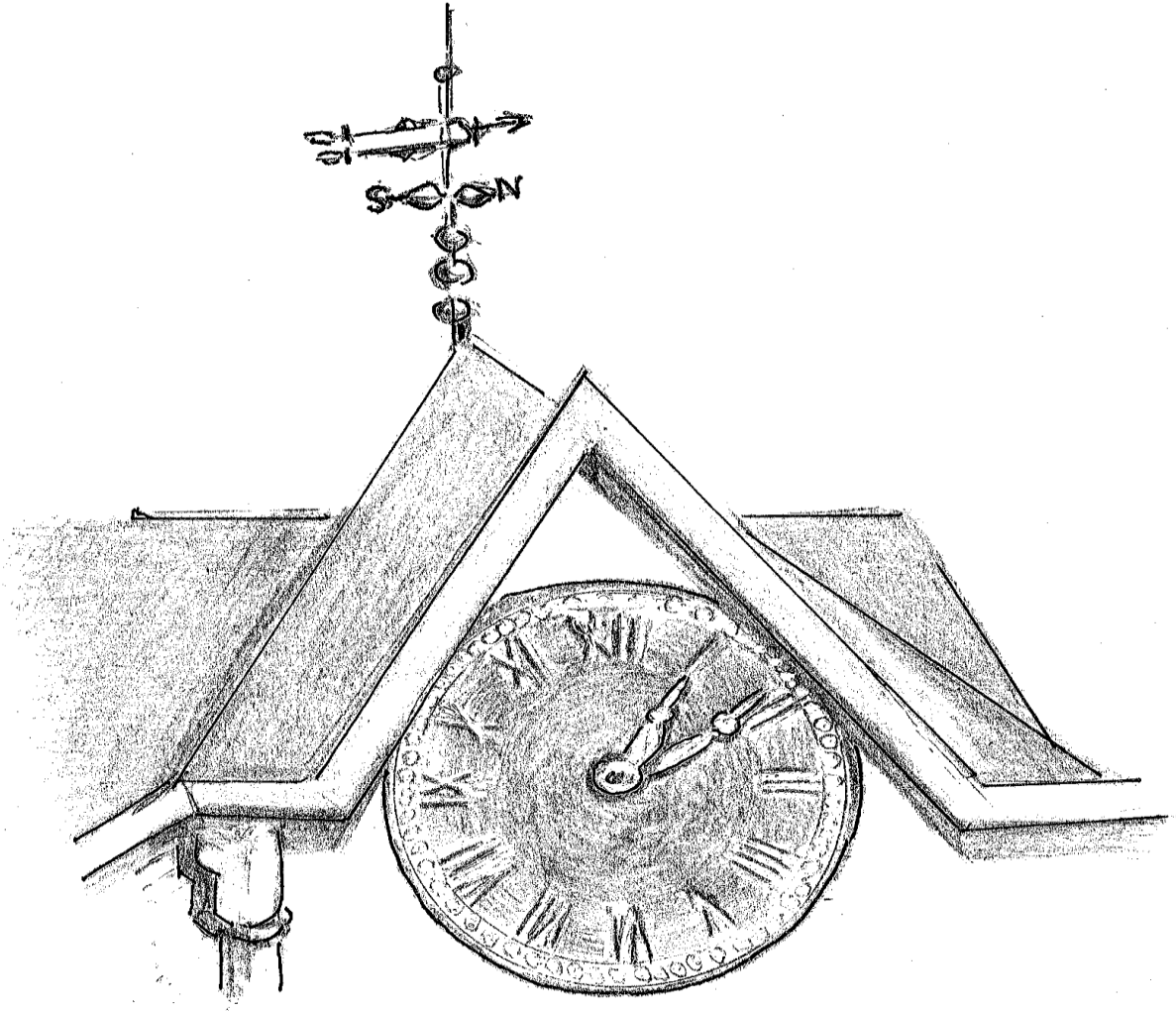


Town of
New Durham
New Hampshire



Town Department Reports
Year Ending December 31, 2010

BOARD OF ETHICS

Midway in 2010, the Board of Ethics (BOE) reached the two-year mark since it was formed after New Durham voters passed the Ethics Ordinance at the 2008 Town Meeting. The board's purpose is to carry out the intent of the ethics code, which establishes guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for town officials, board members and employees.

The BOE's first complaint was received this year, thus beginning the initial implementation of the board's Rules of Procedure that was established during the first year. Due to the complexity of the complaint, Town Counsel was consulted. Following careful discussion and deliberation, board members, by a majority vote, decided to dismiss the complaint.

In lieu of receiving one request for clarification and one complaint during the first two years of its existence, members decided to review the Code of Ethics for clarity, consistency and supportive RSA's. After months of public input and discussion/debate, seven articles were prepared and submitted to the Board of Selectmen, requesting that they be placed on the 2011 Town Warrant for consideration at the Town Meeting.

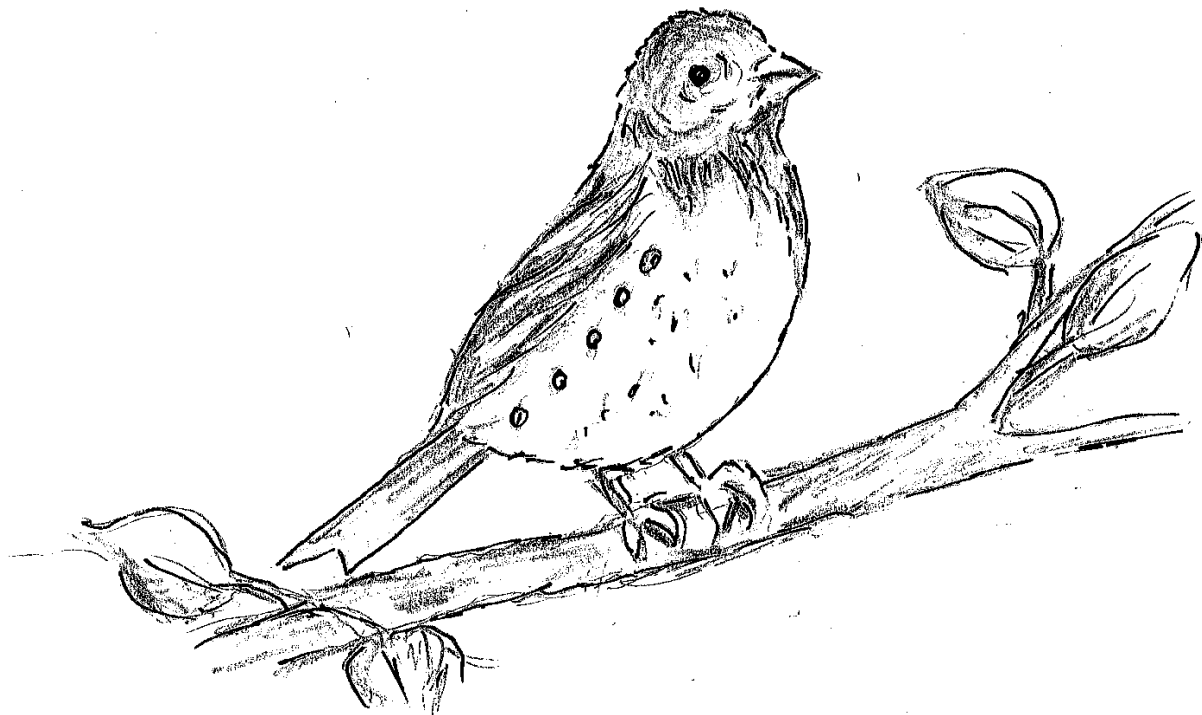
The BOE's educational presentation, which is designed to better inform town employees and members of boards/committees about the Ethics Ordinance, is nearing completion. Members expect to begin meeting with town employees and members of boards/committees by mid-year.

