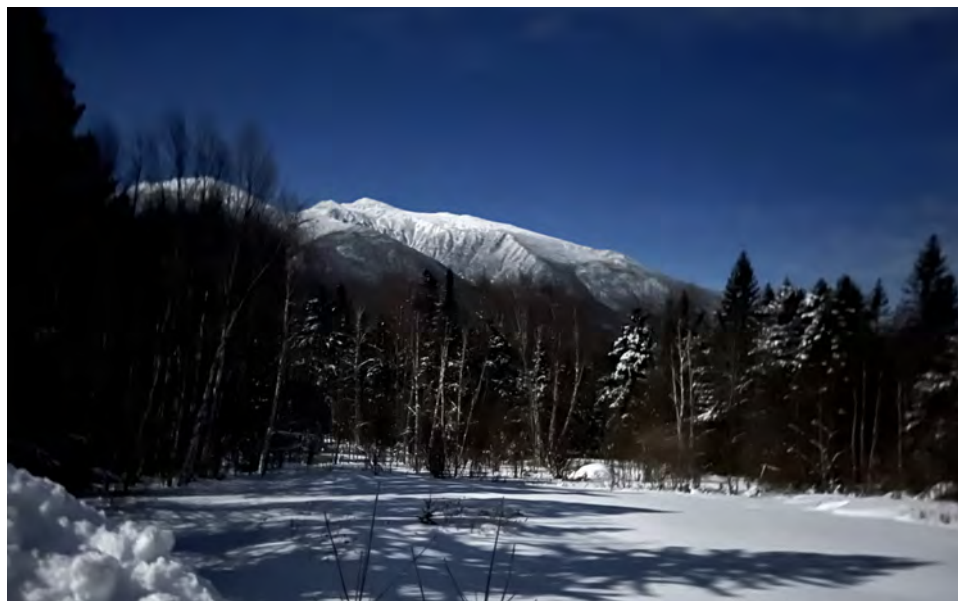


# Mountain View



*A newsletter by and for the Randolph Community, published by the Randolph Foundation.*



*Top: Last of Light by Martha Sappington; Top right: Tree Tapping by Carol Ryder Horton; Middle right: Painting from Lancaster by Tim Sappington; Bottom left: Ethan Scarinza and Hattie (his favorite hen) by Jenn Barton Scarinza; Bottom right: Early Evening, January 12, 2025 by Steve Teczar*

Articles, poems, notices, inquiries, and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged. Send materials for the **Mountain View** to Lucy Sandin, [lucy@rfnh.org](mailto:lucy@rfnh.org) (207)831-7127, by the 1st of the month preceding publication. Publication is quarterly: September, December, April, and June. **The Blizzard** is published the first of each month, with the exception of July and August. Send winter event notices to Linda Dupont, [linda.dupont90@yahoo.com](mailto:linda.dupont90@yahoo.com) by the 20th of the preceding month. **The Randolph Weekly** is published in July and August only.

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Lucy Sandin, Editor and Design; Jennifer DeMarco, Mailing List

Mountain View Publications, Randolph Foundation, PO Box 283 Gorham N.H. 03518

<b>AMBULANCE</b>	911	<b>LIBRARY</b> Librarian, Yvonne Jenkins	(603)466-5408
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b> Chief, Dana Horne	911	Mon. & Weds. 1-6pm; Sat. 9am to 1pm	
<b>RANDOLPH POLICE</b>	911	<b>LIFELINE</b> Heather Wiley	(603)723-4405
<b>BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT</b> Chair, Paul Cormier	(603)466-5771	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b> Chair, June Hammond	(603)466-5771
<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> Co-Chairs, Michele Cormier and Paul Jadis;		Rowan Meets 7pm 1st Thurs. at Town Hall	<a href="mailto:selectmen@randolph.nh.gov">selectmen@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Selectman Rick Fournier	(603)466-5771	<b>RANDOLPH CHURCH</b> Sunday services July & August, 10:30am. Moderator,	(603)723-0847
Assistant, Linda Dupont		John Weatherly	<a href="mailto:info@randolphchurchnh.org">info@randolphchurchnh.org</a>
Meets 6pm 2nd & 4th Mon., Town Hall		<b>RANDOLPH COMMUNITY FOREST</b>	
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b> See Board of Selectmen	(603)466-5771	Meets 6:30pm 1st Weds.,	(603)466-5771
<b>CEMETERY TRUSTEES</b>	(603)466-5771	Town Hall	<a href="mailto:info@randolphforest.org">info@randolphforest.org</a>
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b> Chair, Gary Newfield		<b>RANDOLPH FOUNDATION</b> President,	<a href="mailto:redza@rfnh.org">redza@rfnh.org</a>
<b>DOG LICENSES</b> Obtain/Renew end April, Town Clerk	(603)466-5771	Redza Dempster	
<b>GRS COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b> SAU 20 Meets 6:30pm 3rd Tues., Location Varies	(603)466-3632	<b>RANDOLPH MOUNTAIN CLUB</b> President, John Phinney	<a href="mailto:president@randolphmountainclub.org">president@randolphmountainclub.org</a>
		<b>ROAD AGENT</b> Paul Kenison	(603)466-5771
		<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b> Anne Kenison, by appointment.	(603)466-5771
		<b>TOWN CLERK</b> Anne Kenison	(603)466-5771
		Mon. 9-11am, Weds. 7-9pm	

### From the Selectmens Office

By the time you read this Town Meeting 2025 will have been held on March 11, with voting from 11 am to 7 pm and the business meeting scheduled for 5:30 pm.

