need to be replaced. All in all, we're talking several thousands of dollars here. Much more than the price of the piano when new!

But just the same, it is a great instrument with a rich and resonant sound - deep and sonorous. Looking at the piano and thinking about singing, which I always am, I wondered why. It is due, I'm sure, to the fact that the sounding board on the piano is in sound shape (sorry!)

What is the sounding board you might well ask? Every vibrating medium needs a resonator to well - resonant. Have you ever taken a tuning fork, thwacked it against a hard surface and just listened to it by itself? It hardly sounds at all: but if you place the base of the tuning fork on any hard surface the sound is completely different - suddenly the sound is rich and mellow.

The sounding board works in the same way. Different piano makers use different wood. Steinway swears by sitka spruce (Sitka Spruce probably swears at Steinway) which they claim is the most resonate wood available. Sounding boards are slightly arched in the middle and tapered at the edges to further enhance their resonant capabilities.

The bridge is mounted directly onto the sounding board, so that when the hammers strike the strings their vibration causes the sounding board to vibrate/resonate, and through some miraculous rule of physics, to vibrate at the exact same frequency as the strings - even though they are, of course, entirely dif-

ferent materials. It functions in exactly the same way as the bridge on a violin. But if the sounding board is badly made, cracked or broken the sound of the piano is going to, lack resonance.

Being a singer got me to thinking about the sounding board on my new piano and how it relates to the human voice. Vocal folds, or vocal chords are just wobbly looking bands of flesh. If you sing an 'A' above middle 'C' they vibrate 440 times a second. But how can these red flabby fleshy things produce the rich sounds with which some voices are endowed. The answer is that they cannot, without the resonating chambers that surround them. I've read that if you could just hear the sounds of the vocal chords alone they would sound pretty much like a Bronx cheer. Yes the pharynx, nasal cavities, cheek bones etc. do their part but the largest resonators are the chest and thorax, they are very like the sounding board of a piano.

In my opinion one the greatest singers of all time was Jussi Bjorling, a Swedish tenor who lived from 1911-1960. You can find lots of YouTube videos of him. Now why did he sound so fabulous? Were his vocal chords any different from yours or mine? Probably not. It's just that somehow nature had endowed him with a larynx and resonating chambers that worked together - along with a wonderful musical talent and lots of hard work altogether producing one of the most gorgeous sounds ever. Now why do I mention Bjorling in practically the same breath as sounding boards? Well take a look at the picture of Jussi standing in the background with his huge bare chest exposed. (The gentleman in the front, by the way is Robert Merrill, the incredibly talented American baritone). That huge chest was Jussi's sounding board and, I feel certain, was part of the reason he sounded so wonderful.



... Klaus, continued from pg11

Since inheriting Klaus' piano and hearing the resonance of its old but sound sounding board and remembering that great bare chested image of Jussi, I got thinking about our own sounding boards and ribs and comparing them to a piano.

Try it next time you sing: Thrust your shoulders back, puff up your chest and feel your chest high and mighty as if everything in your chest is stretched to the limit. I bet your voice will be richer and fuller.

By the way, when I write about puffing up your chest, you do this even before you take a breath to sing. You flex the muscles of your chest and ribs to expand your chest, using your breathing-in muscles, but other muscles as well. Singing breaths are best when they are as low as possible in the body: But a good low breath will also expand your chest.

To stand like that when you sing is good psychologically as well. We live in such a non-singing world that it is so easy to fall into an apologetic mindset when you sing. When your chest is expanded like Jussi's it's very hard to be apologetic. (Having his voice didn't hurt either!)

Many thanks to Randolph, to Klaus, to Lydia, to Ned, Steve and Sandy and the unexpected and wonderful gift of a great old piano: and to Jussi for bravely thrusting his great chest and magnificent voice into this life.

What more could I ask for, I ask you? Resonance means a re-sounding - to hear it again, as in 'a resounding success!' I'll second that!



Jussi Bjorling

Photos provided by B. Minifie

Randolph Ramble Trail Race

A first ever trail race will take place on the Randolph Community Forest, on Sunday, November 1st at 10 am. The Randolph Ramble will start at the new Community Forest trailhead at the end of Randolph Hill Road, head up Mount Crescent, along Crescent Ridge and back via Community Forest roads. The six-mile race is designed to be a self-supported event. Trail runners will carry their own water and snacks, along with warm layers, in the event of foul weather. A more low-key "Limmer" division will allow hikers to participate, as well. After the race, runners, volunteers and friends will adjourn to the Mark and Katie Kelly's barn, for lunch courtesy of Saalt Pub and the White Mountain Cafe.

