



Select Board's Corner



By a unanimous vote of the board we hired a new Town Manager, Eric Dyer, on October 1st. He and his family are in the process of buying a house in the Town Office neighborhood. We had a meet and greet for him and his family on October 17th that was well attended. We are all looking forward to working with Eric and are very pleased he chose our town.

Thank you to Teresa and staff for keeping it together in the interim.

The Select board retreat was held on October 9th. We set goals we want to complete this year as well as some that will be ongoing. A list of the goals, timetable and assignments are available at the Town Office. One goal in particular is looking at how we can improve the process for Secret Ballot. We will be forming a committee which will include a 3rd party facilitator.

The paving is complete on all our roads so now it is just a matter of keeping them maintained. Which is an ongoing goal also.

Kristin Parks is our new Counter Clerk and a welcome addition to the office staff.

A big thanks goes out to Bill Starrett for all his hard work taping the Select board meetings. We are now able to log onto the towns website and watch any of the meetings recorded since June of this year. What do you think about taping the budget process and having those available also?

Thank you for your continued support! We don't always get it right but we try to do our best.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Readfield Trails Committee

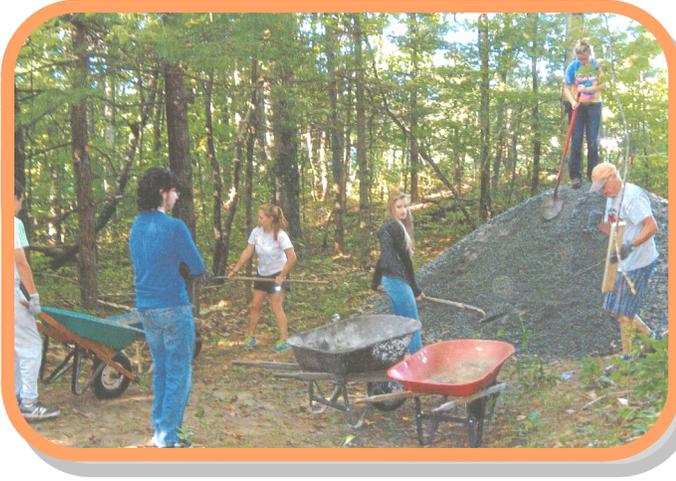
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Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....



Approximately 15 years ago the town of Readfield had a very unique opportunity to acquire over 35 acres right in the middle of town for both conservation and community trails. At the annual town meeting a local resident and private land use consultant presented a program that would allow Readfield to obtain the property with a small investment by retaining all of the property except 4 acres that could be sold to cover most of the town's cost. I spoke at the town meeting how this land had so many potential uses that it was too good an opportunity to let pass. The voters overwhelmingly voted for the purchase. This would be

the beginning of an 8 year labor of love for many Readfield senior citizens. Because the land had sat for 12 years after town acquisition, and I had just finished up 5 years on a trail advisor volunteer board with the State of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, I said it was time for Readfield to have its own Readfield Trails Committee (R.T.C.). The committee would be totally committed to building trails within the village for people of all abilities, (D.A.P.) DIFFERENTLY ABLED PEOPLE. The surface when finished would be a blue stone all weather material. Let it rain, let it pour, it would make no difference. You would also be able to walk looking at all Mother Nature provides and not have to keep your head down to keep from tripping on roots or rocks underfoot or fall off slippery bog bridging. Parents and grandparents would be able to use jogger strollers and battery powered wheel chairs would be welcome.

The Select Board at that time would give the R.T.C. a clear mandate to "build it and they will come". Yes, the roster of seniors that would be involved would be so typical of Maine; an orthopedic surgeon, nurse, school teachers, entrepreneur, postal workers, retired state and military, P.E. Profession engineers, and chemical engineers from the pulp and paper industry. For the next 8 years, muscles seniors had long forgotten maybe didn't come to life, but they sure came to their attention. What would follow would be tens of thousands of dollars of manual labor and tractor donation time to build the trails and use this so called in kind contribution to obtain Federal and State grants. Especially pleasing to seniors was a gift of \$3,000 from the disbanded "Readfield Little Town Club" Many seniors had spent over the years a lot of time with the club and now to see monies used to build trails within Readfield was very rewarding. Just like the reward when seniors who have been supportive of the local schools over the years are now using the area medical providers and find so many of their medical providers are local kids that returned after medical training or went directly from high school to Maine General. What is that saying? "What goes around comes around"

The first thing that had to be done was to establish an "Open Space Plan". The plan would state that "the R.T.C. should work to create a permanent system(s) of trails throughout Readfield to accommodate a diverse group of users, including snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, and skiing and connect key conservation lands and other key areas (e.g., schools) through landowner agreements, conservation easements donations and purchases, and purchase conservation lands and rights of way".

Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....

2013 - 2014 was one of the most productive years for Readfield Trails and its senior volunteers on two fronts. With the charge to get to downtown Readfield, blue stone all weather trail connections were made with the Union Meeting House on Church road which abutted the already in place blue stone Town Library trails. Once down to the Library users had access to the new sidewalk taking them to the Town Office and the new Mill Stream Dam trail network. The dam itself had washed out many years ago and although there are no plans to rebuild the dam itself, a pleasant visit on the footpath bridge can observe water flowing over remains of the original dam. A group from Readfield, including Conservation and Trails is organizing a Dam Landscaping committee working with a landscape architect donating his time with sketches including suggested plantings. A 17 year old high school graduate who will enter Unity College this January has volunteered to head up the Dam Committee.