The Board of Selectmen have been diligently working on upgrades to the town website! Visit it at:

[randolph.nh.gov](http://randolph.nh.gov)

It has been made more user friendly and easier to navigate. On the site you will find officers, boards, meeting schedules, permit applications, schedules for weekly trash pickup and monthly recycling with a list of sorting requirements and minutes of all board meetings.

To preserve the privacy of town officials and residents, we have adopted new email addresses for many of the key boards and officers. This keeps town matters out of private emails and in a place they can be accessed in the event of a Freedom of Information Act request. It is important that the town is completely transparent in all our dealings and communications be available if requested.

Selectmen's office	<a href="mailto:selectmen@randolph.nh.gov">selectmen@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Town Clerk	<a href="mailto:townclerk@randolph.nh.gov">townclerk@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Tax Collector	<a href="mailto:taxcollector@randolph.nh.gov">taxcollector@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Forest Com	<a href="mailto:info@randolphforest.org">info@randolphforest.org</a>
Chair of For Com	<a href="mailto:forest@randolph.nh.gov">forest@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Library	<a href="mailto:info@randolphpubliclibrary.org">info@randolphpubliclibrary.org</a>
Conservation Com	<a href="mailto:conscom@randolph.nh.gov">conscom@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Planning Board	<a href="mailto:planning@randolph.nh.gov">planning@randolph.nh.gov</a>

If you have any questions about the operations of the town, please contact the selectmen or attend one of our regular meetings which are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 6:00 pm. Rick at 723-7329 , Paul at 717-8573 and Michele at 915-3500.

#### From the Friends of the RPL: Why Join the Friends of the Randolph Public Library?

Membership fees and volunteer efforts:

- Support the purchase of books, materials, and programs
- Build a stronger sense of community
- Help set the priorities for Friends work

Sign up to become a member today! Fill out a printed form at the library or complete this online form:  
<http://bit.ly/FriendsRPL>

## From the Foundation Board Chair

**Redza Dempster**

Dear Friends,

I spent a few cold days this past winter reading past issues of the Mt. View and discovered such a treasure trove of town history and human interest stories! I understand that when writing her Randolph at 200 book, Judy Hudson also went through back issues of the Mt. View for the font of knowledge that the publication provides. Reading through the issues also helped me connect the branches on family trees in the community and put faces to many names I've heard over the years. Thank you to Barbara Arnold, Dede Aube, Laurie Archambault, the late Gail Scott, Sarah Gallop, Edie Tucker, and so many contributors for preserving our past and helping us all share our stories.

I was reminded recently by Randy Meiklejohn that the Mt. View is an ideal conduit for sharing information about what your Foundation is up to. For myself, I know I've been remiss in not taking better advantage of the opportunity. I pledge to do better; I've also asked our board members to contribute at least one piece of content every year, preferably based on their committee assignments.

I know many of you were disappointed to receive your December 2024 Mt. View issue in January 2025. The Board shares in that disappointment as we know there were holiday events in that issue and you might have missed out on them. We're implementing some changes to the production of the Mt. View, and I want to inform you of those.

As you know, the Mt. View does not have a full editorial staff or roving reporters. We count on your contributions to know what's happened and happening in Town. To assure more timely mailing and receipt of future issues, I have directed the Editor to move the materials deadline from contributors up by 2 weeks. Content (articles, photos, images, etc) for every issue will now be due one month before publication date. In this spirit of timeliness, I've also instructed the Editor to be very strict on not accepting materials past the deadline. In the past, we've allowed a 1-2 day grace period that devolved into 3-5 days and sometimes a full week. Please note that we won't discard late submissions; if not time-sensitive, our Editor will let you know that it can be included in a future issue. From editorial and layout, through printing and mailing, there's a substantial amount of lead time involved in getting a printed piece to you. As always, every issue is available as PDF online (which you can print or download), but we recognize the value and importance of the mailed publication. In our household, the Mt. View is perpetually

on the coffee table!

I'm also pleased to announce that Uma Shankar will be joining the Mt. View team as a contributing youth editor. Aside from being a talented artist (follow her on Instagram at bunnydoes.art) I've tasked with sharing stories and photos of our next generation of Randolphians. If you have a youth story idea, please reach out to her at [mtnview@rfnh.org](mailto:mtnview@rfnh.org). She'll also be introducing a Randolph guessing game which you can find the debut in this issue.

To keep you informed of Foundation activities:

Follow us on Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/RandolphFoundation>

Go to <http://randolphevents.org/> scroll to the bottom and enter your email address with us. We promise never to share or sell your emails and pledge to be very diligent about the frequency of emails.

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I hope a few of you were able to partake in the Traditional Music Tune Sessions in February and March. If not, there are other opportunities in store throughout the Spring and Summer. See inside this issue for dates and details. Many thanks to Garrett Rella and Rick Umiker for working closely and tirelessly with the NH Council on the Arts and Jacqueline Laufman in bringing these events to Randolph.

You'll find information about more summer events in this issue as well, including:

Porch Parties Yes, they are back after a Bicentennial break - though we did do 2 last year. Just a reminder about what these are: Randolph hosts open up their porches, lawns, yards to neighbors while raising funds. It puts the fun back in fundraising!