The night before the race, a trail running film festival, called Trails in Motion, will take place at the Medalion Opera House in Gorham. The collection of award-winner short films has been traveling the world this year, and features some remarkable scenery, from New England to Patagonia. Proceeds will benefit the RMC and a new youth mountain biking effort in the community.

Want to help out? The organizers are looking for volunteers to help during the day of the event, in a variety of capacities.

Doug Mayer

Friends of the Randolph Library Summer Events

Friday, July 3, Minifie/Alexander Concert "Songs for a Summer Evening" Randolph Town Hall -7:00 p.m.

Cost- \$10.00

Tickets available at the Randolph Public Library, Ingrid Graff (466-5736), Lynn Hunt (466-3456), and may be available at the door.

Wednesday, July 15, Summer Opera Series #1-Part 1

A Look at Slavic (Eastern European) Opera

Randolph Town Hall Conference Room, 7:00-10:00 p.m. RSVP bhark@ne.rr.com

Thursday, July 16, Summer Opera Series #1-Part 2

A Look at Slavic Opera: Khovanshchina by Moussorgsky Randolph Town Hall Conference Room, 7:00-10:00 p.m. RSVP bhark@ne.rr.com

Wednesday, July 22, Berlin Jazz Band/BYOB/BYOF Picnic Supper Randolph Municipal Building (Pinkham B. Road) 5:30-8:00

Donations accepted to help offset the cost of the band.

Wednesday, August 12, Summer Opera Series #2-Part 1

"Early 20th Century Opera: A Genre not Appreciated Enough" Randolph Town Hall-Conference Room 7:00-10:00 p.m. RSVP-bhark@ne.rr.com

Thursday, August 13, Summer Opera Series #2-Part 2

"Early 20th Century Opera: A Genre not Appreciated Enough" Randolph Town Hall-Conference Room 7:00-10:00 p.m. RSVP-bhark@ne.rr.com

Christa Rousseau - New Randolph Weekly Editor



Edith Tucker Photo

The Randolph Foundation is pleased to announce that Christa Rousseau has agreed to take over the summer publication of the Randolph Weekly. Notices for the first edition must be sent to her at randolphweekly@gmail.com by Friday, June 26th, to give her time to organize publication for the first edition. The first edition will be available on Friday, July 3rd. Thereafter, the deadline will be published in the Weekly.

Contact information:

randolphweekly@gmail.com

Call or text: 603-915-0253

[Facebook.com/christa.rousseau.56](https://www.facebook.com/christa.rousseau.56)

Please remember notices must be succinct. Notices received after the deadline may not be published.

The "Weekly" is published each week during the months of July and August.



Interested in more news about Randolph, the mountains and the North Country? Keep an eye out for the June 2015 issue of the Randolph Mountain Club newsletter, mailed in early June and also available for viewing and download on the RMC website, randolphmountainclub.org. In this issue, you can find articles about:

- The Trail Clubs exhibit at the Museum of the White Mountains in Plymouth
- Science-related articles about invasive dandelions in the alpine zone, and graduate research field work along Lowe's Path this summer
- The "Randolph Ramble" trail race organized for November by Doug Mayer and others, on the Community Forest
- A call for volunteer "trailhead stewards", from the Forest Service, for Appalachia

What's Randolph Reading?

NEW TO THE RANDOLPH LIBRARY COLLECTION

DVD's :

Jersey Boys
 Elsa & Fred
 Temple Grandin
 Masterpiece: Downton Abbey Season 5
 And So It Goes
 The Theory of Everything
 Chef
 Wild
 Lee Daniel's The Butler
 The Monuments Men
 Masterpiece Mystery: Grantchester
 The King's Speech
 The Iron Lady
 The Bletchley Circle Seasons 1&2
 Family & Young Adult:

Maleficent
 Wreck-It Ralph
 Guardians of the Galaxy
 The LEGO Movie
 Despicable Me 2
 Divergent
 The Fault in Our Stars
 If I Stay

The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies

Audio:

A Man Called Ove

Adult Books:

Broken Harbor, by Tana French
 A Girl on the Train, by Paula Hawkins
 A Spool of Thread, by Anne Tyler
 A Red Herring Without Mustard, by Alan Bradley
 I Am Half-Sick of Shadows, by Alan Bradley
 Jewelweed, by David Rhodes
 When We Were the Kennedys: A Memoir From Mexico, Maine, by Monica Wood
 The Buried Giant, by Kazuo Ishiguro
 Station Eleven, by Emily St. John Mandel

Children's Books:

Worm, by Elise Gravel
 Animalium, by Jenny Broom
 Compiled by Beth Dube, Library Director



Nancy Penney Photo

THE BACK PORCH BOOK CLUB

June 5 Trans Atlantic by Colum McCann at Barbara Arnolds, Randolph Hill

July 10 All the Light we Cannot See by Anthony Doerr at Valerie Bailys, Randolph Hill

For more information contact Barbara Arnold at 466-2438

THE MILDRED HORTON BOOK CLUB

The group reviewed Mountain Summers: Tales of Hiking and Exploration in the White Mountains from 1878 to 1886 as Seen Through the Eyes of Women, compiled by Randolph's Peter Rowan and June Hammond Rowan. This book is a fascinating collection of original letters from the 19th century, written by the first AMC women who had a passion for White Mountain hiking. This was the last meeting before summer break.