Board members look forward to serving the New Durham community throughout 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hunter, Chairman

Jan Bell, Marcia Clark, Linscott "Skip" Fadden and Mike Gelinias, Members



Purple Finch

BOODEY HOUSE COMMITTEE

The following information is from the report presented to the Board of Selectmen during their December 6th meeting. First I would like to provide a little early History with regards to the Boodey House.

Zechariah Boodey came to New Durham shortly after the early settlers successfully fulfilled the terms and conditions, securing the Town Charter, in 1762. He came to New Durham in 1768 with his wife Mary Demeritt. He felled the wild native forest, cleared up the lands and built his barns and dwelling house thereon, what was known as the Ridge Road.

A Historically important event took place in the East Room, at the Boodey Homestead, on June 30th, 1780 a small group of seven like-minded persons gathered, with Benjamin Randall to organize a church, adopting Articles of Faith and a Covenant, for the Free-Will Baptist.

The Town of New Durham accepts the donation, in 2006, of the Boodey House from the descendants of Zechariah Boodey. Preserving this fine example of early American Architecture was important to both the family and the Town.

In June 2010 the Committee reviewed the results of a Feasibility Study sent out to 100, randomly chosen residents of the Town of New Durham. Each received a cover letter explaining what the committee was asking for in the survey and asked if they would complete and return the survey. 85% would like to see the Boodey House used as a Life Style Museum, 67% as an Education/Classes/ demonstration purposes, 59% for school educational programs, 37% community meeting place, 33% summer youth programming, 30% offer volunteer internships and 22% selected other uses. Everyone offered encouraging comments which have been included in your packet of information.

The Committee has drafted conceptual plans for the reconstruction and future uses of the Boodey House. The Committee would like to have a full basement constructed under the house. The main floor of the house will be mostly open space, to allow for holding of classes and meetings and displaying of items. The center chimney will be reconstructed as a fully functional fireplace. The East Room would be reconstructed as it appeared in the photographs taken during the 100th anniversary of the signing of the covenants for the Free-Will Baptist Church. The Committee would like to see the log cabin reconstructed and attached to the house, as this would allow for the public to enter the house and construction of bathrooms, without reducing interior space in the main structure. The Committee would like to see the second floor constructed, over the east end of the house to display the family history, something that was important to the donors.

The Committee talked about possible programs, functions and events that could be held at the Boodey House. Teaching about rural farm life, all the activities needed to survive in this “wild place”; the early history for the Town and the history of the Church would be some of what could be offered to students. For the reconstruction phase, a number of businesses, citizens and vendors have offered help. Many are significant offers, which will help with reducing the cost for reconstruction.

What are the next steps? The Committee asked the Board of Selectmen to formally support the conceptual proposal for the reconstruction of the Boodey House. The next step will be to contact Aaron Sturgis, solidifying the plans for reconstruction. He will be able to provide a list of needed supplies for reconstruction. The Committee will be able to move forward with the development of a final figure for reconstruction, which will help when seeking donations.

At the time of this writing, we are waiting for the Selectmen’s response, which they said would be given after the budget season was behind them.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Orlowicz, Chair
Cheryl Cullimore, Vice Chair
Crissa Evans
Jess Evans
Ann Brady



A HUNDRED and nineteen years ago this house was the largest and best in New Durham. Here, Randall held religious services; here, June 30, 1780, he organized the first Free Baptist church; here, with other ancient furniture, is the chair in which he sat and the table on which the charter members signed the covenant. The above cut represents the house as it now appears, with its owner, Miss Betsey F. Boody, aged seventy-three years, standing at the door.

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

The John C. Shirley Cemetery Trustees are pleased to report the following activities for the year 2010:

Michele Kendrick was re-elected Cemetery Trustee in 2010. We appreciate her participation and contributions to date and look forward to another three years of her contributions.

The Rules and By-Laws were reviewed and updated during 2010. If anyone would like a copy please contact the Cemetery Trustees through the Town Hall. During the year there were several burial lots sold.

The Cemetery Trustees would like to thank several people for their hard work in keeping the John C. Shirley Cemetery a beautiful and tranquil area of New Durham. The Town Highway Department has kept the grounds in superb condition. Mark Fuller, Cemetery Sexton, has dealt with bereaved families and has shown great respect and offered every assistance possible. Mr. Fuller has since retired and has been replaced by former Cemetery Trustee, Mike Clarke.

Activities for the year 2011 will include re-alignment of foot and headstones that have tilted over the years. The annual spring clean up should be completed by Memorial Day. During the spring clean up; please help collect all outdated floral displays and miscellaneous items prior to Memorial Day Weekend. We appreciate your assistance and understanding. Flags will again be placed on the lots occupied by Armed Forces Veterans.

Future Capital Improvements include road paving, tree removal, and a sprinkler system. The Trustees will propose funding for these improvements through a CIP request at the Annual Town Meeting.

No one likes to think about the passing of a relative or loved one but certain steps may be taken to ease the process. Lots may be purchased at the New Durham Town Hall during business hours. If you own a lot, simply inform your funeral director or call the New Durham Town Hall for further assistance during your time of need. Please contact the trustees with family contact information if there are changes from the original deed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mason, Chairman
Michele Kendrick, Trustee
Joan Martin, Trustee



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

“A Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a critical tool to implement the Town’s Master Plan. It is also a useful tool in anticipating future costs to the Town, and planning ahead for those costs. The Town of New Durham has used a 10-year cycle overview rather than a 6-year schedule. The CIP schedule is meant to identify projects required to construct or purchase needed capital facilities and/or equipment consistent with the continued growth and development of the Town. The plan identifies project cost estimates, and possible funding sources. It is to be updated annually by the Planning Board, and the Advisory Capital Improvement Committee, for the use of the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee to prepare and adopt the annual budget. The goal is to link local infrastructure investments with the Master Plan policies and other implementation programs (see RSA 674: 5-8).

The Advisory Capital Improvements Committee has reviewed the Town of New Durham Capital Improvements Plan for the upcoming 2011 budget season. The CIP committee has made changes to the CIP in order to adjust to the economic environment, as well as to reflect the decisions made at the 2010 New Durham Town Meeting. The CIP committee has not suggested funding to any new Capital Improvements this year, but there was a line added for the 1982 Forestry Truck, as a place holder for future years. It is the recommendation of the Advisory CIP Committee that the Capital Reserve Funds be funded at the level indicated in order to ensure sufficient funds for future expenditures.

What are Capital Improvements?