So how did the town of Readfield over 8 years invest \$1 to get back \$9 in return over 8 years? Many of the senior volunteers had been working their own back forty with tractors for years. Others as P.E. (Professional Engineers) in retirement or winding down their practice gave valuable onsite service from unique rip rap methods to water erosion control. They advised using larger culverts which would be safer to maneuver around and offer more angles of attack. These professionals with years of experience gave correct estimates of the amounts of free fill material that R.T.C. would receive from the town's recently completed side walk project. Using estimating methods from text books was not enough - this is where the senior engineers knew we would have to multiply by two and three times to cover the actual woods conditions with extreme slopes and many small ravines and washouts. With the engineers expertise we were able to square off the trail base creating a safe walking situation. Our senior engineers were on the field shooting elevations on one of the coldest November days. Also, an engineer estimated that there was a 300 yard fill pile buried in the woods many years ago from a nearby road project. How to get this valuable 300 yards out? Three of our senior volunteers were chainsaw certified, as they had been stewards of sections of the Appalachian Trail through the Maine Appalachian Mountain Club. These volunteers had all the safety equipment: Steel toed shoes, chaps, helmet with ear protection. It was a grueling process that was aided by other seniors with loppers and small hand saws hauling away the brush as the chainsaws maneuvered their way through the thick underbrush. As so often happens in life, in an ironic twist of events, senior volunteers responsible for building trails for less abled individuals would now find these very woods trails what they need to use themselves.

The R.T.C. kept professional and accurate record keeping information that would enable Maranacook Community School to acquire a \$ 30,000 grant from the State of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands Recreational Trails Program. The school hired a professional contractor to do their portion of the trail system.

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) works in the following way: The schools \$30,000 grant would require either a 20% financial contribution or a 20% in kind match. This in kind would come from the Readfield trails that as a nonprofit town abutter would put in an 1800 foot trail connecting the Fairgrounds Park with the schools SUICIDE HILL application. Little funds would actually come from the Town of Readfield for its own 1800 foot section adjacent to the Readfield cemetery.

Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....

Speaking of the cemetery, it is with a great deal of satisfaction that we have received many compliments from complete strangers because of our connecting the Readfield trails network with a spur trail into the cemetery. Through consultation with the Cemetery Committee it was determined that during this difficult time for family visiting a grave site of a love one having access for an all-weather surface walk out to the Maranacook look out to view the lake would be appreciated. Even after a heavy rain storm with the blue stone under foot, dress shoes are appropriate attire.

Within the first week of senior tractor volunteers and rakers laying down the sidewalk and church road free gravel base fill material over a geo-tech water liner, the in kind dollar contributions quickly added up. The state allowed \$45 per hour for tractor volunteer's work and \$10 for manual labor. Also would be a credit of \$15 a yard for the town's free gravel fill. The senior engineer's recommendation to keep daily working logs as they had done during their careers was instrumental in the school getting a quick 2 week turn around for their funds that they had to upfront. By the seventh week it was a done deal, we had not only gone over the \$6,200 of in kind monies. With three quarters of our work completed the total of in-kind was \$ 19,547.35. Tractor volunteers in kind \$7,597.50. Consultant and clerk of the works \$3,125.00. Senior labor \$2,035.00. In kind donated materials from town sidewalk and church road fill \$6,816.35. Because Readfield Trails would do another nearly \$5,000,00 of in kind work that season, combined with the school \$30,000,00 the Readfield community netted trail work in 13-14 of nearly \$55,000,00.

This in kind results occurred 5 years ago when Readfield trails applied for an \$ 11,000.00 grant with a \$ 2, 200, in kind matching. The in kind ended up being over \$14, 000, Project total \$ 25, 000, 00.

These results did not come as any surprise to the Readfield Trails Committee. So many organizations and individuals had told us once started they would like to pitch in and help. For the past 8 years, Kent's Hill School twice a year has a community service day providing Readfield trails with some very enthusiastic students, with much needed manual labor for projects that can only be done one hand at a time. With a lot of stretching, bending, reaching, lifting and just plain grunt work the students made sure the day's work is not a 2 Aleve day for seniors. This also saves money as rip -rap water erosion control material is not used in excess while accomplishing the water control process.

A second community service day was provided by the junior class of Maranacook School on September 23, 2015. A total of 24 students and staff joined advisor Kristen Levesque in an all manual 101 hours of service. It was a day of great enthusiasm and inspiration provided by the students for those of us working beside them. Providing the strength that only young bodies have, the students lugged in wheel barrows far away from the rip -rap pile to the job site of 150 yards away. A senior retired P.E. -professional engineer- had recommended that we use rip-rap stone to create water bars in a 200 foot trench. These water bars would slow down the velocity of water coming down from the new ball field French drain installed last fall north of the trench. Today as we in Maine monitor the upcoming late weekend hurricane Joaquin, I can report the students hard work is paying off as both the water bars in the trench are doing the job, the same said for the new blue stone all weather material they put down. This despite receiving nearly 5 inches of rain in the last 24 hours. Students also put down the all-weather blue stone on the connector trail that had been torn up this spring while we

Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....

were installing much needed 20 x15 culverts. With the help of students and community volunteers we are getting ever so close to having the whole fair grounds Park section of the trails network available for, differently able people. Sooner or later every individual through injury or age are less able then when they were younger. This trail will be there for them.

Special thanks go out to the 15 adults that were using the trails the day the students were working. It was very thoughtful to stop and take the time to tell the students how much they appreciated their work on the trails and why the trail system walks is almost a daily routine. Again thanks for being so considerate.