The Randolph Public Library held an open house on May 15.

Above: *Dedication*—Retiring Trustee Jean Malick was recognized at the Randolph Library Open House in April. Jean has served in various library capacities for over 37 years.

Left Top: *Esprit de corps*—Anne Kenison and Angela Pfeffer, along with Sandy Wier, Barbara and Bill Arnold and Jim Hunt enjoy delicious appetizers and inspiring conversation,

Bottom Left: *Mirth* -Janet Halverson and Ted Wier share .

Clover Koopman Photos



ELSA BESKOW BOOKS CHOSEN FOR NEW COLLECTION

The trustees of the Randolph Public Library have launched a special program for the Children's Room, celebrating new additions to our community. To honor local births, a children's book by Swedish author-illustrator Elsa Beskow (often referred to as the Beatrix Potter of Sweden) will be added to the collection, with a book plate commemorating each child's name and date of birth.

Elsa Beskow was born in 1874 in Stockholm, the second of six children. She grew up loving the fairy tales told to her by her maternal grandmother, and spent hours drawing the natural world around her. Her illustrations as an adult reflect a child's wondering view of nature. She studied drawing at Tekniska Solan, now the Konstfack College of Arts, Crafts and Design, and married painter and fellow student Nathaniel Beskow in 1897. The couple had six sons in 15 years, and Elsa helped to support the family by producing one new book a year.

Elsa Beskow's debut book, *The Tale of the Little, Little Old Woman*, was released in the same year she married. Her work has been translated into 14 languages, including Arabic, French, Dutch, Korean, and Japanese. Like her American counterpart Tasha Tudor, Beskow used her life and surroundings to inspire her picture books. Nature is always prominent, combined with fantasy and fairy tales, elves, goblins, and talking animals. Her books transcend nationality and time, and are true classics. Elsa Beskow died in 1953 at age 79.

Angela Pfeffer, Beth Dube and Elly McLaughlin enjoy Spine Poetry during Poetry Month at the Library. Nancy Penney Photo





This group gathered at the Penney Farm on May 29 to celebrate the demise of the mountain 7 and to welcome spring. This is an annual, all inclusive event.
daube.photo

*Mountain View Publications
Randolph Foundation
P.O. Box 283
Gorham, N.H. 03581-0283*

To:

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Articles, notices, inquiries, comments are encouraged. Send materials for the **Mountain View** to Dede Aube, dedeaube@gmail.com or 32 Nekal Lane, Randolph, NH 03593, (603-723-0847) by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Publication is quarterly: Sept., Dec., March & June. The **Randolph Weekly** is published in July & Aug. Send information re summer events to Christa Rousseau, randolphweekly@gmail.com. Call or text: 603-915-0253. The **Blizzard** is published September to June. Send notices to Laura Brockett, lbrocett@gmail.com. 603-466-2034. **Mountain View Publications**, Randolph Foundation Production, PO Box 283, Gorham, NH 03581
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Town Directory

AMBULANCE 911

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT Chair, Paul Cormier 466-5841

Meets 7 PM the 3rd Thursday of the month at Town Hall.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN Chair, Ted Wier 466-3970

Administrative Assistant, Linda Dupont; Treasurer Angela Brown

Meets 7 p.m. 2nd & 4th Monday at Town Hall 466-5771

BUILDING PERMITS. See Board of Selectmen

CEMETERY TRUSTEES Suzanne Santos, Steve Hartman, & Karen Eitel

CONSERVATION COMMISSION Chair, Bruce Kirmmse 466-5777

Vice-Chair, Jim Hunt 723-6653

DOG LICENSES See Town Clerk. Obtain or renew by the end of April.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - ALL ALARMS - CALL 911;

Randolph Chief, Dana Horne

FOREST FIRE WARDEN Jeff Parker Call for Burning Permits 662-4050

GRS COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD Contact SAU 20 Office 466-3632
 for meeting locations. Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

LIBRARY Librarian, Beth Dube. 466-5408

Open Mon. & Wed. 3– 8 pm; Fri. & Sat. 10-noon

Trustees meet 3rd Mon. of each month at library. Chair, Nancy Penney

LIFELINE Heather Wiley 466-5179

PLANNING BOARD (Chair, John Scarinza) 466-5775

Meets 7 p.m. at the Town Hall on the first Thursday of the month.