Capital Improvements are the “*bricks and mortar*” of the Town, streets, bridges, downtown improvements, community centers, schools, and major one-time acquisitions of equipment are all considered capital improvements. For this CIP, a capital improvement project is defined as:

- ❑ A physical public improvement involving a facility
- ❑ Acquisition of a parcel of land or easements
- ❑ A piece of major equipment and/or vehicle with a value exceeding \$10,000, and occurring no more frequently than every five years
- ❑ Unexpected major repair to equipment exceeding \$10,000

Examples of Capital Improvements are:

- ❑ New public buildings, or expansion or renovation of existing buildings
- ❑ Land acquisition, development and/or major improvement for public purpose
- ❑ Major vehicle and equipment purchases or leases
- ❑ Road Maintenance
- ❑ Sidewalks & Street Tree Plantings
- ❑ Overhaul/repair of a major piece of equipment

Note should be made that for the purposes of the 2011 review by the Advisory Committee, the capital cost base was maintained at \$10,000 per the 2007 increase. The creation of a Capital Reserve Fund is based on a majority vote at the annual Town Meeting. The authority to expend capital funds is based on the wording for the CRF at the Town Meeting.

Process: Capital needs assessments are identified by the department heads or commission chairs on an individual department basis. Financial trends are examined to help identify budget characteristics and support projections for the effect of the CIP on future tax rates. The CIP

committee has found that the necessary accounting process for Capital Reserves does not always give a clear understanding of the Capital Reserve decisions, and/or available funds. Therefore, the committee has resolved to re-convene after the 2011 Town Meeting, in order to ensure clarity in recording the appropriation of monies at Town Meeting, to the capital reserve funds within the CIP document.” - *taken from the 2011 CIP*

The CIP committee has worked diligently with Department Heads to update the living working document used to keep track of our Capital needs and purchases. This year, they felt it important to recommend funding many of the Capital Reserve Funds at the full level, in order to make up for cuts that have been made over the past few years. The intent was to make sure that in the future, the Town will have the appropriate amount of money saved for each expense.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

CRF Library Facilities Improvement- \$5,000
CRF Library Technology Improvement- \$2,000
CRF Highway Equipment Purchases- \$76,000
CRF Highway Truck- \$110,000
CRF Construction/Expansion of Highway Garage- \$20,000
CRF Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance- \$10,000
CRF Solid Waste Facilities Improvements- \$9,000
CRF Purchase Equipment for Transfer Station- \$13,920
CRF Police Cruiser- \$35,000
CRF Fire Truck- \$55,225
CRF Dry Hydrants Water System- \$2,500
CRF Milfoil Treatment- \$10,000
CRF Municipal Facility Land Acquisition- \$15,000
CRF Public Safety Facilities- \$1,971.25
CRF Town Building Improvements- \$30,000
CRF Smith Ball field Improvements- \$2,000
CRF Shirley Cemetary Improvements- \$2,000
CRF Revaluation- \$25,000
CRF Master Plan- \$2,000
CRF 1772 Meetinghouse Restoration- \$2,000 **TOTAL: \$428,616.25***

*The total amount would equal roughly 8.5% of last years' budget of \$3,643,035, and does not include the Road Surface Management Plan.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Rendinaro, Administrative Consultant
On behalf of the New Durham Advisory CIP Committee

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The New Durham Conservation Commission works to protect the Town's natural resources and make them accessible for residents and visitors. The Commission works in partnership with groups like the Forest Society, The Moose Mountain Regional Greenways, and the Strafford Rivers Conservancy. Earlier this year we seemed to be very close to buying a protective conservation easement on the Birch Ridge area, but the owners insisted on far more than the fair market value and backed off.

An easement is a legal arrangement for transferring some of the value of a property to someone else. Examples include easements to drive across a piece of land to get to another property, the right to any oil under the ground, or the right to any wind in the sky above the ground. One of the ways we help protect land is to pay the "transaction costs" for owners who are willing to give a "free" easement on their property. Even though the easement is free to the Town or Conservation organization, the owner realizes some of the value of the land in federal tax savings.

There are "transaction costs" in setting up any easement, including survey, legal, natural resource identification, and future monitoring. By paying \$5-\$15,000 for these costs, the Commission is protecting a piece of property that might cost \$300,000. It uses the Current Use penalty money to pay these fees. It is a great way to get a "big bang for little bucks" at no cost to taxpayers.

Once the land is protected it is usually available for future generations of hikers, hunters, cross country skiers and snowmobilers.

The Conservation Commission also works to help people get access to these lands. Member Bill Malay is working with Recreation Director Kellie Chase to prepare trail maps for the public.

The Commission has a goal of a long-range plan for acquiring conservation lands, making sure to protect and connect the most important lands. Commission member Bob Craycraft wrote a grant that will pay for a "natural resource inventory" (NRI). It will map and describe the most important resources in the town. Watch for public presentations of the plan and opportunities to comment later this year.

The Commission heard a presentation about the danger to water quality created by phosphorus. Take two jars of lake or river water. Put some phosphorus in one, and nothing in the other. In two weeks, the jar with the phosphorus will be so green with algae that you can hardly see through it. Phosphorus comes from lawn and garden chemical fertilizers, and it seeps out of septic systems. You can help by skipping the lawn fertilizer, using organic fertilizers in the garden, and keeping your septic system in good condition.

Perhaps the biggest challenge the Commission is trying to address is the continuing deterioration of Class 6 roads, trails, and hillsides in the Devils Den area resulting from misuse of off-road vehicles. The area has become a magnet for over-zealous riders from other parts of the state. Local members of the ATV and Snowmobile clubs understand the problem. They try to stop it and have raised grant money to repair the worst damage. We are looking for help and good ideas on this one.

Respectfully submitted,

David Allen, Land Use Administrator

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The year 2010 was fairly calm.

A natural disaster was declared due to the wind, rain and snow event of February 25th and 26th. There was an extended period of power outages and ice damage to trees in higher elevations. The town hall had several broken windows and also lost roof shingles.

On March 14th and again on March 29th, strong rain and snow events caused flooding.

The remainder of the year was quiet. This allowed the Emergency Management Director and Emergency Management Deputy the time to continue working with various town, county, and state agencies in order to improve the capabilities of the Emergency Management Department.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is a part of the town Emergency Operations Plan, was updated this summer. The main goal of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to minimize the loss of life and property due to natural hazards.

The Police Dept, Fire Dept, Highway Dept, Elementary School, Board of Selectmen, Town Historian, and Administrative Consultant all provided input. The Hazard Mitigation Plan update has been given its conditional approval letter from FEMA. The town will need to adopt this plan as soon as possible in order to receive the final approval letter from FEMA.

The Town of New Durham is continuing to work with the NH Bureau of Emergency Communications to complete work on the E9-1-1 mapping and addressing system. This work should be completed next summer. The E9-1-1 mapping system ensures that town emergency personnel can quickly find any location without the confusion of similar road names or place names.

The Auxiliary Company of the New Durham Fire Company has been assisting the Emergency Management Department to plan for the operation of a day shelter located at the Fire Department building. Their knowledge and willingness to volunteer is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Quigley, Emergency Management Director



LADY'S SLIPPER ORCHID

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thank you for this opportunity to present the 2010 Report for the New Durham Fire Department. This past year we answered 307 calls for assistance and worked diligently to stay in step with the Capital Improvement Plan. I want to share with you a few highlights of our year, which as always, included hundreds of hours of time and labor donated by the members of your Fire Department.