With all this student activity on trails I am reminded of something said about:

Healthy and active students

Healthy and active families

Healthy and active communities

Seniors, as perhaps no other age group, are not surprised when as a result of volunteering a new individual comes into your life and then pops up immediately in another area of volunteering. So is our connection with Maranacook School an advisor Kristen Levesque. My wife and trail member Ann has for 25 years been the coordinator of the Christmas giving tree at our church. Over the years thousands of presents have gone out to children in the area who otherwise would not have some well-chosen quality and practical presents Christmas morning. Ann had a call from Betty White, The steadfast volunteer leader of many decades at the Mt Vernon Food Bank. Betty informed Ann that their connection at Maranacook had retired and Ann would now be working with -Kristen Levesque- for the gift giving project with Maranacook School students. Ann is looking forward to teaming up once again as she did on student community volunteer day with Kristen.

Private land owners continue to talk with Readfield Trails on how they might work with us to carry out the open space long range plan to connect varying sections of the town with safe DAP trails . Hopefully we will be able to nurture a younger generation to carry on the mission.

How do we in America continue to be so successful generation after generation in brings out so many individuals who as seniors give so much of their time, talent and finances? Perhaps the young woman in Atlantic City coordinating those of us from churches all over the country to rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Sandy nailed it when she told me, “Volunteer projects like this work because this is where the volunteer wants to be”. Yes, we were not drafted. Our Atlantic City Sandy relief tee shirts say “coming back strong with a flood of volunteers”.

R.T.C. has a flood of senior volunteers, moving with the same initiative they had in their workplace before they retired. When two of the senior trails volunteers inquired why over 12 cords of tree length logs remained stacked up at the end of the new ball field after a year, they were told if you would like to cut and split the logs they could be donated to Readfield citizens who qualified for home heating aid. That is exactly

Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....

what they did. Total monies saved by the Town of Readfield nearly \$3,000. Often in church work projects, each person is bringing a special gift and talent. This has been evident with our volunteers.

September, 29, 2015, is a very special day for Readfield Trails. It is one of validation. At its beginning 8 years ago the goal was to create a trail network for all users, young and not so young, fit and trying to get fit including those in wheel chairs. On this date, 60 year old David used his battery operated wheel chair to do the nearly 2 mile loop in his hard tire wheel chair. 22 years ago David had a water skiing accident that left him with a broken neck and put him in a Boston hospital for 7 months. After returning home to Maine he would soon be back to Boston for another operation. Since that time David has been a diligent member of the Manchester Y.M.C.A. working out 5 days a week and of course being an inspiration to all of us at the Y. On this trip through the Fairground Park Trails David pointed out some suggestions along the trail for wheel chair improvement. One section had been crowned due to water overflow which now thanks to the students work has been diverted. That section needed to be squared off. David said the wheel chair easily handled the terrain. He will be back in a couple of weeks when the foliage is at its peak.

With David in the wheel chair and Ann and I walking beside him, it had a very special meaning. We know I could have been in that wheel chair. At age 21, I was engaged in the sport of cliff diving. One day as Ann and our best friend John looked up from 35 feet below I turned to set up my dive and slipped down to 18 inches of water. One month later Ann would wheel me out of the Rutland, Vermont hospital. Yes, I had broken my neck. The night before I was to leave the hospital, Agnes my very special nurse told me I would have some hard days coming up but predicted I would be up and about in a month. She was right. Not so Agnes said of the 17 year old across the hall that dove in the shallow end of a pool and would never walk again. The next morning as I headed out and glanced across the hall I must have felt what today is called survivors guilt.

With David in the wheel chair and Ann and I walking beside him, it had a very special meaning. We know I could have been in that wheel chair. At age 21, I was engaged in the sport of cliff diving. One day as Ann and our best friend John looked up from 35 feet below I turned to set up my dive and slipped down to 18 inches of water. One month later Ann would wheel me out of the Rutland, Vermont hospital. Yes, I had broken my neck. The night before I was to leave the hospital, Agnes my very special nurse told me I would have some hard days coming up but predicted I would be up and about in a month. She was right. Not so Agnes said of the 17 year old across the hall that dove in the shallow end of a pool and would never walk again. The next morning as I headed out and glanced across the hall I must have felt what today is called survivors guilt.

Call them A.D.A. or D.A.P.-trails for-” differently abled people” it is the new frontier of trail building for an aging and injured population in America. And many members of the military who have spent a life time as outdoors enthusiast are coming home with special needs.

Readfield Trails Committee Continued.....

With the results of David's trip in his wheel chair we will be contacting the Travis Mills Foundation for wounded military in Rome- Belgrade' about 12 miles away of our Readfield system. Along with maps, a special invitation will be given offering personalized tours by volunteers of the Readfield trails. The diverse user group from young to old through town on the trails seems to grow by leaps and bounds each month. In discussion with trail users they are applying the old sports adage "you" get in shape to ski, you don't ski to get in shape". That is what many are doing at the Fairgrounds trail system this fall - getting in shape. By the volume of participants It appears, by the volume of participants, that the citizens of Readfield made the right choice in the kind of trails they allowed us to build in the heart of Readfield. I, and on behalf of other senior citizens that have been part of this trail system for many years thank the citizens of Readfield for their support and encouragement by giving us this very unique opportunity at this stage in our life.

Gary Keilty – chairman –R.T.C. -

685-4303

tykel@myfairpoint.net

THE SENIOR CAFE AT MARANACOOK, MARANACOOK MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA MILLARD HARRISON DRIVE, READFIELD. MONDAYS, 9:00-10:30 A.M.

Monday, November 2, 2015 - Lauren Washer -Whitman - Senior Wellness

Coffee/tea and muffins, company and friendship are always served.

Open to senior citizens and retirees.

Reserved parking -- keep turning right as you approach the school and watch for the orange cones marking our reserved parking spaces on your left. Easily accessible entrance.

Come for the whole session or drop-in at your leisure.

For More Information: Kim Whitman, 592-3137 or kimawhitman@aol.com



Recreation Association Halloween Party

The annual Halloween party was a big success. The kids enjoyed the fortune teller's tent, a haunted house, games, and yummy treats. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and resources. It was spooktacular!