POLICE Randolph Chief, Alan Lowe 466-3950

RANDOLPH CHURCH (Moderator, Beverly Weatherly

Sunday morning services July & August 10:30 a.m.

RANDOLPH COMMUNITY FOREST COMMISSION chair, John Scarinza

Meets at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall on the 1st Wednesday 466-5775

RANDOLPH FOUNDATION President, Barbara Arnold 466-2438

RANDOLPH LIFE SQUAD — Call 911 in an emergency

Co-Directors Bill & Barbara Arnold 466-2438

RANDOLPH MOUNTAIN CLUB President, Randy Meiklejohn

ROAD AGENT Kevin Rousseau 466-5185

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Denise Demers, Michael Sewick & Angela Chakalis-Pfeffer

TAX COLLECTOR Anne Kenison by appointment; Town Hall 466-5771

TOWN CLERK Anne Kenison 466-2606

Town Hall hours: Mondays 9 -11a.m.; Wednesdays 7 -9p.m.

TOWN HALL Monday– Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon. 466-5771

TRASH COLLECTION Must be at roadside by 7 a.m.

Trash -Tuesdays; Recycling, sorted/bagged -1st Saturday of month.

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUND J.Kenison, M. Sewick, M. Lark Andreas

Summer Community Calendar– 2015 July

3 Songs for a Summer Evening, Minifie/
Alexander Town Hall, 7-8 pm

4 RMC Fourth of July Tea, Kelley's Barn,
Randolph Hill Rd 3-5pm

5 Randolph Art Show, Wine Reception,
Town Hall, 4-6pm

12 Woodspring-stock,.Woodspring 12noon

15 Opera Series #1, Pt.1, Town Hall, 7-10pm

16 Summer Opera Series #1, Part 2, Town
Hall, 7-10pm

22 Jazz Band and Picnic, Randolph
Municipal Building, 5-8pm

25 Library Book and Bake Sale, Randolph
Town Hall, 9-12noon

25 Dance Around the Pumps, Lowe's, 7pm

Aug

1 Randolph Forest Day, Town Hall, 9am,
Tour, 10 a.m.

1 Memorial Service, Margo Risley Stever
Weed, Randolph Church, 2pm

2 Peter Sykes Organ concert, Randolph
Church, 4pm

5 RMC Gourmet Dinner, Libby's Bistro
6pm, Reservations a must!

6 RMC Gourmet Hike, Randolph East

8 RMC Annual Meeting, Town Hall 7pm

9 Randolph Church 131st annual meeting
following service.

9 Life Celebration, Jim Meiklejohn, Town
Hall, 4-6 pm

12 Opera Series #2, Pt 1, Town Hall, 7-10pm

13 Memorial Service, Gail Scott, Gorham
Congregational Church, 11am reception
following at the church.

13 Summer Opera Series #2, Part 2, Town
Hall, 7– 10pm

14 Randolph Foundation Meeting, Town Hall,
4-6pm

15 Fireman's Breakfast, Municipal Building,
Pinkham B, 7:30-10:00 am

15 RMC Picnic & Charades, Mossy Glenn
(Rain Venue-Town Hall) 12-2pm

15 RMC Square Dance, Beringer Barn,
Randolph Hill, 7:30-9:30pm

16 Memorial Service, Jim and Harriet
Baldwin, Randolph Church, 2pm
Reception following at Town Hall

22 Memorial Service, Edward Adams,
Randolph Church, 11am, reception to follow
at 251 Randolph Hill

*More information regarding these events may
be found within this newsletter.*

*Be sure to check the Randolph Weekly
throughout the summer for further details and
added events.*

Town Road News from the Selectmen's Office

Spring is arriving quickly and we are planning lots of road work projects for the spring and summer season. This update is to keep you informed of possible road work that may take place on your road. If you are a summer resident, you may find some of the projects already completed.

The annual road grading should have taken place sometime in May depending on the speed of frost rising out of the ground. The end of Boothman Lane required a considerable amount of clean stone to repair a soft road bed. We are still searching for a long term solution to that problem.

While we have the grader, we plan to trim and cut road edges on Durand Road. This will remove some of the grass which is encroaching on the paved way and prevents water from draining off the roadway properly. Ditches will also be improved at that time. Subsequently, the grass will be reseeded to prevent erosion.

Road sweeping will take place after the grading. This will not only clean up winter sand and salt, but help keep the drains from filling in. Our road agent will be inspecting the catch basins and vacuuming them out as needed.

Crack sealing will take place later in the spring on Randolph Hill Road. This is an annual preventive maintenance project done every spring.