Much time and effort was dedicated into transforming the former Rescue Unit into Utility-2, a fully functioning Rehabilitation Unit. Utility-2 will improve the lives and safety of the Firefighters and EMTs responding to emergencies by formalizing a process that seeks to recognize and treat the signs of physical exhaustion and other medical conditions that may occur at both emergencies and trainings. New Durham is one of the first departments in the area to see this need and develop a proactive approach that addresses this nationally recognized area of concern to your emergency workers and those responding from other agencies.

The Department's aging V-hull boat was taken out of service in 2008 as it was realized that it represented unacceptable risks to both your rescuers and those we were seeking to assist. This year we put a new Boat-1 into service after purchasing, outfitting and training with the Mercury rigid bottom inflatable boat. It is a highly maneuverable 12-foot craft that puts rescue crews closer to the water surface with greater stability, and has a payload capacity of 1,675 pounds and can safely move a crew of up to 6 persons. It has four separate air chambers constructed of a tough, chemical and heat resistant material that will remain buoyant even if one of the chambers gets damaged.

This year was a successful one for recruiting and training, and your team of rescuers now includes 15 members certified as firefighters and 14 members licensed as EMTs, including 7 EMT-Basics, 6 EMT-Intermediates and 2 EMT-Paramedics. Nine of our members are cross-trained as both firefighters and EMTs.

For those of you who enjoy the yearly statistics, here you go:

Fire Calls	84
Forest Fire Calls	20
EMS Calls	155
MV Crashes/Rescues	31
Service Calls	17
Mutual Aid Requests	65
Total Calls	307

Thank you for the support this community has shown to the New Durham Fire Department over the years. It is an honor for all of us on the department to continue to meet the emergency and non-emergency needs of those we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter R. Varney, Fire Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN & STATE FOREST RANGER

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forest & Land, work collaboratively to reduce the risk and frequency of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, please contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services also prohibits the open burning of household waste. Citizens are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 1-800-498-6868 or www.des.state.nh.us for more information. Safe open burning requires diligence and responsibility. Help us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at www.nhdfl.org.

This past fire season had a slightly lower number of fires, as well as lower number of acres burned than the five year average. What made this fire season somewhat unusual was that it lasted most of the summer. New Hampshire typically has a fairly active spring fire season and then the summer rains tend to dampen fire activity later in the season. This year virtually all areas of the state had fires throughout the summer due to the periodic dry spells throughout the season. As has been the case over the last few years, state budget constraints have limited the staffing of our statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers to Class III or higher fire danger days. Despite the reduction in the number of days staffed, our fire lookouts are credited with keeping most fires small and saving several structures due to their quick and accurate spotting capabilities. The towers fire spotting was supplemented by contracted aircraft and the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger was especially high. The largest fire for the season was a 10.3 acres fire in Charlestown. Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Several of the fires during the 2010 season threatened structures, a constant reminder that forest fires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildland fire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org. Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

As mentioned above the fire season was longer than others but the amount of fires were down from past years. Your local fire department responded to several small incidents in town with mutual aid responses to surrounding communities to assist with larger fires. The largest being the July 4th Mt Major fire in Alton.

As always permits can be obtained at the Fire Department or by calling the Local Fire warden at 859-6098. Have a safe and enjoyable 2011.

Respectfully Submitted

Dave Stuart
Forest Fire Warden
New Durham N.H

THE HEALTH INSPECTOR, BUILDING & CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

In January 2010 the Planning Board implemented a school impact fee. This is a fee imposed on people proposing to add 150sq feet of living space or more. The impact fee is \$2.49 per a sq. foot of living space

We have seen a decrease in building permits. There were a total of 82 building permits issued in 2010. The breakdown of permits is as follows:

1. New Homes – 11
2. New out buildings like garages/sheds etc and additions – 15
3. All other permits like re-roof, repairs to homes, decks, etc – 54

- Total value of construction for 2010 - \$3,495,623.00
- Total fees collected for 2010 - \$25,000.00
- Impact fees collected for 2010 - \$41,692.80

Below are two charts showing activity over the past three years. Although we have seen a drop in permits, we have seen an increase in the value of the projects.

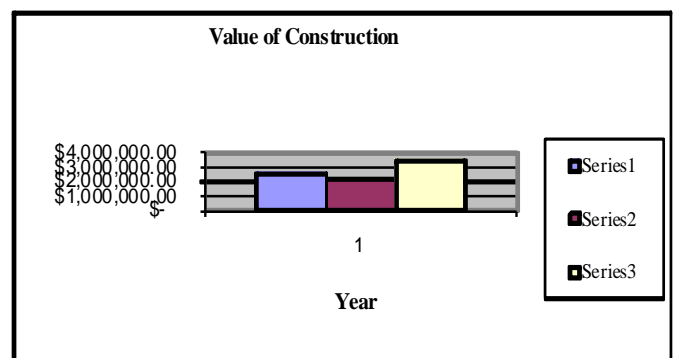
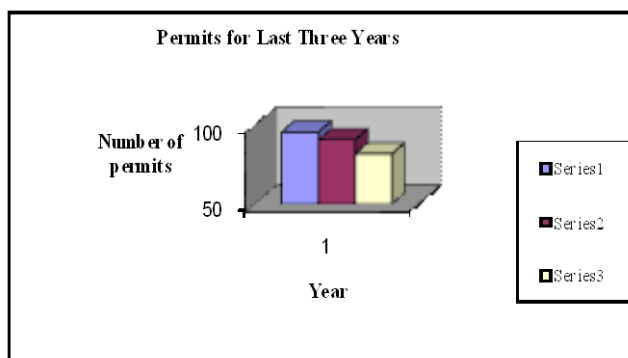
This year we were successful on a Code Enforcement case that has been lingering on for several years. The town was successful in getting a judgement for an illegal junkyard to be cleaned as well as we were able to recover attorney fees

Please feel free to stop by my office to call my cell with any questions. My cell number is 603-978-2190.

Respectively submitted by

Arthur Capello

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer/Heath Officer



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

We are pleased to report that 2010 was the year for the completion of many major drainage projects. Through the efforts of Mark Fuller, Road Agent and Catherine Orlowicz, Office Manager the Town received approximately \$460,618.00 in Hazard Mitigation Funds for these projects. The Town was responsible for funding 25% of the cost for the projects, which totaled approximately \$153,538.00. The Town utilized the rolled over FEMA disaster re-imbusement funds to apply towards the 25%. Approximate cost for the entire drainage projects was \$614,156.00.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the taxpayers of New Durham for all their support of the Highway Department and its Road Surface Management System program. This year, 2011, will see work on Birch Hill, Ham, Tash to Quaker Roads and the Kings Highway, and a few other road projects that monies will allow.

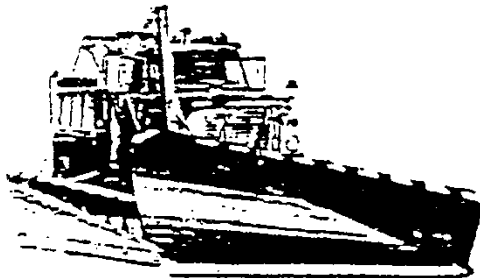
At this time I would to thank Don Vachon, Bruce Boles, Matt Ingham, Dave Horne, Leon Smith, part time Mike Gorton and David Valladares for their professionalism and hard work. Great job guys! Thank you to Cathy for her support at the shop.