Also, Basketball sign ups will be held on November 2nd at the Maranacook Middle School gymnasium from 5-7pm. There will be assessments for grades 3-5, players should bring sneakers. Registration can also be done at the Readfield town office for all grades K-5. Let's shoot some hoops!



Kennebec Land Trust

Upcoming Programs

Beyond the Field Edge: Farming and Maine's Most Perennial Crop (other than rocks)

November 6, 2015, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Morning classroom program at Enterprise Grange Hall in Richmond; field portion at Tender Soles Farm in Richmond.

We'll address how to connect farmers to their woods, incorporating forest management into the farm plan, show where farmers can get info and assistance regarding their woods and help farmers determine which sites to farm and which to grow trees on.

Presenters include:

Stephanie Gilbert, Farm Viability & Farmland Protection Specialist, Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF)

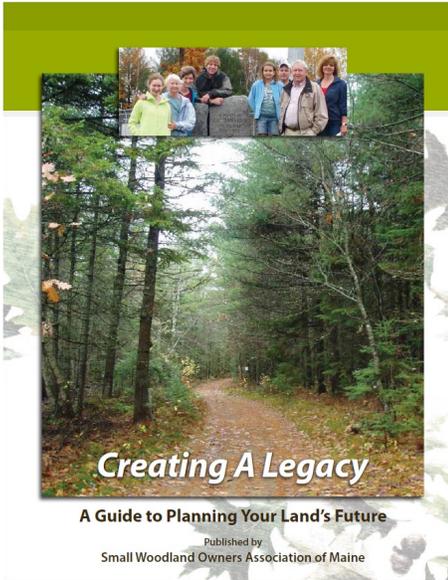
Dave Rocque, State Soil Scientist, DACF

Andy Shultz, Maine Forest Service (MFS) Landowner Outreach Forester, DACF

Shane Duigan, MFS District Forester, DACF

Rich Lee and Kate Del Vecchio, Tender Soles Farm, Richmond

Pre-register by emailing kennebecwoodlandpartnership@gmail.com



Jim and Muffy Floyd, Vienna Woods

easement donors at Saturday's property dedication.

Photograph by Brian Kent

Woodland Legacy Planning & Private Landowner Options

Friday, November 13, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Senator Inn & Spa in Augusta

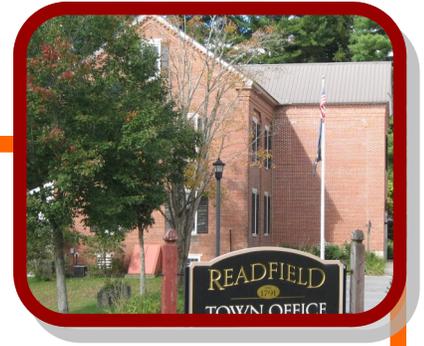
Geared towards professionals in the real estate, legal and finance and forestry professions, we'll look at how we can best help landowners meet estate planning and conservation goals.

Cost: \$55; light breakfast, lunch and a copy of SWOAM's *Creating a Legacy: A Guide to Planning Your Land's Future* included.

Registration online via the [SWOAM website/Eventbrite](#). Continuing education credits pending.

Thank you!

From the Town Office



- ⇒ November 2nd: Select Board Meeting at 6:30 (Place will be determined because of the polling place the next day)
- ⇒ November 3rd: **VOTING ALL DAY**, 8am to 8pm on the 2nd floor of the Town Office.
- ⇒ November 10th: Assessor will be in from 9am to 4pm.
- ⇒ November 11th: **HOLIDAY**, Veterans Day, Town Office and Transfer Station will be closed.
- ⇒ November 12th: Select Board Meeting at 6:30 on the 2nd floor of the Town Office.
- ⇒ November 24th: Assessor will be in from 9am to 4pm.
- ⇒ November 25th: Special Hours for the **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**, Transfer Station and Town Office will be open 8:30 to 12noon. Closed November 26th and 27th as well.
- ⇒ November 30th: Select Board Meeting at 6:30 on the 2nd floor of the Town Office.

From the Transfer Station



- ⇒ Reminder that shinny/metal backing bows, ribbons and wrapping paper are NOT recyclable.
- ⇒ Styrofoam is also NOT recyclable right now not even if it has a recyclable symbol on it. There is no market for it so please refrain from putting it in your recyclable bins.
- ⇒ The compost pile is has been used up but remember you may dump your leaves on the compost pile.
- ⇒ PLEASE remember when throwing ANYTHING into the Demo Bin that it requires payment to do so. It may just cost a dollar or two but it all adds up and cost the Town money to dispose of. Please stop and pay the attendant on duty and do not forget your receipt.
- ⇒ Transfer Station like the Town Office will be closed for Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11th.
- ⇒ Special hours for Wednesday, November 25th are 8:30am—12:30pm for the Thanksgiving holiday. And of course we will also be closed the 26th and 27th also and reopen our regular hours on Saturday, November 28th. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Select Board's Goals set at the Retreat on 10/9/2015

Select Board Workshop 10/9/15 - Timetable for the goals and assignments

FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	Assignments
Goal #1 Secret ballot: set up and run process with broad public input and 3d party facilitator; make recommendation					Bruce & Val
Goal #2 Communication and trust: set systems in place	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Bruce & Chris
Goal #3 Manager: building working relationship	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Val
Goal #4 Road Plan	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Tom & Chris
Goal #5 Finances	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Bruce & Al
Goal #6 GIS System Gathering and mapping information	Look for financing	Start up GIS system and begin integrating information; develop more funding	Add more data and assess impact	More data and more impact	Eric, Al & Val
	Goal #7: Broad band capability town wide Do background work and investigation	Ongoing	Up and running		Eric
Goal #8 Develop a technology plan Develop a plan	Execute the technology plan and reevaluate it	Reevaluate	Reevaluate annually	Keep technology current	Al & Chris
	Goal #9: Welcoming business: develop a plan	Execute plan	Ongoing	Ongoing	Chris & Tom
	Goal #10: Energy have an energy plan. Do a current cost analysis	Pick an easy first step	Consider larger options	Ongoing	Bruce & Eric

Thank you!!!