A reminder to homeowners that your driveway culvert is your responsibility. If it is clogged or collapsed, it is up to you to repair. If there is an impact on the town road from your culvert, the town may take action to repair, unclog, or replace and you will be charged for the cost. We will always notify you in the event of this type of action.

The on-going culvert replacement on Durand Road will take place earlier this year, possibly by June. There are 7 culverts to be replaced this year near the west end of the road. We will make every effort to publicize road closures.

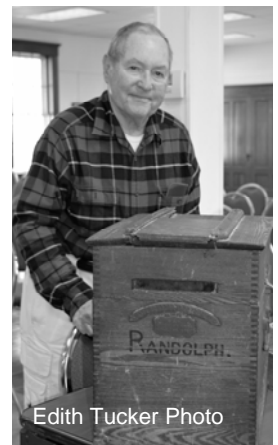
In July, we have scheduled the removal of High Acres roadbed from where it intersects Glover Spring Road to the dead end at Cross's. This project has been awarded to GW Brooks & Sons of the Conway area. Once the pavement is removed, a new road bed will be laid and a final coat of gravel, returning this road to gravel status.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during all these projects. We would like to give a tip of the hat to our road agent, Kevin Rousseau for the good work he does for us. At town meeting this year, there was a spontaneous round of applause for his efforts. Congratulations Kevin, and thank you!

BALLOT-BOX by Edith Tucker

On March 10, 2015, Randolph Town moderator David Willcox stood behind the historic ballot box which bears the neatly painted town name, along with the words "THE FEDERAL," on a crescent-shaped metal strip and "PAT. July 30 1889 AUG. 1890," on a small metal plate below it.

During a trip to North Country polling places on Town Meeting Day in 2014, state Sen. Jeff Woodburn learned that a few towns, including Randolph, Thornton, Columbia and Benton, still use these century-plus-old ballot boxes. The boxes were originally supplied by the state of New Hampshire, in 1891, to every city and town within the state. "Thornton's ballot box is in the best condition, once-required bell and mechanical device for receiving, registering and canceling every ballot deposited therein remain intact," said Woodburn.



Ravine House Pool Update

By Barbara Arnold, President Randolph Foundation

The Randolph Foundation and the Selectmen are working assiduously to restore the Ravine House Pool to the area fondly remembered over the summers. It has been the center of entertainment for generations of people to cool off after a hot hike or long day at work, to go fishing downstream from the pool and to serve as a beautiful setting for photos and family gatherings. Over the years, the pool has become silted in and grass is filling in from the sides. On the positive side, the dam was repointed to minimize leaking and stabilize the rocks. The fountain is being rebuilt this spring. Other projects include new signage and there are discussions about the bathrooms and playground equipment. The main project, however, is the pool.

At this time, the process of applying to the state for a dredging permit has begun. Jon Sisson has generously donated his time to organize the engineering study necessary for the permit and is waiting for the water level to lower in order to do this, hopefully, by the end of May. It will take some time for the state to review and grant the permit, once it is applied for. For that reason, the pool will be open as usual for the season, as conditions allow. The pool depth and environments will remain much unchanged until after the dredging project begins, so don't expect much difference there this summer. Once the permit is received, the Randolph Foundation Committee and the Selectmen will come together to draft a Request for Proposal for the dredging project. With an eye to review the bids and award a contract by mid-August, it is hoped to have the project started after the pool is drained in September.

The project will probably have a cost in excess of \$40,000. This will be jointly financed by the Town and the Randolph Foundation. The pool has not been dredged since 1996 so this initial dredging will be more costly. Permits are good for 5 years. If maintenance is scheduled regularly, and perhaps a smaller dredging is completed just before this permit expires, the annualized cost ought to be less. Obviously, all environmental safeguards for the stream will be part of any contract. Work will be overseen by the Randolph Town Selectmen and the Randolph Foundation Ravine House Pool Committee. As the area is owned by the Town of Randolph, the Selectmen are ultimately in charge with the Foundation Committee serving in an advisory capacity.

Under an agreement made when the Foundation initially donated the land to the Town, the Town and Randolph Foundation jointly manage the area and are working together to make this all happen.

Randolph Celebrates the Graduates of 2015

Elisabeth (Elisa) Allino graduated from GRS Regional High School on June 5. Elisa's Senior Project involved help and support at the Holiday Center in Berlin. She was considered invaluable. Elisa is the daughter of Robert Allino. Currently Elisa's plans are undecided.

Jaime Kenison received his welding certificate from WMCC in Berlin on May 21, 2015. He will spend the summer completing his certification for pipe welding. Jaime is the son of Anne Kenison of Randolph and David Kenison of Mt. Dora, FL

Catherine Temme graduated from Emmanuel College in Boston.