Annual Meeting and Reception Friday, August 8. Join us for our annual 'open house' where we will share what your Foundation has been up to and plans for the future. Stay for wine and cheese while you socialize with friends and board members.

NEW! The BIG Randolph Community Market and Yard Sale, Saturday, August 9. When you do your Spring cleaning put unwanted items aside for this multi-household yard sale that will be a fundraiser for The Randolph Foundation, the Randolph Fire Dept., and NH State Police Troop F. More details inside.

NEW! Film+Forum August 12-13. Join us for a two-night entertainment and educational event fundraiser to benefit The Randolph Foundation and the Randolph Public Library. Film screening followed by a panel discussion the next day on the role of Randolph Women during WWII.

Foundation Chair continued...

With all of these activities we can always use volunteer help. Please contact me at redza@rfnh.org. And remember it doesn't necessarily mean joining a committee or sitting in meetings. You can help as much or as little as you want.

And of course, we also look forward to all the events and hikes hosted by our friends at the RMC including the 4th of July Tea, Songs for a Summer Evening on August 14, Picnic and Charades on August 16, and various hikes.

Lastly, but certainly not least, thank you to so many who answered the Foundation's end of year request for support. Over a 130 households replied back with an average gift of roughly \$200. Beyond the barest of over-

head, such as insurance, software, website fees, auditor, 100% of your donations go toward the work of the Foundation on behalf of the community.

Thank you for being an active member of the community. Happy Spring!

With gratitude,

*Redza Dempster*

Board Chair  
The Randolph Foundation

### Save the Date!

Learn more on page 6!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**THE BIG RANDOLPH**  
**Community MARKET & Yard sale**

**Saturday, August 9**  
Start putting aside your unwanted items!  
More details and sign up coming soon.

**OPTION 1**  
Sell items at your own booth

**OPTION 2**  
Donate unwanted items for us to sell

A fundraiser to benefit  
 THE RANDOLPH FOUNDATION  
 Town of Randolph Fire Dept.  
 NH State Police Troop F

### Randolph Art Studio

From Steve Teczar



The Randolph Art Studio is held on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am-12 noon in the small meeting room of the Town Hall. The Studio provides an opportunity for artists to work on personal projects in the company of a small group of like-minded people, while respecting everyone's practice and privacy. There is also an opportunity to share what one is doing and obtain feedback, if interested. Plan to BYOE: Bring Your Own Everything (ideas, materials, water, and/or coffee, or whatever). Access is through the Town Hall front door or the Library. For more information contact Steve Teczar at swteczar128@gmail.com

## A Note From the Editor

Lucy Sandin

Dear Mountain View Community,

Thank you for your continued support and your thoughtful contributions to each issue of the Mountain View!

As Redza Dempster mentioned in his Letter from the Foundation Board Chair, we are so lucky to have a friendly publication to keep us connected and informed about our community. I really love receiving your submissions and sharing community interests, stories, memories, and schedules with the Mountain View community.

The Randolph Foundation is committed to making sure each issue arrives in your mailbox within plenty of time to update your calendars, and with this in mind, we have adjusted our Mountain View submission schedule and protocol.

Moving forward, please send all of your submissions to [lucy@rfnh.org](mailto:lucy@rfnh.org)

Below is the new submission schedule for each issue of the Mountain View. Please send me your contributions on the first of the month that precedes the publication month to ensure that they will be printed in the upcoming issue.

Issue	Submission Due Dates
September (no. 1)	August 1st
December (no. 2)	November 1st
April (no. 3)	March 1st
June (no. 4)	May 1st

Thank you! I look forward to hearing from you soon!

## The Randolph Art Show 2025

Steve Teczar

The annual Randolph Art Show will be held in the Cross Memorial Meeting Room of the Town Hall from June 29 – September 2, with the Opening Reception scheduled for June 29 from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. The Show is non-juried and open to all current and previous full- and part-time Randolph residents. The content is open, and artists may submit one or two works. If two works are submitted, every attempt will be made to include both, although this depends on the total number of works submitted and available wall and floor space. While the priority is to have a successful Show, the expectation is to include at least one work by every artist who submits work. The Show traditionally consists of two-dimensional works such as paintings, drawings, photographs, collages,

printed digital images, mixed media works, and traditional prints; however, the Show may also include fine crafts and sculpture. Artists interested in submitting three-dimensional works will need to consult with the Art Committee about the feasibility of showing their work. While tables are available, there are no pedestals or vitrines. A Show prospectus will be sent by email to artists who have participated in Shows the previous two years. In addition, the prospectus will be available by contacting Steve Teczar at [swteczar128@gmail.com](mailto:swteczar128@gmail.com). Submitting work indicates the artist's agreement to the terms of the prospectus. The Art Committee planning the Show consists of Pauline Galiana, Ingrid Graff, and Steve Teczar.

## Back By Popular Demand: Porches of Randolph 2025

Redza Dempster

### What is Porches of Randolph?

Now in its fourth year, Porches of Randolph is a social fundraising 'cocktail party' for residents and visitors to gather outdoors for a summer evening of camaraderie. Parties are held on porches (and lawns) from which to admire the many unique views of, and perspectives on our spectacular hills, while renewing old friendships and making new ones. Guests are encouraged to bring a donation with them in the amount of their choosing that go towards our local nonprofits.