Thank you to every person who made my 85th Open House a never to be forgotten gathering.

Making it even more special, several attending shared memories with folks they had not seen for years.

Thanks for every precious memory.

Evelyn (Gram) Potter



Evelyn Potter with daughters Dale and Sandi, granddaughters Julie Clark and Mandi Linton and two of her great-grandchildren Khloe Currier and Sam Linton.

Town of Readfield Cemeteries

The Fall clean-up of Readfield cemeteries will begin on November 12, 2015.

Kindly remove all flowers, baskets, urns and other decorations by then.

All cemetery access roads will be closed to vehicle traffic from December 1 through May 1, or at the discretion of the Sexton. Special arrangements for vehicle access can be made through the Sexton.

The cemeteries will remain open to walk-in visitors.

Central Maine & Mid-Coast stevedown123@gmail.com

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STEPHEN A. DOWN, P.E.
Lic. Site Evaluator
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and Evaluation

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Secret Ballot Voting verses Written Ballot from the Clerk

During the last Select Board Meeting a few people mentioned that they would like to see the term Written Ballot used when referring to the Town Meeting Secret Ballot. I thought I would offer this information according to the Maine Town Meeting Manual put out by MMA.

Two Kinds of Town Meeting

There are two kinds of town meetings: the annual meeting and all other meetings, which are usually called special meetings. Every town must hold an annual town meeting, at which, the only business required by state law is the election of municipal officials.

Until 1969, annual town meetings were required by state law to be held in the month of March. Some Maine towns have moved their budget meeting to a time later in the year than the traditional March annual town meeting, and some have moved their town meeting to combine it with their budget meeting in a later month in the spring, commonly May, so that school budget, town budget, and election of municipal officers and other officials can all occur at the same time. Other have retained the March meeting for election of municipal officer and other officials, but have moved the budget meeting to coincide with the school budget meeting. Apart from the annual election of municipal officers and other officials, all other municipal legislative business (e.g., adoption of a budget) can be conducted at the annual meeting or at a special town meeting. (an important limitation in timing is that a town meeting cannot raise an additional or new tax after taxes for the year have been committed to the collector). A town may hold as many special meetings as are necessary for the transaction of its business other than the annual meeting election of officials.

Manner of Nomination and Voting

Open town meeting and secret ballot voting.

The pure, traditional town meeting conducts all business scheduled on its warrant – the election of officials and any other business which has been scheduled for the meeting – from the open floor of the meeting. The actual nominations of officials are all made from the open floor.

In about 1890, secret (“Australian”) ballot voting was introduced into Maine. In this form of voting, the voters actually go to the polls and mark paper ballots) whether hand-tallied or machine-read) in the privacy of a voting booth. See the discussion of secret ballots and written ballots in “Terms and Abbreviations” below.

Terms and Abbreviations

Secret ballot/written ballot: The term “secret ballot” refers to a printed ballot listing names of nominees for offices, or of referendum questions, or both, in towns that have adopted the secret ballot method of voting. In such towns, a secret ballot election is conducted at a polling place rather than in an open town meeting: the voters cast their votes individually rather than vote in a collective assembly. A “written ballot,” by contrast, is simply a paper ballot that is one of the means available (and required in elections of moderators, municipal officer, and school committee members) for voting in an open town meeting. Voters do not enter polling booths to complete a written ballot, as they do with secret ballots. They simply fill them out in their seats in an open town meeting. Written ballots are either blank (used for writing down the name of one’s candidate for an office) or have printed on them just the words “yes” and “no” with boxes to be checked (these are used to vote for or against an issue). It is important, in discussing election and voting method, and it is important to avoid using the term “secret ballot” to refer to a written ballot. Be aware, too, that some state laws inconsistently with Title 30-A, use the phrase “secret ballot” to mean “written ballot” – i.e., a blank piece of paper used in the course of a meeting, not a ballot with candidates’ names preprinted on it.

I hope this help to clear up the difference between Secret ballot and Written ballot.

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES BY FLO DRAKE



On October 21st, the Historical Society building was put to sleep for the winter. Bill Drake and Bob Harris shut off the water, drained the pipes, and put special antifreeze in the toilet, while Lisa Bondeson undressed the mannequins and carefully folded the Fogg wedding dress and Trefethen black dress into acid-free tissue paper, then placed them into acid-free boxes to be put into the vault. Jeanne Harris put all 47 Fogg albums into the vault and helped to cover displays that would remain on

the floor throughout the winter. RHS had a good season, added about ten new memberships, didn't spend a lot of money, and we are looking forward to reopening next Memorial Day weekend.

October 23rd saw Bob Harris and Bill Drake up on ladders, installing a new metal roof on the porch. The old roof had begun to deteriorate and leak, and we had money available from sale of those wonderful 20-month calendars that Ev Potter and Dale Marie Clark made, so Bob and Bill got together that day and now there is no more problem.

And speaking of the calendars, we still have a few left. They are \$10 and run until January, 2017, so still a very nice gift which is chock full of history and photos about the old farms, one for each month, and the women who so ably kept farm and family together. If you want one, contact Evelyn Potter at 685-3812. When they run out, and if demand is still there, we will go for yet another printing. We have sold nearly 300 to date!