As many of you know, after 34 years Mark Fuller is on the road to retirement. I would like to thank Mark for all his advice, knowledge he shared and assistance he has given me on the transition to Road Agent. I would also like to thank Mark for his dedication to the Town for the past 34 years. Hope your retirement is long and joyful.

In closing I would encourage any and all taxpayers to feel free to contact me with any concerns in regards to the Highway Department. Hope to see you all at Town Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted;

Michael R Clarke
Road Agent
New Durham NH



LIBRARY DIRECTOR

What a rewarding year it's been for the New Durham Public library. From renovations to the building, to expanding our burgeoning teen collection, this year has seen landmark growth towards meeting the needs of the town.

The most obvious change for the library was also its largest undertaking; in March the library interiors were repainted and we finally replaced our 25-year old carpeting. It's hard to express just how much work this was. Every item in the library—all 13,000 of its books, CDs, and movies, had to be moved (and kept in order!) and every shelf had to be disassembled so that the new carpeting could be put in. Amazingly, this was all accomplished by library patrons and volunteers. Over a period of a week, townspeople donated countless hours of their time to ensure that our library would feel fresh and new. As we have said before, we are so grateful to everyone who helped with this process. And if you haven't been in since we renovated—you really should swing by.

But it wasn't just physical changes to the public library. This year the library also added new events and programs to our already crowded calendar. In March and April we added a swath of free afterschool classes for kids—including a class on cartooning, a crafting club, a board game group, and even a class on making and filming your own movies. Our hope was that by including the library in the after-school landscape we could increase our usage among kids, and it proved to be a great success. The library also added programs for adults: we had an artist's showing by Patricia Lou Diliberto, a guest lecture by Yankee Magazine columnist Edie Clark, and the library's new Mystery Book Club. We even made some digital upgrades this year; now you can use your library card to download ebooks straight to your iPad or Nook.

And, for the less tech-savvy, the library has started a book delivery service for seniors. If you, or someone you know, has a tough time making it out to us, just call the library and we will arrange for the books to be hand-delivered to you!

2010 also saw a wonderful series of partnerships between the New Durham Parks & Recreation Department and the library. With the help of Kellie Chase, we were able to add a diverse and creative slate of programs as Snowman Making, Scarecrow Building, a weekly Cribbage club, a "drive-in" movie (in which kids built their own boxcars), and even a trip to Fenway Park!

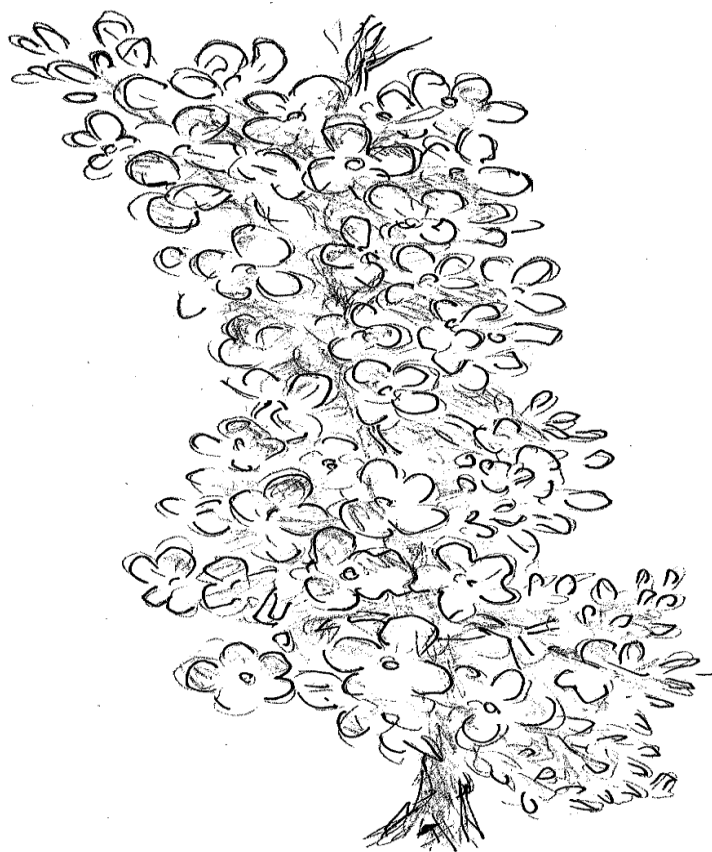
And of course, these were just our new programs. In 2010, we continued to bring the programming that patrons have come to expect. We once again had our Annual Poetry Night, in which the library is transformed into a coffeehouse and local beatniks read original and favorite poems to the backing of a sensational jazz band. We had our 4th Annual Edible Book Fair (this year's winner: "To Grill a Mockingbird"). We had our usual array of children's story times, and adult book clubs. This is not even mentioning what a great year 2010 was for books—from Kathryn Stockett's "The Help" to the latest in the Stieg Larsson series, we've had your book fix at the ready.

Finally, (and perhaps most especially?), the library had what was perhaps my very favorite Summer Program ever. We once again broke from the rest of state, and did our own criminology themed program. We had guests from the state police come and hook up volunteers to a polygraph machine. We had also help from our own local New Durham police, who taught our participants how to dust for fingerprints, and interrogate a suspect. And our kids once again made a twenty minute film: this time the detective story "Who Stole the Jewels of New

Durham?”, in which plucky kid detectives solve a crime at the library. Doing the Summer Reading Program is always a joy, and I’m already eagerly at work on planning 2011’s program.

Looking back, it’s been a great year for us at the library. And, on a personal note, this marks my fifth year as Library Director for New Durham! It’s hard to believe so much time has passed. It has been a wonderful five years. I look forward to continued service as the town’s Library Director, and I’ll do everything I can to make sure our next five years are even better.

Respectfully Submitted,
Max Crowe
Library Director



Purple Lilac

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The year 2010 was a year of improvements for the Library Trustees. Over the course of 2010, numerable repairs and improvements were made to the Library facility, and the Trustees were there to make sure they happened.

First and foremost, many cosmetic changes were made to the library. Rotted clapboards on the exterior were replaced, and the entire exterior of the building was given a fresh coat of paint. In March, the trustees helped realize renovations on the interior of the building. Our threadbare and 25 year old carpet was replaced and we took the opportunity to also repaint the interior of the library. The result is a much cleaner looking facility.

The Trustees also participated in a grant program with the New Hampshire Energy Co-op. All of the interior lighting in the library has been exchanged for energy-efficient models. This will bring the cost of running the library down and save the town money.