### Hosting a Porch Party

Hosts can be as casual or fancy as you like though most hosts aim towards the middle with some wine and cheese. Most parties reflect the personalities of the hosts. Hosts also decide how many people they want to entertain. Sometimes the best parties have also been the smallest as

you get to really have in-depth conversations with guests. If you're nervous about having all complete strangers to your porch party invite a few friends that you know to balance it out. You also decide when and what time your party is. We also publish and end time so guests know when it's time to bid adieu.

If you are interested in hosting a Porch Party this season, please visit <https://www.randolphevents.org/porches>.

For more information, visit:

<https://porchesofrandolph.org> or  
email [porchesofrandolph@gmail.com](mailto:porchesofrandolph@gmail.com)

Thank you to our 2024 Bicentennial season hosts:

Anne and Joseph Barschall  
Bruce Kirmsee and Margaret Hellman



# Coming this Summer: The BIG Randolph Community Market & Yard Sale

**Redza Dempster**

Sell your stuff and help us raise funds for The Randolph Foundation, the Randolph Fire Dept., and our local NH State Police Troop F!

Has clutter taken over your garage, attic or basement? Do you have unwanted, but usable items, and feel guilty about putting them in landfill? Don't think you have enough to hold your own yard sale? Then bring your treasures to the **BIG Randolph Community Market and Yard Sale at the Fire Department on Saturday August 9!**

**Help Us Help The Foundation and our First Responders!**

OPTION A: Set up your own booth and sell your wares then consider donating a portion or all of your proceeds.  
OPTION B: Don't want to setup your own booth? Donate higher end items for us to sell. Proceeds will go towards supporting The Foundation and local first responders.

More details coming soon! In the meantime, here are FIVE things you can do now:

1. Mark some time to do Spring Cleaning
2. Start sifting through attics and basements and put aside items for later this summer.
3. Save the date for the Sale. We will publish the exact market times and signup information soon.
4. Tell your friends and neighbors
5. Make it a family affair. Talk to family members so they can help staff your booth. You can assign shifts or be there all at the same time.

We will also be welcoming a limited number of local businesses with priority given to Randolph-based business owners. So if you don't have anything in your attic, but run an arts and crafts business or make your own mustard come join the fun.

We are looking to make this a fun day too with food and music. Let us know if you have ideas.

Volunteers Needed! Please contact [redza@rfnh.org](mailto:redza@rfnh.org) if you'd like help out in any way. Thank you to **Steering Committee Members Sarah Gallop, Julianne Johnston, Catherine May, and Harriet Phinney**

## Traditional Family Dancing in New England

**Jaqueline Laufman**

Traditional dances include longways dances such as in the Virginia Reel (a favorite everywhere), circles, squares and contra dances. All the dances are taught at the start of each dance which makes them easy and fun for all! All ages can participate, no experience needed.

The new Randolph Trad Band consists of multiple musicians performing on various instruments: piano, button accordion, fiddles, flute, fife, guitar, banjo or bass. These musicians came together under a grant through the Randolph Foundation in collaboration with Jacqueline Laufman of Canterbury, fiddler and caller of traditional dances for over 30 years.

These winter bi-monthly tune sessions are held at the town to enable diverse musicians to develop a common repertoire of dance music. Lively, lilting jigs and reels that came over from Ireland, England, Scotland, and Quebec, along with polkas and waltzes for couple dancing are played. This June 20th dance will be the culmination of the tune learning sessions and an invitation to celebrate and grow more music and dance in the beautiful communities of the North Country.

### VIRGINIA REEL

**Formation:** Longways set: two lines of partners facing each other, up and down the room, 5-6 couples in a set. This version has been adapted to fit 64 beats of music for one time through the figure

CALLS	DIRECTIONS
<b>All forward and back</b>	Everyone forward four steps and back four steps. (8 beats)
<b>Everyone do-si-do</b>	Move towards your partner, go around in back of partner passing right shoulders, and walk backwards into place. (8)
<b>Swing by the right halfway</b>	Swing by the right arm hook, going halfway around. (4)
<b>Swing by the left to place</b>	Swing by the left arm hook back to place. (4)
<b>First couple sashay down and back</b>	Couple at top of set takes both hands and skips or slides sideways (sashay) down the set (4) and back (4).
<b>Walk the highway. First couple make a bridge at the bottom</b> Or say: <b>Peel the banana, or, Walk the highway, or, Lead around</b>	All face up the set to cast off: the lines split, right going right, the left one going left. Everyone else follow the top person in your line down the outside of set to bottom where first couple meets to make a bridge. Everyone else keep going down the outside beyond the bridge, meet partner, and come up under the bridge all the way to place. (24)

## Youth Editor Introduction

**Uma Shankar**

My name is Uma Shankar and I am 16. I have been coming to Randolph ever since I can remember as well as drawing ever since I can remember. My earliest documented artworks were from the age of 3. They came straight from my imagination, depicting a mix of magical creatures and half-hazard explosions of color. Over the years my artworks have matured from depictions of fairies to the environment around me. I expanded to studying nature and how to translate that to paper, working with an assortment of mediums, mostly watercolor and pencil. I was in middle school when during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although it was a very isolating time, it was also transformative for me artistically. I poured myself into artwork because it was something accessible that I loved. I remember being hunched over my desk for hours and even entire days, adding detail after detail just to pass the time. For me, art is meditative and meticulous, and attending to every detail is key. I experimented a lot with art during quarantine, and because of the endless time



on my hands paired with my commitment, I grew a lot as an artist. I became more skilled with a wider array of mediums and even got to play with oil painting. Out of all the different mediums and approaches to art that I tried, I kept returning

to watercolor and pencil. These were the two that I was the most comfortable with. I focused a lot on animals during that time as well. Drawing animals was a consistent way to exercise my attention to detail. From trying to capture the complex texture of fur to bringing life into the eyes, each minor detail seemed necessary. Being inside all day forced me to look for inspiration within my house and I often drew my two rabbits.