SAVE THE DATE Barbara and Bill Arnold will be hosting a square dance at the Randolph Town Hall on Saturday evening, September 26th. Meet and greet from 5 to 7:30, dancing with Jacqueline and Dudley Laufman from 7:30 to 9:30. Randolph's own Paul Cormier will also be playing. There will be food, fun and friends as we celebrate ours and others' September anniversaries. All are welcome, no gifts please.

Zen



By Dean Potter

Cold air from the valley drifts upward. It's predawn, and I've been moving on the Nose of El Cap through the night, focused on the rock in front of me in the faint light of my headlamp. Suddenly, I think of how tired and exposed I am, alone, rope-less, far past any point of retreat. A surge of panic courses through me. I try to think of the summit, but that thought is too dangerous.

An image floats into my mind. I'm following my father in the early morning through a pasture in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. He strides towards Moose River, his favorite fishing spot. I'm not even half his height, and the frosty grass brushes all the way up to my waist.

We reach the river. My dad skips from rock to rock, downstream to the first hole, and looks back for me. The water is freezing, and the rocks are covered in slime. I'm afraid to follow. I burrow painfully through the thickets of pricker bushes, swamp, and black flies as my father calls for me. The bugs chase me back to the river's edge, and I timidly wade in and try to catch up. Tense and anxious, I lose my footing and fall into the river. I gasp for breath in the icy water but manage to scramble onto a rock, where I bawl until my father comes back. "I don't like fishing. I want to go home."

My father shakes his head at me, and his eyes sparkle. "Dean, put everything aside. There's nothing to be afraid of, except a little cold water. Just focus on the next step you are taking. I feel so happy running down the river, sun reflecting off the water, my body naturally going where it's supposed to. I almost don't think at all. I just respond to what's in front of me."

He stops talking and heads downstream again. We slowly pick our way across the rocks, catching rainbows and brook trout. The day passes quickly, and my confidence rises. Soon I'm playing and racing down the rapids with eyes wide and senses alert, not knowing I've just received my first lesson in Zen.

The air drifts over my body. I grasp the immediate. I reach for the next hold.

Dean Potter, April 14, 1972 – May 16, 2015

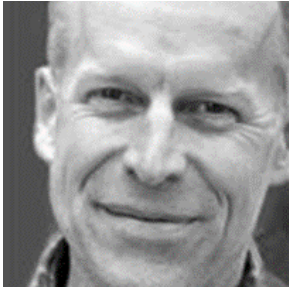
Dean gave a hugely inspirational talk for RMC years ago, at the Randolph Town Hall. It's not an overstatement to say he was one of the 5 or so most influential climbers and adventurers in the world during the last decade — he merged and intertwined climbing, solo climbing, BASE jumping with "squirrel" suits and trail running. His loss is really a huge loss to anyone who values pushing limits, exploring, and adventure. Many of us outdoors-types in Randolph followed him closely. He was an articulate and forceful advocate for adventure and challenge. The above short story takes place in Randolph. It first appeared in Yvon Chouinard's autobiography. Doug Mayer:

Roberta Arbree Photo, 2010

Randolph Remembers ...

Thomas Dempster

1957 - 2015



Thomas Allen Dempster was a man in constant motion. Devoted cyclist, passionate environmentalist, electrical engineer, conservationist, and mountain explorer, Tom didn't-couldn't-sit still for long. Making the most of each day and perpetually "busy," he always stopped to express love for his wife and kids, help someone in need, or appreciate nature's subtle nuances. His boundless energy and astounding thoughtfulness make it most difficult to announce his sudden passing on April 14, 2015.

Born on March 1, 1957 in Philadelphia to Burton and Ellen Dempster, Tom grew up with brothers Keith and Bruce. A self-taught guru of electronics, there was no wiring diagram he couldn't read or broken circuit board he was unable to diagnose. Tom's lifelong joy for riding bicycles also became his sole mode of transportation. He viewed the bicycle as the vehicle of a new mentality, and his bike harmonized well with his advocacy for health, efficiency, self-reliance, simplicity, and cleanliness.

In 1979, while riding bicycles in the California Bay Area, Tom met his wife-to-be, Terry. Together they built a life of adventure, biking across the country, backpacking through distant mountain ranges, raising children Kyle and Molly, and eventually moving to Salt Lake City in 1995. Tom's greatest joy in life was biking and hiking around the nearby Wasatch Mountains with Terry, the "love of his life."