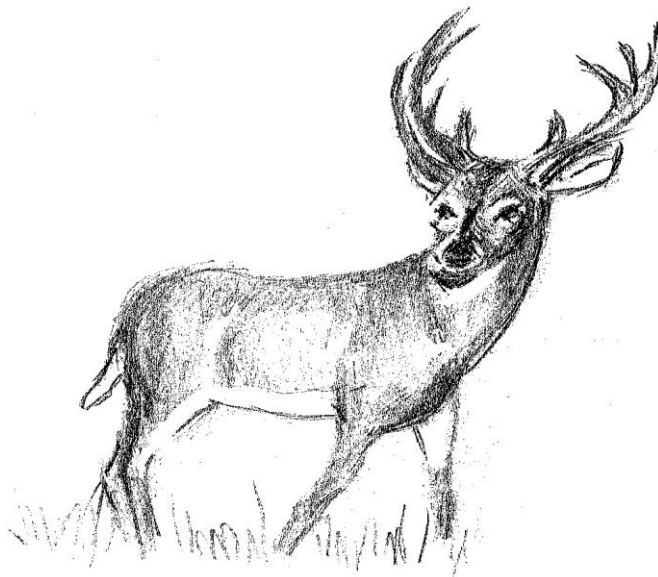
Later in the year, we grappled with the problem of ice on our front sidewalk, and elected to build a trench to avoid the issue. Likewise, we were concerned with the safety of our fire exit in the winter and built an overhang to ensure that the exit is useable even in heavy snow. Safety remains an important priority for the Trustees.

We had a change in membership this year. Lee Lilljedahl finished her term (and did a fantastic job—we miss you Lee!) and we welcomed Annie Phipps as the newest Library Trustee. As sad as we were to see Lee go, we always welcome new people and fresh perspectives. Annie brings a lot to the table as a Trustee, and we look forward to her continued presence on the board.

Our goals for the next year are to continue to be stewards for the library, as well as update and maintain the facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard McCormack
Chair, Library Trustees



White-Tailed Deer

1772 MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

With Phase I of the Historic Structure Report completed, the committee's goals now focus on the major work contained in Phase II. As part of that, we held a fundraiser in June – an historic tour of properties, homes, barns, and buildings that are an important part of New Durham's heritage. The monies earned were placed in a separate account to provide for advertising and supplies for future fundraisers.

One thing we discovered is that residents would like to see the 1772 Meetinghouse open on a regular basis. We'd like to see that, too; in fact, use of the building and its beautiful grounds is our paramount objective. It'd be great if other Town groups could join us in volunteering some hours to man the building.

Oh, money woes! A committee member with expertise is looking at a conceivable way of attaining Phase II in two parts, rather than the one recommended to us, so that work can be funded with smaller grants. We have asked a preservationist to look at the building, regarding entering Phase II work.

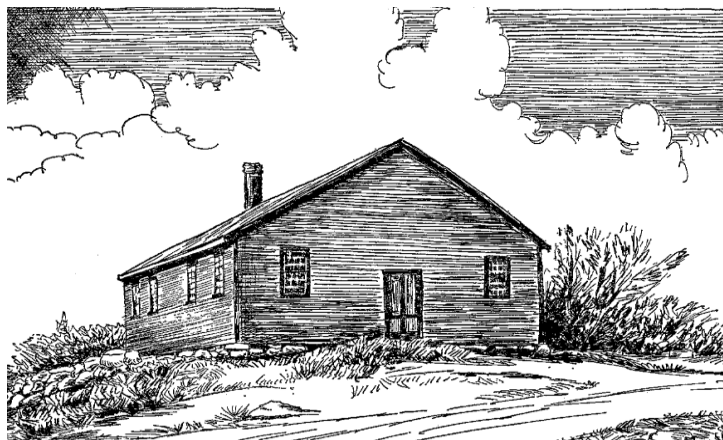
Good news – we've contacted the Timber Framers' Guild as to the feasibility of that organization replacing the roof. Response was positive! It's exciting to think that master craftsmen from all over the country might converge on our little town to do our major renovation. New Durham still has this pre-Revolutionary War building because of timber framing. Unlike recent construction, the 1772 Meetinghouse has greater structural strength due to its heavy timbers and precise joinery.

You may recall seeing us at Celebrate New Durham Day in a tent shared with the Conservation Commission, our partners in reviving and marking the nature trail on the 1772 Meetinghouse grounds. That was when we announced our plan to form a 1772 Meetinghouse Guild, made up of concerned private individuals and local businesses. If it hadn't been for concerned citizens in the past, the building would now be in terrible shape. Won't you join us in efforts to restore and protect this wonderful landmark? You can assist with money, supplies, or manpower.

This year we explored ways and means of providing parking and creating a community garden on our "miracle" lot next door. In the future we will be calling on volunteers to help us clear some of that land. Please remember that a handful of people worked, suffered, laughed, lived, and died here centuries ago. The 1772 Meetinghouse was the symbol of what they achieved and what they hoped for. The Town is fortunate, indeed, to have a structure that instills a sense of history and place amidst development and the hustle and bustle of modern life. The building is important for so many reasons, and the committee thanks you for any and all support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Allyn, chair
Mary McHale
Bob Craycraft
Ernie Vachon
Cathy Orlowicz (resigned)



MILFOIL & INVASIVE WEED COMMITTEE

2010 was a challenging year for the Committee as it struggled with the spread of the invasive and very aggressive variable milfoil plant and the cost of attacking the same.

The area most affected by this plant is the segment of the Merrymeeting River from the bridge crossing on the Merrymeeting Road to the southern end of Jones Pond (at the dam).

The State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) has studied the problem, prepared a report and recommended a long range plan.

Based on the report variable milfoil became established in this segment of the Merrymeeting River around 2000-2002. The report concludes the plant was introduced into the river by boaters using the unofficial boat access site on Merrymeeting Road below Marsh Pond.

This report goes on to state that variable milfoil is widespread throughout much of area from the bridge crossing to the dam at the south end of Jones Pond, and that it is a continual threat to the ecological and structural diversity in the Merrymeeting Marsh system. If not abated, this plant will impact the aesthetic, recreational, and ecological values of the river system from Merrymeeting Lake to Lake Winnepesaukee.

The report concluded by noting that the plant is now established in Downing Pond.

The Committee adopted a Long Term Variable Milfoil Management and Control Plan early in 2010 as recommended by DES.

That plan covers a period of five years beginning in 2010. It is an ambitious plan and it will be difficult to follow it completely due to the cost and expense required.

The plan called for an initial treatment of 26.7 acres with 2,4-D, the recommended herbicide in July of 2010, followed up by a second treatment of those areas where the first treatment was not that effective which occurred in September. The initial inspection after the treatment was encouraging. The final results will not be known until the DES completes a more complete review and mapping this spring to confirm the results of the treatment.

It is expected, and contemplated in the plan, that additional treatment will be required in 2011 together with diver hand removal (the divers go into the water and physically remove the plant) to stay on track.

The critical issue is, as always, funding. The Town has been generous over the past few years which made the treatment and the studies possible. Unfortunately we have not received any State funding to assist in this process. The next few two years will be important as, if not treated, the plant will recover from the treatment in 2010, and will continue to spread.

There is no quick and easy solution. It requires constant control measures to keep the plant in check. It also requires the aid and assistance of the New Durham community.

Boaters should not use motors in the affected areas. The blades and props cut up the plant and create new seeds which develop into plants. Those who fish are encouraged to stay clear of the areas where the plant is concentrated.

Those who canoe or kayak should avoid the areas where the plant is visible.

All who use the river system should make certain the boats, paddles, fishing lines, etc. do not have particles or pieces of the plant attached or dangling on them.