I ended up drawing them so often that I can now draw rabbits from memory, almost as if the rabbit anatomy is a formula to be memorized after enough repetition. Below are two examples of my detailed work with both graphite pencils and colored pencils.

I did both of the pieces seen in the left column during the pandemic. I painted a lot of animal series and posted them to my art Instagram to bring some joy to people's days. I received overwhelmingly positive responses from people across the world, which inspired me further to grow my following to reach wider audiences. I not only focused on developing my art skills but also learning how to share my work effectively in a way that would reach people despite being under quarantine.

After I was able to return to school and the pandemic somewhat subsided, I started to branch out again with my inspiration.



While I experimented a lot with detail and animals when working with a pencil, I enjoyed painting broad landscapes more with watercolor. Watercolor is a lot more unpredictable than pencil. I don't have as much control over where the paint will go or if it will bleed, whereas with

pencil my hand guides its every mark precisely. Therefore, watercolor is a way for me to observe my surroundings in less detail and appreciate the bigger picture. Randolph has been a huge inspiration for my watercolor paintings because they can truly capture the vastness of mountain ranges. I love this about Randolph, how it forces me to let go of precision and just paint freely. I sometimes paint what I see outside windows, or paint from a picture I took on a walk, or even from memory. Above are some examples of paintings I did that were inspired by Randolph's scenery and wildlife.



## Randolph Mountain Club Summer Events Schedule

The RMC and the Co-Chairs

Sunday, 22 June 6 - 9 PM 20 Glen Rd, Gorham	<b>Beers, Bites and Bids</b> Join us for a twist on the RMC annual dinner, at Big Day Brewing in Gorham. \$10 per person, all RMC members are welcome. Craft brews and delectable appetizers provided, and donations will be happily accepted. There will also be merch, signs and raffle baskets. Please go to <a href="http://randolphmountainclub.org">randolphmountainclub.org</a> for further information. Tickets will be available online and at door.
Friday, 4 July 3 - 5 PM 98 Randolph Hill Rd	<b>The Tea</b> A longstanding tradition in the Kelley's serene barn and gardens, made sweeter by delicious punch and baked goods. Catch up with the latest club news, meet the trail crew, stock up on RMC merchandise, sign-up to lead a hike and connect with friends, old and new. If you'd like to volunteer to help with this event, please email: <a href="mailto:events@randolphmountainclub.org">events@randolphmountainclub.org</a> .
Saturday, 26 July Noon Castleview Ledge, Mt. Crescent	<b>The Rendezvous/Gourmet Hike</b> Come and take in the splendid views with us at Castleview Ledge, Mt. Crescent. A potluck lunch will be shared near the ledge, beginning at noon. Hikers are welcomed to arrive via their desired route. A prize will be awarded for the most innovative route.
Saturday, 2 August 2 - 5 PM Ravine House Pool Pavilion	<b>Ravine Mixer</b> Join us for a picnic, refreshments, music and games at the Ravine House Pavilion. Please bring a dish to share.
Saturday, 9 August 7 PM Randolph Town Hall	<b>The Annual Meeting</b> Brief committee reports followed by a speaker. Refreshments will be served.
Sunday, 10 August 11 Coldbrook Road 12 - 3 PM	<b>Softball Game</b> Come for a blast from Randolph's past and have fun at this Softball game at the Bradley's Orchard. Teams will be assigned on the day.
Thursday, 14 August 7 PM Randolph Town Hall	<b>Songs for a Summer Evening</b> Randolph musicians will lead us through another exceptional evening of joyous performance. The concert will benefit the RMC with refreshments served following the performance.
Friday, 15 August 8 PM Randolph Town Hall	<b>Randolph Boogie</b> Join the third annual intergenerational boogie! Dance to classic hits, old and new with Randolph DJs Willie Wyssession and Eliza Horton. Refreshments provided.
Saturday, 16 August 12 PM Mossy Glen	<b>Annual Picnic and Charades</b> Join us for the fabulous annual picnic and charades with traditional rounds of singing at Mossy Glen. Bring a picnic lunch and your own mug (punch provided). Rides up to Mossy Glen are available.
Saturday, 16 August 7:30 PM 232 Randolph Hill	<b>The Barn Dance</b> Complete this fantastic day with the exuberant RMC benefit square dance, generously hosted by the Beringers at their Sugar Plum Farm barn. Come and join us for a night of traditional square dancing and laughter! All ages and experience levels are welcome



## From the RMC

The RMC and the Co-Chairs

Remember to check the RMC website and Randolph Weekly for up-to-date information!