Welcome to the new Town Manager, Eric Dyer, and his family. In chatting with him recently, we decided that some of the old deacon's benches (of which we have too many and I swear they are multiplying) need to go upstairs in the Town Office. We are using 5 at the Historical Society; there is one in the storage room we are not using; there is one in the Town Office lobby; then there are 3 up in the loft of our barn (used to be 2, but I told you they are multiplying); and, Mr. Dyer and I recently found one more upstairs in the Library building! So, the plan is to move the extra one from the RHS building, the 3 from our loft, and the one from the Library to Gile Hall before the snow flies. Let them multiply up there where there's plenty of room.

I guess that is all for this time. Mow your leaves – easier than raking. Get your wood under cover. And get out those yummy stew recipes for the blustery days ahead.

THE UNION

MEETING HOUSE



Well, it's time to wrap up another season. The water pipes have to be drained and other fall chores finished up. The Meeting House's Board thanks the students from Kents Hill School who came earlier in October to rake leaves. Since we have a surplus of leaves we also appreciate Mr. Getty from the Readfield Middle School for coming by a week ago with more students who also raked and raked and raked. Thanks to both groups for your help.

The Meeting House had a very successful summer season, sponsoring three programs in June, July and August: a concert on the newly restored organ, an evening of humor by a retired Maine State Policeman and Maine Game Warden with resulted in a fun night, and finally, a monster lawn sale during Heritage Days weekend. The resulting income from all three events helped increase the UMH's bank account. Thanks to the dozens of volunteers who put everything together and pulled it off with such success. The strength of the Meeting House is its all-volunteer board and advisory board, as well as others who help out.

The UMH was fortunate this fall to receive a grant from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to be used in resolving dampness and other problems in the notoriously wet basement. Since this grant has to be matched you can see where the monies raised this summer will be spent. As this work progresses we will keep you posted. It is obvious, however, that this grant moves us forward in our continuing restoration even if the results of the work in the basement will not be visible to the public.

There were two weddings at the Meeting House this year and we invite any young couples getting married in 2016 to reserve their date if they want to use the building.

Membership Chairman John Perry is already thinking of the end-of-the-year mailing to all members and donors reminding everyone the new 2016 membership year starts on January 1, 2016. All members will receive a newsletter recapitulating this current year and a letter outlining what the UMH hopes to accomplish in the coming year. If you want to help preserve this Readfield landmark keep us in mind As you travel around Maine, and even all of New England, you will have to agree that there is no other church in the entire region that has a more glorious interior. You can request membership information and learn of volunteer opportunities by dropping us a line at 158 Thorp Shores or calling 68-4537. Have a great fall.

READFIELD HISTORY WALK #32 FRIDAY, November 13th

The final Readfield History Walk of this year will take place rain or shine at Readfield Corner. Walkers should meet at Gile Hall, 8 Old Kents Hill Road by 10am. From there we will walk to the Readfield Community Library to begin phase one of a three part tour.

Readfield Community Library is housed in the historic Dr. Samuel Currier homestead. Dr. Currier was the first doctor at Readfield Corner and his son George, who also lived at this homestead, followed in his father's footsteps. Together Dr. Samuel and Dr. George Currier served as town physicians for 75 years. The circa 1800 building was donated to the Town of Readfield in 1945 by their grand-daughter Alice Eaton, for use as a community gathering place. For many years it was known as the Currier-Eaton House and also called "The Community House". Activities and meetings were held at The Community House such as Lions Club, Boy and Girl Scouts, Little Town Club, dancing classes, Rifle Club and more. Readfield Community Library has been housed here for the greater part of the past seventy years.

Following a tour of the library walkers will proceed to the second floor of the Masonic Block where John Lord will show the Lafayette Masonic Lodge. Free Masons is the oldest and largest fraternity in the world whose motto is "Better men make a better world." The Readfield Masons was founded in 1826 and met for several years on the second floor of a store across the street, until they constructed their own building on the present site. That burned in the great fire

June 11, 1921 when nearly all of Readfield Corner was destroyed. By that fall the Masons laid the cornerstone in a special groundbreaking ceremony and the Masonic Block, as we know it today, was rebuilt within months of the tragic fire. The Masons have contributed to the community in many ways over the past two centuries.

Finally, history walkers will go to the old Readfield Grange Hall for a tour. Readfield Grange # 217 was organized March 24, 1876 with 38 charter members – only three years after the first chapters were organized in Maine. For 21 years their meetings were held in private homes until this hall was built in 1897. The organization was an integral part of life in Readfield. It was here where farmers and others gathered to socialize, learn new farming methods, and share political and local concerns. Among the benefits were

cooperative buying of insurance, seeds and agricultural supplies. Readfield Grange remained active until about a decade ago, and was then owned by Golden Guys and Gals Senior Citizens for several years. In 2014 Nicole Danielson opened Maple Tree Community School for K-8 here. The building has been adapted to include a science lab, art room, library, dining room and a performing arts space, but the beautiful hardwood floors and other original features have been retained.

Walkers are invited to bring a sandwich and eat at the old grange hall following the tour. Plans are already in the making for history walks next spring. FMI www.readfieldhistorywalks.blogspot.com Request that email reminders be sent directly to you by sending your name and email address to crossings4u@gmail.com.