At 56, Tom retired (sort of) after working over thirty years in tech support. He kept his mind busy by operating a home business, repairing broken televisions, computer monitors, radios, and other small electronics; it was less about making money and more about "keeping them out of the landfill," he'd say. Tom contributed often to local politics by submitting to the Tribune's editorial section, and writing letters and emails voicing his opinions on issues he deemed unjust. During retirement he found great happiness biking with Terry to her job, finishing a hike with a cup of coffee at his son Kyle's coffee shop, and removing recyclable materials from roadside shoulders and scenic mountain places. But nothing brought him more happiness than "the greatest day of his life," walking his daughter Molly down the aisle to marry Sam in 2014.

Tom is survived and will be missed dearly by his wife Terry, son Kyle, daughter Molly, Jewell, Sam, brother Keith, and many more friends and family that he touched and inspired by his selflessness, thriftiness, intelligence, authenticity, high level of fitness, and love for his surroundings. If you pass a piece of debris on the trail or road, pick it up in Tom's honor and find a way to recycle or reuse it.

In lieu of flowers, please show condolences by offering a donation to the Salt Lake Bike Collective at www.bicyclecollective.org.

Building Permits issued

1/12/15	01-15	Lavino Pare	Renovations
1/12/15	02-15	Joan Darlington	Shed
4/13/15	03-15	Ray & Glo Mulligan	Garage
4/13/15	04-15	Larry & Yvonne Jenkins	Renovations
5/11/15	05-15	Douglas Beach/Catherine Zirpolo	Shed
5/11/15	06-15	Eric Bekkeland	Windows

Property Changes

2/23	Michelle Cyr/Thomas Dunn
5/4	May Gail Scott Rev Trust/Samarjit Shankar
5/4	Beverly Turchinets/Barry Johnson

... Herman T. Skofield

Herman T. Skofield, 93, of Walpole, NH died March 14, 2015 at the Woodward Home in Keene. He was born in Manchester on November 18, 1921, the son of Frank D. and Margaret C. Skofield. Herman grew and graduated from high school in New Boston. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of New Hampshire in 1947 followed by three plus years of service in the United States Army during World War II. He reached the rank of captain.

Mr. Skofield obtained his Master of Arts degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1948 and continued graduate studies two more years, during which time he taught part-time at a girls' school in Boston and was an instructor of international relations at MIT.

He entered the US Foreign Service in 1950 and served in Pakistan; Vienna, Austria; and Bern, Switzerland, as well as at the State Department in Washington, D.C. His last overseas position was as political counselor at the American Embassy in Bern, Switzerland. Before retiring in 1971, he served as deputy director of the Office of European Affairs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in the Department of State.

Survivors include his wife of 67 years, the former Jane G. Phipps of Walpole, NH; four children, William and James Skofield of Walpole, Margaret C. Winters of Carlisle, PA, and Elizabeth Skofield of Snoqualmie, WA; six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; his brother in law, Ray Rogers of Fort Wayne, IN; and a nephew, Douglas Rogers of VA.

A memorial service was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Walpole.

Herman and his wife Jane have owned the summer cottage across from Carlton Brook for several years. It was once the Carlton Brook Tea House.

Contributions in his name may be made to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf, PO Box 191, Alstead, NH 03602 or to Our Place Drop-In Center, 4 Island St., PO Box 852, Bellows Falls, NH 05101.

The following memorials and life celebrations are planned during the month of August:

Edward Adams: A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 22 at the Randolph Church. Reception to follow at Stewart Cottage, 251 Randolph Hill Road.

Jim and Harriet Baldwin: A memorial service has been set for 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 16, in the Randolph Church, followed by burial in the Randolph cemetery and a reception at the Randolph Town Hall.

Jim Meiklejohn: An informal celebration of the life of Jim Meiklejohn will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 9th, at the Randolph Town Hall. All are welcome.

Gail Scott: A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 13, at the Gorham Congregational Church. There will be a reception at the church following the service.

Margarette Risley Stever Weed: A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on August 1st, at the Randolph Church



Ink Drawings by Chen Sun

Randolph Church Summer Schedule Announced

For 130 years the Randolph Church has stood atop Gorham Hill as a summer chapel bringing glory to God in the White Mountains and welcoming persons from all faith traditions. Services are held each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. and are led each week by clergy from the area as well as those from various parts of the country. All are cordially invited to join us in worship. Leadership this year will be provided by the following:

July 5	Heidi Hoskins, Hanover NH	Aug. 2	William May, Bethesda MD
July 12	Richard Martin, Exeter NH	Aug. 9	Beverly Weatherly, Alexandra VA
July 19	Eleanor McLaughlin, Randolph NH	Aug. 16	John Weatherly, Alexandria VA
July 26	Jeff Bean, Thomaston, CT	Aug. 23	Lorain Giles, Lunenburg VT
		Aug. 30	Alta Chase, Stratford, NH

Organist providing the music leadership for these services include Heywood Alexander, Barbara Bishop, Susan Ferré, Suzanne Ozorak, Peter Sykes and Barbara Wyssession. A special organ concert featuring Peter Sykes will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday Aug. 2. The 131st annual meeting of the Randolph Church will be held following services on August 9. Plan to join your friends and neighbors for spiritual refreshment and lemonade on the lawn after services.