Please consider supporting the RMC! We need your help to keep our beloved traditions going. Donations are greatly appreciated, and some events may require ticket purchases this year to help cover expenses. Thank you for your continued support!

### We Need Volunteers!

Help is needed for all of the listed (on previous page) events. Would you like to help out at the Tea to welcome people, bake or serve punch, lead your section of the Charades, or donate a raffle item? Please sign up at [rmcevents.org/rmc-volunteer](http://rmcevents.org/rmc-volunteer).

**Questions?** Joan Ostergren and Eliza Horton, RMC Event Co-Chairs: [events@randolphmountainclub.org](mailto:events@randolphmountainclub.org)



### Another Randolph Event!

From Jaqueline Laufman

# FAMILY DANCE

## FRIDAY, JUNE 20

### RANDOLPH TOWN HALL

### 8:00 pm

130 Durand Rd

### Music by the TRAD DANCE BAND of Randolph

Session musicians on fiddles, guitars, mandolins, bass



**A Family-Community Dance**

**All ages welcome**

**Easy and Fun**

**No dance experience needed**

**FREE**

**All dances taught**

Virginia Reel, Circles,  
Longways, Squares, Polka, Waltz

**Jacqueline Laufman, fiddler & caller,**  
**Christine Woodman, fiddler**



The Randolph Foundation received a grant from the NH State Council on the Arts to fund the tune sessions and dances (2025)



## The Randolph Spring Sign - Part 1

**Randy Meikeljohn**

I'm writing a two-article series about one small sign, for two reasons. The first is practical: I am currently restoring this weathered historic artifact, but the work is going slowly and I won't know how it will turn out until later this year. The second is aspirational: I'm hoping that I can learn more about the history of the sign in the coming months, so we can all know more about it. To that latter end, I'm asking Mountain View readers—especially if they were born before 1957—to contact me this spring or summer and share their information, photographs or memories about the sign, so I can include them in Part 2. Thanks in advance and see my contact info below.

Although I feel at home in Randolph, I have always lived somewhere else most of the year. Spending time in Randolph is important for me, and it turns out that arriving here is important too. My guess is that

the cottage where Keith (my cousin) and Red Dempster now live. But there were big changes in Randolph before I turned ten: 1966 brought the opening of new Route 2, and also a new family destination after our parents bought the former Carlton Brook Inn, about two miles down the newly named and newly quiet Durand Road. That house has been our home base ever since, and we usually turn off Route 2 at the east connector next to Broadacres Farm, but for some reason my experience of arriving in town hasn't caught up with the changes. Here's what I mean: even today when I drive into Randolph, heading east on Route 2 from Bowman, an involuntary physical sensation hits me before I get to Lowe's. My car is rolling down the highway towards the west connector to Durand Road, but I feel like my body is about a hundred yards to the left,



now line both sides of the dead-end road. Somewhere over in those trees is where my arrival is still happening, and I'm beginning to doubt it

many of us who come from away have special milestones or events along the route that we look forward to every time we come here. The sudden appearance of mountain scenery is always a boost: who doesn't enjoy seeing the Northern Presidentials for the first time as you drive west on Route 2 in Shelburne, or east in Danville, Vermont? My mother, who grew up in Providence in the 1930s and 40s and came up through Boston in a car with her mother and her sister, always remembered coming over the hill near Ossipee and seeing Mt. Chocorua, above the lake. Mom knew it was still a long way to Randolph, but that view meant they were "getting into the mountains" and everything felt different to her from then on.

When I was growing up in the early 1960s, my arrival in Randolph was always at the end of a five-hour drive from Connecticut, with my brothers in the back seat (or the way back) of the station wagon. My "getting to Randolph" feeling spiked at a certain section of east-bound old U.S. Route 2, where the road descended into the valley from the height-of-land at Bowman. After it leveled out and crossed a branch of the Moose River, two unmistakable landmarks quickly followed: Lowe's on the right hand side, and then the hanging sign for the Randolph Spring on the left. I knew then that we were one minute away from our destination at Inghamwood,

will ever adjust. But I feel less weird knowing that I have a lot of company: all of you who still see the Old Man of the Mountains when you drive through Franconia Notch, or experience g-forces as you cruise across Bader's Dip. You know who you are.

In the real world, though, change rolls on, even in Randolph. The 2024 Bicentennial was a wonderful way for us all to celebrate the passage of time together, and to reflect on our community history. Only midway through this season's festivities did I notice that some of that history was suddenly absent: the Randolph Spring sign had been taken down. A casualty of roadside beautification efforts for our 200th? With all that was going on I was too busy to be distressed or depressed about it. Fortunately the summer brought many community get-togethers, and at a crowded Town Hall event in August I found myself chatting with Michele Cormier, who put on her figurative Selectman's hat to ask out of the blue whether I could get the RMC to make a nice new sign for the Spring. I might have momentarily lost my cool: "Well, what the hell happened to the old one?!!" Characteristically Michele did not lose hers, reassuring me that the old sign was safely stored in the corner of the Selectmen's Office; did I want to have a look at it? Yes, I said I would, and on the spot I committed to restoring it to good-as-new

condition over the coming fall and winter. Later that day I took the “before” photo here.