PICTURE CAPTION: In this newly discovered circa 1920 photo are several Readfield residents sitting in front of Leon Roberts Furniture and Undertaker Store at Readfield Corner. Roberts' store was located on the first floor of the original Masonic Block and was one of businesses destroyed in the great fire of 1921. After the fire Roberts moved his store and funeral home business to Winthrop. Photo courtesy of Roberts Funeral Home

READFIELD HOUSE CIRCA SIGNS AVAILABLE

Over the past several years Dale Potter-Clark, Readfield Historical Consultant and William Adams, Jr., Readfield Corner Historian, have been researching houses and buildings in Readfield. So far they have identified the builders and ages of about 150 pre-1900 houses. Through doing research for Readfield History Walks, Dale has also identified several historic sites in town. Their discoveries have led to plans for a three-phase project:

1. *House circa signs* (for homes of any age and vintage) such as the one pictured above. Homeowners choose size and material from professionally made signs. Proceeds from these circa signs will help accomplish phase two; “*Museum in the Streets*”® signs at various historic sites in Readfield. Examples of “*Museum in the Streets*”® can be seen in several area towns including Hallowell, Augusta and Waterville or online at

www.themuseuminthestreets.com.

Town funding will not be sought for this phase. It will be accomplished entirely from fundraising efforts and donations;

Within the next two-three years Dale and Bill are planning to release a comprehensive book about old houses in Readfield and the people who lived in them.

For phase one Dale and Bill will do the research, for signs ordered, to determine each house’s history and age. Dale will order and deliver the signs to each Readfield residence. *Homeowners are responsible for mounting and for maintaining their own signs.* Town permits are not required for historic signs of the proportions we are getting.

As mentioned above, your purchase will help create a “*Museum in the Streets*”® in Readfield. More than \$2,500 of the \$15,000 goal has been raised to date through donations and fees from

Dale’s Maranacook Adult and Community Ed history classes. Town code will be followed and appropriate approval gained when we are ready to move forward with phase two. Donations received over goal will be held by Readfield Historical Society for future maintenance and repair of “*Museum in the Streets*”® signs.

Please support this effort by ordering a circa sign for your home, while learning more about your own house history. They would make great holiday gifts for your family, friends or business? Additional donations towards phase two are also welcome.

House circa signs are \$75.00 each and must be pre-paid at the time orders are placed. FMI or to obtain an order form contact Dale Potter-Clark at (207) 441-9184 or dmclark1@roadrunner.com.



PICTURE CAPTION: Pictured here is an example of a house circa sign that can be obtained for you home.

Mailbox Placement

Readfield's snowplow contract will take all precautions to avoid striking mailboxes with the wing of the plow. Below are some tips for mailbox placement to help reduce the chances of damage during winter plowing:

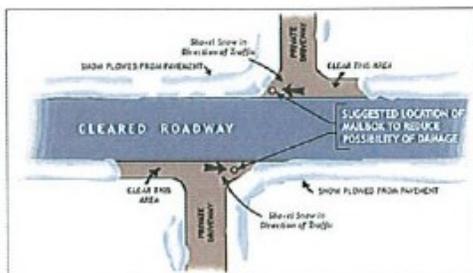
- Mailbox post size must not exceed 4" by 4" for a wooden post or 2" diameter for a steel pipe post for roadside barrier safety. Posts that are more substantial in construction are considered "deadly fixed objects" and are not permitted within the Town's right-of-way.

Mailboxes should be installed at least 42 inches high to provide clearance for the plow wing as shown in the picture. We recommend the use of an extended arm type of post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damage to supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carrier and customers.



- Below you will find a sketch showing the recommended location for your mailbox. Placing the mailbox on the side of your driveway away from approaching traffic will allow our driver to properly clear the roadway and to get as close as possible to your mailbox to minimize the amount of shoveling you will have to do to clear the mailbox for the postal carrier.
- For uncurbed roadways set the mailbox back at the far edge of the road shoulder (at least 3 feet back from pavement edge, when possible) to provide the maximum possible roadway clearance. For curbed roads the face of the mailbox should be 8-12 inches back from the curb face.

In the event your mailbox is damaged by the plow we ask you to make any needed temporary repairs. If you are unable to make such repairs on your own please call our Snow Plow Contractor, McGee at 776-8007 or 776-8011.



Substantially damaged property will be replaced in the spring with a basic metal mailbox. Newspaper boxes will not be repaired or reset by the Town in any event.

Custom made mailboxes, ornate posts or granite post, etc., or existing mailboxes with rotted posts or in obvious poor existing condition, or any mailboxes that have not been located according to these guidelines will not be replaced or reimbursed for. State of Maine law views mailboxes as an encroachment in the public way put there at the owner's risk and municipalities are not legally liable for any damage or repairs to mailboxes due to plowing operations.

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Tree Lighting

Help celebrate the season with holiday songs, Cookies, cocoa, and our special guest.

Friday December 4, 2015 6:30 PM

Readfield Community Library front lawn.

Refreshments to follow on the 2nd floor of the Town Hall.

**Bad weather date is
Sunday, December 6th.**

Readfield United Methodist Church



FREE THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

READFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ROUTE 17, READFIELD, ME.

NOVEMBER 26TH 11:00 A.M. -5:00 P.M.

HOME COOKED DINNER OF TURKEY & HAM WITH ALL THE FIXINGS



ALL DAY DESSERT BAR

BOARD GAMES & CRIBBAGE !

COME FOR DINNER OR JUST DESSERT AND GAMES!



SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday December 5th,

Readfield United Methodist Church Christmas fair.

We are offering to have some of our wonderful full wreaths to pick up the week of Thanksgiving for you to enjoy or get them the day of the fair! Call the office and arrange for a pickup time! 685-4211

Giving Tree!!!



Voting Day, November 3rd, is the official start of our holiday season here at the Town Office. Traditionally we have displayed our Giving Tree on Voting Day each year and keep it up till Christmas. When you come to vote on November 3rd please take a tag from the tree and return the unwrapped gift back to the Town Office by December 11th and we will make sure your gift puts a smile on a child's face Christmas morning.

Don't like to shop? Gift cards to the movies, department stores or fast food restaurants are always good for those teenagers. Donations are always welcome to fill the clothing part of the gift giving.