Putting On The Ritz

By Mark Kelley

The Randolph Church, which was built in 1884 and is on the National Register of Historic Places, is getting its exterior spruced up and ready for the 2015 summer season.

At the 130th annual meeting of the Board of Management, in 2014, the Buildings and Grounds Committee was asked to find a painter for a well overdue painting. George Dunham, interviewed and reviewed bids from three painting contractors, and selected Dave Connolly of D&M Painting for the job. Dave lives in Gorham, and has a great deal of experience painting historic New England Churches.

Ian Turnbull was kind enough to inspect the quality of the clapboards and trim boards last fall, and make the necessary repairs. Dave Connolly will begin scraping as you're reading this article, with painting completed by the middle of June.

At the same time, the grounds will be cleared of the winter blow-down, the bushes trimmed backed from over growth, and the screen repaired from the damage of the claw of a visiting bear! I know that some worshipers would be happy with the screens removed to improve the view, but so would the Randolph black flies!

We hope you all can take a moment from your busy Sunday morning to spend some time with us at Services any Sunday at 10:30 a.m. from July 5 to Labor Day. Our community is so fortunate to have many wonderful ministers available to us each summer.



"Bear" no Witness against thy neighbor.
Mark Kelley Photo

Opera in Randolph

Opera in Randolph? Well, yes, sort of. No live performances yet, but over the last six or seven years many complete video performances, innumerable video and audio clips, and several educational seminars have been held. And the payoff: the periodic pilgrimage of anywhere from four to twelve Randolphians to Fryeburg Academy's Performing Arts Center to attend a Metropolitan Opera Live in HD performance! It was the availability of the Met Live in HD presentations that sparked the immediate interest in opera.

Knowing of my long-term enthusiasm for classical music, and opera in particular, a few people asked if I might offer a class in the basics of opera so they would better understand how it works. While working at Dartmouth, Harriet and I, in 1980, joined a program entitled "Opera as a Musical and Dramatic Form," whose purpose was to bring together people from different academic fields around a common interest. The group met 10 or 12 times a year, with an introductory talk by a knowledgeable person, followed by a viewing of an opera video – with the customary wine and cheese at intermission. For the abstainers, Harriet provided her home-pressed "K & K Orchards" cider. When I became chairman of the group, I tried to broaden the scope beyond the mainstream war-horses like Carmen, Aïda, La Bohème, etc, especially as more titles became available on video. Thus we had a series of programs with themes: The Operas of Richard Strauss, Slavic Opera, French Grand Opera, The Ladies of the Verismo, et al.

In response to 2008 local inquiries, I developed a series of seminars on various aspects of opera, building on my Dartmouth experience. The Friends of the Randolph Library provided sponsorship, publicity, projection equipment, and reserved the Town Hall. Thus, if you will, Opera 101, Fundamentals of Opera. A syllabus follows.

1. Beginning with Bizet: Carmen. Introduction to Structure and Features.
2. Marvelous Mozart: Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute).
3. Vendetta con Verdi: Aïda.
4. Wagner's Valhalla: Das Rheingold.
5. French Grand Opera. Meyerbeer: L' Africaine.
6. Arise ye mighty people! Moussorgsky: Boris Godounov, Slavic & Eastern European opera.
7. Lesser Luminaries. Puccini: Il Tabarro (The Cloak), Verismo.
8. Richard Strauss: Salome, Expressionism.
9. Bel Canto. Donizetti: L'Elisir d'amore (The Elixir of Love), Pavarotti Pluperfect.
10. Total Theater. Janacek: The Makropoulos Case.
11. Back to the Baroque. Handel: Giulio Caesar.
12. In our Time. Britten: The Turn of the Screw, Poulenc: La Voix humaine, Martinu: Ariane.
13. Fun at the Finish. Strauss (Johann II): Die Fledermaus (The Bat).

Over the course of two years, the group met monthly for two successive evenings, which allowed for lectures, discussion, opera excerpts and examples, ancillary matters (voice types, staging, "pants roles", etc), and a full-length opera on video. Attendance varied from six to a dozen, pretty surprising for a North Country town of some 300-odd year-round residents. And it resulted in regular pilgrimages to the Met Live in HD offerings, where the intermissions were given over to questions and discussions. It certainly helped that the Fryeburg Performing Arts Center had engaged a caterer to provide upscale lunches and sumptuous desserts. As Ben Eisenberg expressed, "that added a social element to an artistic and intellectual occasion."