Or, on second thought: over the coming fall, winter, spring and summer. The sign was in tough shape, as the photo shows, with many layers of peeling or alligatored paint, rusting hardware, and deep cracks in the dried-out wood. In October I had time for dismantling and diagnosis, and I learned that the steel straps connecting the three boards had been added later. Originally the wood pieces had been connected with smaller hardware, including hooks connected to eye bolts drilled vertically through each board. With the steel straps removed it was easier to notice that the ends of the boards had curved ends, like those intentionally rustic signs at summer camps or hunting lodges. Over the course of a few more weeks I gradually removed most of the paint, and discovered then that under two or three layers of green paint on the letters there was an original layer of red. (I’m still trying to recall whether red lettering was part of my 1960s memories.) Overall I found that the sign was in good enough condition to restore, which was welcome news. In Randolph there are probably very few signs remaining from the mid-twentieth century, so I wanted to help us hang on to this one.

Increasingly curious about the sign’s history, I got in touch with Judy Hudson to see what she knew, and while she had no written documentation about it, she had her own memories and some persuasive guesses. She remembers visiting the spring back in 1946, when her family was camping out on their land before they built their cottage, and they brought jugs there to fill with water. She surmises that the Randolph Spring by then had become a state-designated rest spot for motorists, possibly with a picnic table, and I recall myself that there was or is a concrete drinking fountain or tap there. Currently the land around the spring is a Town property, a three-acre parcel of land on the north side of Durand Road that today also includes the trailhead of the Vyron D. Lowe Trail. Originally this RMC trail began at Lowe’s Store and led to the Pond of Safety, following an old route that passed west of Mt. Randolph. It was named for Vyron D. after his death in 1961, and was closed in 1981 after logging in the area. The Club then cut an entirely new trail starting at the spring, and this trail was relocated again in 2004-05,

following a route mostly through the Community Forest to join the Crescent Ridge Trail west of Lookout Ledge.

While we will soon have the old sign back at the Randolph Spring, we’ll have to rely on our memories and our imagination for everything else that used to be seen along the side of the road. In the middle decades of the twentieth century, local roads and highways had many unique signs to draw the attention of motorists to scenic places, some of them right here in Randolph. Not all have disappeared: in our basement we still have the roadside signs from the days of the Carlton Brook Inn operation, between the 1920s and the early 1960s. “2 MORE MILES” says one, encouragingly. Another advertises the meals served at the Carlton Brook Teahouse next door, and like the spring sign it’s made of three pieces of wood, hung one from the other with metal hooks. It’s still in



great condition, probably because we’ve had it stored in our basement for longer than it ever hung by the side of the road. On a nearby basement shelf, and also from the days of the Inn, lies a stack of issues of The New Hampshire Troubadour, a mid-century monthly tourist pamphlet published by the State Planning and Development Commission. In photographs, poetry and whimsical travel notes the State of New Hampshire did its part to persuade motorists to explore its covered bridges, charming villages and sprawling wooden hotels. The cover of the June 1935 issue, in a photo here, showcases the majestic mountain views that a tourist might find. In the pamphlet there is no caption or accompanying article, but many Mountain View readers will instantly know that it was taken on Randolph Hill, looking south from a meadow north of the road. Readers born around 1935 might even recognize the boy in the foreground.

Back in my workshop, the sign repairs will continue this winter and spring, with the next critical step being the treatment of all the cracks in the wood. I intend to fill them with warmed-up linseed oil putty, which will harden slowly to make a good base for primer and finish paint. My current plan is to restore the original red lettering with a white background, but I’ll wait to see

Randolph Spring continued...

if anyone has photos or clear memories of how it appeared. On site in May I will have a look at the steel sign post and its footing, to make sure they are still good for a few more decades, and then figure out a way to securely re-hang the sign.

I'm going to pause here for now, right in the middle of the work and with, I hope, more history to share in Part 2.

Have any memories, photographs, or other information about the Randolph Spring sign? Please send to me at RMeiklejohn@verizon.net.

### Randolph Remembers

#### Remembering Rev. Ellie McLaughlin



The Rev. Eleanor McLaughlin, 90, of Randolph, passed away on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin after a period of failing health. She was born in Boston, MA and raised in Beverly, MA, graduating from St. Mary's in the Mountains School, and going

on to attend Wellesley College, graduating with a B.A. in History. She furthered her education by attending Radcliff College where she graduated with a Ph.D. in Medieval Church History, receiving two Fulbright Fellowships. She worked as a Professor of History at Wellesley College and later was a Professor at Andover Newton Seminary in Newton, MA, teaching the history of liturgy, of the early church, and the valuable spiritual role of women throughout the Church's history. Ellie wrote many articles and co-edited a book on the historical justification for women to function as ministers and theologians in the modern church, *Women of Spirit: Female Leadership in the Jewish and Christian Tradition*. She was a pioneering advocate for women's ordination in the Episcopal church.

Throughout her life she inspired numerous women to enter the priesthood, as well as influencing seminary curricula to shape a new theological view of the role of women in the church. In 1981 she was ordained an Episcopal Priest at St. John the Evangelist Church in Boston, a parish led by the Episcopal Monastic Order SSJE. Following her ordination, Ellie served as Dean of the Chapel at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA. Later she served as Priest at Christ Church, South Barre, MA. She last served as Rector at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Berlin.

Ellie was an accomplished hiker, proudly having climbed all of the "4,000 footers" in New Hampshire. She was also a skilled chorister, singing in the Bach Choir under famous conductor Karl Richter in Germany, where she was pursuing her doctoral research.