Thank you in advance for your on going support to yearly program.

LORD'S CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

Thursday during the school year from 9AM to 11AM there will be a free toddler play group for ages infant to 4 years of age at the Readfield Elementary School in the multipurpose room. All are welcome to attend with their parent or caregiver. Activities include free play, music, story time in the library and snack. For more information contact Hannah Flannery at 685 7385.



Now accepting donations to fill those holiday baskets.

Mount Vernon Food Bank

People in Readfield who find they are in need at any time during the year do not have to go hungry. The Mt. Vernon Food Bank, located at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, serves the people of Readfield in addition to Vienna, Fayette and Mt. Vernon. It is open every Saturday morning from 10am to 12pm and is supported by the schools, churches and individuals from the area.

Those who are not in need of the food service can become supporters of the Food Bank with tax-deductible checks made payable to the Mt. Vernon Food Bank.

Looking for Board Members for the following Boards and Committees:

Appeals Board: 1 member for (2017) and 3 members for (2018)

Cobbossee Watershed Dist.: 1 resident member for an alt. Representative member

Heritage Days Committee members: Looking for any members or volunteers

Library Building Committee: 1 resident building contractor needed

Planning Board: 1 alt. Member needed (2017)

RSU #38 School Board: 1 Member (2016)

Trails Committee: 1 Member (2018) 2 Member (2017)

If anyone is interested in joining any of the above committees please contact the Town Office at 685-4939 or readfield@roadrunner for an application for appointment.

Tel: 685-4064		Visa/Mastercard
<i>KEN'S DRAG IN AUTO INC.</i> <i>Rt. # 135, Readfield, Maine</i>		
Used Auto and Truck Parts • Auto Repair Used Cars and Trucks • Buying Junk Cars		
Ken Edgecomb		Mark Edgecomb

Round-up to Warm-up

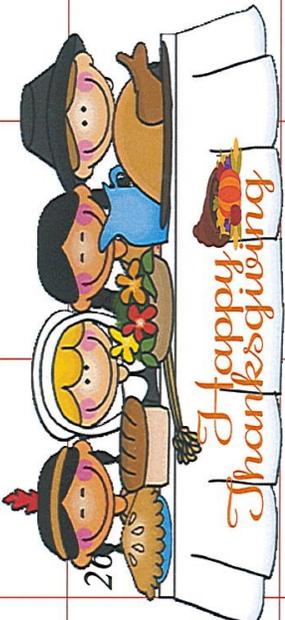
Round-up your purchase at the Town Office and donate to the Heating Assistance Fund. We will have multiple families in need looking for heating assistance this winter.

If you would like to help send your donations to the Town Office. Every little bit helps your friends, families and neighbors stay warm. Thank you in advance!



November 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2  6:30 Select Board Mtg.	3 VOTING DAY! 8-8pm 	4  6:45 Library Brd.	5	6	7
8	9	10 6:30 Conserv. Com.  9-4 Assessing 	11 HOLIDAY! T.S. & T.O. Closed! 	12	13	14
15	16  6:30 Select Board Mtg.	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 6:30 Trails Com.  9-4 Assessing 	25 T.S. & T.O. 8:30-12 noon today! 	26 		
29	30  6:30 Select Board Mtg.	DEC-1	2  6:45 Library Brd.	3	4	5

Select Board

Valarie Pomerleau, Chair: Phone: (207) 458-2124 selectboard.vp@ne.twcbc.com

Thomas Dunham, Vice Chair: Phone: (207) 685-4524 selectboard.td@ne.twcbc.com

Bruce Bourgoine; Phone-(207) 685-3702 selectboard.readfield@outlook.com

Allen Curtis: Phone: (207) 685-3257 selectboard.ac@ne.twcbc.com

Christine Sammons; Phone: (412) 779-4368 selectboard.cs13@yahoo.com

THE SELECT BOARD MEET EVERY OTHER MONDAY NIGHT AT 6:30 PM.

Other Important Numbers

Animal Control/Sexton: Karen Peterson; Phone: (207) 215-3185 readfieldfdcem@roadrunner.com

Assessing: Jacki Robbins; Phone (207) 852-1840 or 685-1810 bonaire4@myfairpoint.net

(Available every other Tuesday)

CEO/LPI: Gary Quintal; Phone (207) 685-3290 readfield.ceo@roadrunner.com

(Available Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-1:30 and Wednesday 12-6)

Collection Clerk: Kristin Parks; Phone (207) 685-4939 readfield@roadrunner.com

Finance Officer: Teresa Shaw; Phone (207) 685-4939 readfield.finance@roadrunner.com

Fire Chief: Lee Mank; Phone (207) 685-4401-Fire Station non emergency number mank125@aol.com

Town Manager: Eric Dyer; Phone (207) 685-4939 readfield.tmgr@roadrunner.com

Maintenance: Vacant; Phone (207) 685-4939 readfield.maint@ne.twcbc.com

Recreation: Carrie Knight; Phone (207) 685-0000 carriehknight@hotmail.com

Town Clerk: Robin Lint; Phone (207) 685-4939 readfield.clerk@roadrunner.com

LIBRARY

Phone (207) 685-4089

Hours: Monday 6-8, Wednesday 2-8, Thursday 10-12 & Saturday 10-4pm.

TOWN OFFICE

Phone: (207) 685-4939

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30-4:30 and Wednesday 12-6pm.

TRANSFER STATION

Phone: (207) 685-3144

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11-6 and Saturday 8-4pm.

FOOD BANKS:

Lord's Cuboard-Open 1st Fr. 5:30-6:30 & 3rd Sun. 1-2 or by appointment at 685-4572.

Mount Vernon Food Bank-Open every Sat. 10-12 or call: 293-2273, 293-2351, 293-2308.