She is survived by her spouse The Rev. Betsy Hess of Randolph; her daughters: Hannah Carboneau and husband Victor and their son Benjamin of Bow, NH; Rebecca Burton and husband Evan of Portland, OR; and many dear friends, including other academics, former students, neighbors in Randolph and Berlin, and parishioners at St. Barnabas.

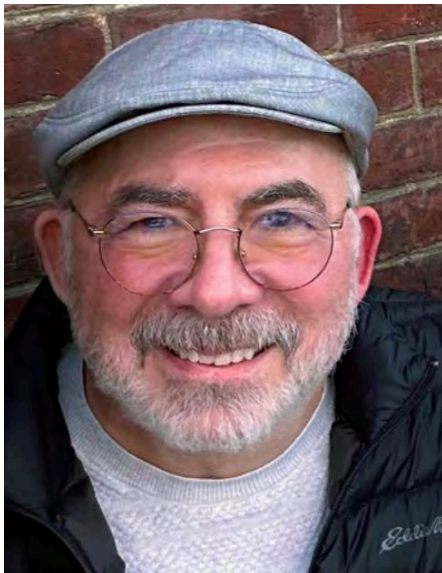
A Funeral Service was held on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 11am at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 2 High Street, Berlin, with Bishop Robert Hirschfeld officiating. Ellie will be interred in the spring in the New Randolph Cemetery. There will be no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ellie's memory may be made to St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, PO Box 545, Berlin, NH 03570. Memories and condolences may be shared online at [www.bryantfuneralhome.net](http://www.bryantfuneralhome.net)

#### Remembering Robert Leclerc

After a long and courageous battle with cancer, Robert C. Leclerc Jr., 74, passed away on January 23rd, 2025 at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, NH, with his family by his side. Bob was born in Berlin, NH on January 9th, 1951, son of Robert C. Leclerc Sr. and Alice (Hynes) Leclerc. He graduated from St. Pat's School, Notre Dame High School (1969), and Wentworth Institute in Boston. Bob was self-employed as a steel detailer for most of his career, operating Highland Technical Services, and was a resident of Randolph, NH for 48 years.

Bob was a kind, loving, and devoted husband, father, and father-in-law. His family always came first. Bob cherished the times spent kayaking and camping with his daughter. He spoke often of his last hike through Icy Gulch in Randolph with his daughter and son-in-law. Bob found solace and joy in the ocean, and he particularly loved spending time with his wife in Ogunquit, ME, Panama City Beach, FL, and Myrtle Beach, SC. He was an avid Bruins and Celtics fan, having attended several Bruins games at TD Garden and the Bruins Stanley Cup victory parade in Boston. Puzzles, spending time with

Remembering Robert LeClerc continued...



family, walking his grand-dog, Maya, and working around the house were some of his favorite pastimes. Bob is survived by his best friend and wife of 50 years, Joyce (Morin) Leclerc; his daughter, Alyssa Leclerc and husband, Justin Silva, whom he considered a son; his sisters, Anita (Leclerc) Potter and

husband John;

Carrie Leclerc; Elaine (Leclerc) Bergeron and husband Maurice; and Laurie (Leclerc) Binette and husband Denis; his brother-in-law, Jim Morin and partner, Denise Bergeron; several nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews. Bob was predeceased by his parents, Robert C. Leclerc Sr. and Alice (Hynes) Leclerc; his parents-in-law, Mark and Irene (Lachapelle) Morin; his brother-in-law, John Morin; and his niece, Kristi Galipeau.

A Celebration of Life with family and friends will take place at the White Mountain Chalet at noon on March 8th, 2025, Bob and Joyce's 50th wedding anniversary. Bob will be laid to rest in the Randolph Cemetery. In his memory, donations may be made to the Jack Byrne Center for Palliative and Hospice Care in Lebanon, NH or the Northwoods Cancer Survivors in Berlin, NH.



## Chamber Music: A Sharing of Life and Song

By Linda Alexander-Cowdery

To My Father  
James Heywood Alexander

Lifelong duet of music—sing a round!  
Piano and flute, voices ringing like bells.  
Chiming together in beautiful sound,  
Currents of notes shining with rainbow swells.

Melody, harmony, sharing of time.  
As busy lives swirl, your gifts of spirit,  
Are kindness, listening --sometimes a rhyme--  
Quite often sharing a funny tidbit.

Hearing together, creating beauty  
A greater whole through musical feeling.  
Perhaps challenge our sensitivity?  
Teaching loving and beautiful caring.

Chamber Music of life, you lived with joy  
Touching so many who followed along  
Hikes and Randolph Church—even as a boy!  
You are here still, within, playing a song.

Here we are to celebrate together,  
Knowing music lives in us forever.



*This sonnet was written for my father and read in his memory on Saturday, August 31st 2024 at the Randolph Church, Randolph, New Hampshire.*

**A New Activity from Uma Shankar,  
the Youth Editor!**

To continue my introduction on page 7: lastly, I want to introduce a new activity.

This last painting is a scene from somewhere in Randolph. If you have an idea of where it might be, submit your guesses to [mtnview@rfnh.org](mailto:mtnview@rfnh.org) by May 1st for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to the Butcher's Daughter!

Enjoy!



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To:
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