This will be a difficult battle, and funding, patience and long term control are the operative words. The Committee welcomes and encourages anyone who has an interest in joining this effort to contact the Town or the Committee chair Arthur Hoover at 859-2964.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Hoover (Chairman)

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

The year 2010 has been one of some wonderful changes and growth with the New Durham Recreation Department. Kellie Chase joined us in January, and things have been non-stop with activities ever since! It was a priority for the New Durham Recreation Commission to steer efforts in the direction of providing a variety of free and low cost activities for residents of all ages. In these difficult economic times, recreation can play an important role in offering families and senior citizens fun alternatives to what is often a costly night out.

The New Durham Parks and Recreation Commission continues to oversee the Creative Kids Club, our before and after school daycare run by Director Laura McCarthy. Laura and her wonderful staff provide a warm, nurturing and fun place for our children at a low cost to our hard working parents.

Athletics are a big part of recreation, and we offer our children programs in baseball, softball, volleyball, soccer and basketball. We boast some terrific athletes in this community, as well as some phenomenal volunteer coaches. Along with seasonal recreation teams, we have also offered baseball and basketball clinics which have enhanced our children's skills and prepared them for team play.

Work has continued at the ball fields, with extensive work having been completed on all three infields, pitcher's mounds and dugouts. The Highway Department expanded our parking area which made a huge difference for baseball and soccer season. Also the basketball court was repaved. We were fortunate to have some expert volunteer assistance with electrical work and field work as well as donated materials for the basketball court.

Kingswood baseball teams used the Babe Ruth field this year while the Kingswood athletic fields have been under construction. This allowed our children to have a "home" field for their games. We have worked together with Kingswood Athletic Director Andrea Ogden to offer this again to our varsity and junior varsity teams for their home games. Kingswood staff offered great assistance with field maintenance, lining and mowing throughout the season.

While athletics have always been a focus for our recreation department, Kellie brought with her the desire to take recreation to a new level with new adventures for everyone. Her creativity, energy and vast experience have changed the face of recreation in the community. For the first time, New Durham is hosting senior activities, with the hottest day out being Sunday Bingo at the New Durham School! Word spread quickly, and the tables have been filled weekly with upward to 95 participants. Seniors can socialize over a noon meal and then enjoy the competition of Bingo. Different community organizations have provided food, with the New Durham Fire Department offering blood pressure readings one a month. Other adult activities have included weekly cribbage, karate, guitar lessons and trips to Foxwoods.

Families have enjoyed game nights, themed family fun nights, a "drive in" movie experience on the front lawn of the library in homemade boxcars, and a wonderful Halloween Party. Many enjoyed a trip to New York City and a group went geo-caching. The flashlight Easter Egg Hunt at the ball fields was wildly popular with the kids and ever more so with the adults. Having a field full of adults running around looking for candy filled eggs was quite a sight! Children enjoyed crafts classes, karate, a princess party, breakfast with the Easter Bunny, St. Patrick's Day with the Leprechaun, candy making, mask making, frog hunting and scare crow building. The list of new experiences goes on!

The big undertaking of the year was our first "Celebrate New Durham Day". The day started with our 2nd annual road race and kids run, and continued with a horseshoe tournament and dodge ball tournament (which was quite a show!). In the evening, residents of all ages were treated to a live band at the Farmington Fish and Game Club, food, a bounce house and a live animal show. Children and adults competed in events such as the pie baking contest as well as a pie eating contest. Families, neighbors and friends hung out with one another, relaxed and enjoyed a wonderful summer evening, topped off with a phenomenal fireworks show. Every town department helped in the success of this event, as did many local businesses. It was a wonderful evening!

This year has been one of re-building the concept of recreation in New Durham, and it has been wonderful to watch the Recreation Department work hand in hand with the New Durham Library, the Town Hall, the Police Department, the Highway Department, the Fire Department, the New Durham School, the Board of Selectmen, local businesses and the New Durham Food Pantry to bring the community together in fun, community spirit and new experiences for everyone.

We thank our dedicated volunteers, town employees, business sponsors and supportive parents for a great year, and we look forward to a terrific 2011 – just wait to see what the Recreation Department has planned! (Check out the activity flier and NDRec on Facebook or contact Kellie at 859-5666 or ndrec@worldpath.net)

Respectfully submitted,

Kristyn Bernier, ND Parks and Recreation Commission Chair

Photograph of New Durham School Children Before We Had a Parks and Recreation Committee



Old School Photograph from the 1800s. Teacher is Georgeanna Berry

PLANNING BOARD

The New Hampshire Legislature has given local planning boards three primary responsibilities:

1. Help the Town create a vision of what it wants to be in 20 years (the Planning responsibility);
2. Develop ordinances, regulations and other methods of helping the Town realize its future vision (the legislative responsibility);
3. Review land use applications to ensure that proposed projects do not conflict with the future vision (the regulatory responsibility).

The primary tool for creating the future vision is the Master Plan. The town is required to review and update this plan at least every 10 years. The Board completed its last update in 2005.

Updating is a 2-year process, so the board should begin work on a Master Plan revision in 2012 or 2013. In 2011, it will begin preparing for that effort. The Board is seeking volunteers who want to be a part of this planning effort. Participation can range from a one-time two-hour workshop, to chairing a subcommittee. Please let staff person David Allen at 859-7171 know if you are interested in contributing.

The Planning Board has worked in the last few years to develop ordinances that will protect the natural beauty, rural character, and natural resources of New Durham. At the 2010 Town Meeting, voters approved a Stormwater Management Ordinance that will ensure that new, expanded, or revised development projects have sufficient stormwater controls in place to protect the water quality of our lakes and rivers, and protect the town's groundwater supply.

The Planning Board is bringing forward two warrant articles to 2011 Town Meeting.

- A "housekeeping" amendment that brings the references in other parts of the Zoning Ordinance into compliance with the Stormwater Management Ordinance; and
- Authorization for the Planning Board to require a subdivision applicant with a larger project to go through the Board's Design Review process. This will allow the Board to head off subdivision components that would conflict with the Master Plan vision before the developer invests time and money in something the Board is likely to reject.

In 2010 the Board reviewed and approved

- 2 subdivision proposals, one for two lots, the other for three;
- 1 site plan for reviving the Flight Deck gas station/convenience store;
- 1 excavation permit;
- 2 home occupation permits; and
- Conditional Use permits for stormwater management or steep slopes protections on three properties. The new amendments require these permits for certain new developments. In two of 2010 projects, the Planning Board asked for to upgrades to the design because of deficiencies: precisely the Board's goal when it proposed the Steep Slopes and Stormwater management amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Raslavicus, Chair

POLICE DEPARTMENT

This past year has been another very busy year for the New Durham Police Department. Increases in thefts and burglaries have been keeping officers as busy as ever, as the hard economic times that are upon us often make the rural community of New Durham a haven for burglars and thieves. In light of the increased property crimes this year, I would like to take the opportunity to remind residents some of the preventative steps they can take to lower the risk of being victimized:

1. Leave lights on in your home, even when you are away from your residence, as this deters burglars from choosing a residence.
2. Lock doors, even basement and shed doors, as that extra step a burglar must take is also a crime deterrent.
3. Remove keys from your vehicles and lock your vehicles, even in your own yard. Locked vehicles are less enticing to a thief looking for a quick grab.
4. Document license plate numbers of cars that pull into your driveway, and get full names of people going door to door selling items or passing out information. Door to door salespeople with legitimate companies will be able to offer identification and a company card. Unfortunately, burglars will case your property under the guise of being a salesman. The Town of New Durham has a solicitation ordinance requiring paperwork from the town hall.
5. Report suspicious activity to the New Durham Police Department for follow up. Many crimes in town have been solved and prevented as a result of residents staying alert and reporting suspicious vehicles and individuals to the police.
6. Be aware that internet and e-mail scams target anyone using a computer. One common scam is to offer “a winner” a large sum of money in return for the victim cashing a check for a large sum of money and sending a smaller check back to the originating party. Do not be fooled by this windfall temptation. E-mail and other computer scams are reported to the Attorney General’s Office.
7. Also, stay alert to small businesses that are not locally known offering deals on landscaping, roofing, chimney sweeping, gutter clean up and construction that seem too good to be true. Too many New Hampshire residents have fallen victim to illegitimate businesses that take a check and then never return to complete the work promised. Verify vendors with whom you are not familiar. Ask for references, insurance information and whether they are registered with the Secretary of State.
8. For parents, with our children having access to the internet and new ways of accessing social media; be cognizant of the dangers on the net and via cell phones and web cams. Check on your child’s internet and phone activities regularly and set appropriate limits so as to keep your children safe. Know what sites your children visit and who their “internet” and texting friends are. Parent connection with children is the best safety tool.
9. Finally, please remember to put house numbers at the end of your driveway or on your house so that emergency personnel can more quickly locate your home in the event of an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn Bernier
Chief of Police

POLICE DEPARTMENT

2010 ACTIVITY

Arrests`	209		
2 nd Degree Assault	5	Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault	5
Animal Complaints	97	Alarm Activation	64
Attempted Suicide	1	Arson	1
Civil Issues	26	Burglary	23
Directed Patrol	72	Criminal Mischief/Vandalism	33
Disabled Motor Vehicle	43	Criminal Threatening	8
Disorderly Conduct	6	Criminal Trespass	14
E911 hang-up	44	Domestic Disturbance	21
Fingerprints (non criminal)	33	Drug & Alcohol Incidents	79
Harassment	36	Fire Dept Assist	33
Indecent Exposure	2	Littering	29
Issuing Bad Checks	3	Found Property	15
Juvenile	13	Motor Vehicle Complaint	51
Medical Assist	89	Open Door	43
Mutual Aid	55	Pistol Permits	55
Noise Complaint	20	Stalking	9
Paperwork Service	182	Suspicious person/motor vehicle	121
Sexual Assault	2	Endangering the Welfare of a Child	15
Simple Assault	34	VIN Verifications	64
Theft	65	Welfare Check	21
Town Ordinance Violations	30	Political Advertising Regulations	20
Vehicle off road/no damage	8	All other calls	693

Motor Vehicle Accidents	<u>48</u>
Motor Vehicle Summons	<u>208</u>
OHRV complaint	<u>11</u>
Motor Vehicle Warnings	<u>2874</u>
Total	<u>3,082</u>

Total calls for 2010	5,558
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SOLID WASTE FACILITY & TRANSFER STATION

First I would like to thank the residents for supporting our efforts to improve operations at the facilities. A change in the flow of traffic and handling of waste has brought improvements. Participation in the mandatory recycling program has increased, contributing to the reduction in the number and cost of hauls for solid waste, thus reducing the cost to taxpayers. Please help us by sorting recyclable items in their proper designated areas. By doing this we are able to take advantage of the best resale markets for the items, potentially increasing the revenues. Mixed up items are considered contaminated, reducing price for resale, thus reducing revenues.

The new all wheel steer Bobcat Skid Steer has been purchased and put into service. Acquisition of this front line piece of equipment was supported with a grant of \$4,000.00 from the organization "New Hampshire the Beautiful." We thank them for acknowledging the Town's request worthy of their support.

Substantial savings in the handling of plastic has been realized, with the installation of the compactor and container. Plastic was hauled in an open top container at a minimum of four hauls per month. Compacting plastic reduced the number of hauls to one every five to six weeks.

Beginning in 2011 removal of the town's municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction debris (C&D) has been contracted with Best Way Disposal Services. Best Way has informed the town MSW loads contaminated with C&D will be rejected and returned to the town for sorting. We need your support to meet this condition, please do not throw C&D in the compactors for MSW.

If you have any questions regarding disposal of items please seek the assistance of an attendant. Residents with physical limitations should honk their horn for assistance.

The town has found a recycler for asphalt roofing shingles. Shingles that are clean, containing no paper, wood or other item from construction, are ground up and this material can be used in the construction of roads and shoulders or as a dust cover. Please separate your shingles from the other debris before you bring them to the transfer station.

We respectfully request residents to dispose of their "trash" in the areas designed for the item. Computers and propane tanks are frequently being disposed of in the metal pile area. If you are unsure where something should go, please ask the attendants for assistance.

When disposing your brush and woody debris from your yards in the brush pile, please do not dispose lumber or construction debris in this area. The construction debris (C&D) cannot be ground in the tub grinder with the brush.

Due to the extra cost associated with the processing or removal of certain categories of items, fees are assessed for the disposal of these items at the transfer station. The Mandatory Recycling Ordinance has a list of fees to be assessed. It is the duty of the attendants to assess and collect these fees at the time of disposal. Fees can be paid by check, money order or a redemption coupon purchased at the Town Hall. The attendants cannot accept cash.

This year at Town Meeting, we are asking the voters to support the establishment of a Revolving Fund, in accordance with the State Statutes RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of holding the "surplus of revenue" generated from the collection of fees and resale of recycled items. The "surplus of revenue" is revenue after all expenses for recycling have been paid. The funds would be

allowed to accumulate from year to year and will be used for facilitating or encouraging recycling.

In closing I would like to congratulate Mark Fuller on his retirement. His devotion to “serving the town their best interest” is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted;

Joseph Bloskey, Foreman

Solid Waste Facility Recyclables 4324-425					
Year to Date Totals:	Tonnage:	# of Trips	Expense	Income	Gain/Loss
2010					
Aluminum Cans	3.36	2	\$0.00	\$2,860.00	\$2,860.00
Cardboard	40.77	4	\$0.00	\$5,232.15	\$5,232.15
E-Waste**	5.62	3	\$2,715.50	\$1,485.00	(\$1,230.50)
Glass & Plastic	70.48	18	\$4,010.87	\$0.00	(\$4,010.87)
Loose Fiber (Newspaper)	56.45	7	\$1,575.00	\$2,840.63	\$1,265.63
Propane Tanks		1	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
Scrap Metal*	77.17	7	\$0.00	\$9,547.51	\$9,547.51
Tires		1	\$1,305.00	\$286.00	(\$1,019.00)
Plastics	10.17	6	(\$1,306.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,306.00)
Tin	3.64	1	\$214.89	\$546.00	\$331.11
Batteries		3	\$0.00	\$436.50	\$436.50
Totals YTD:	Tonnage:	# of Trips	Expense	Income	Gain/Loss
	267.663	53	\$8,515.26	\$23,298.79	\$12,171.53

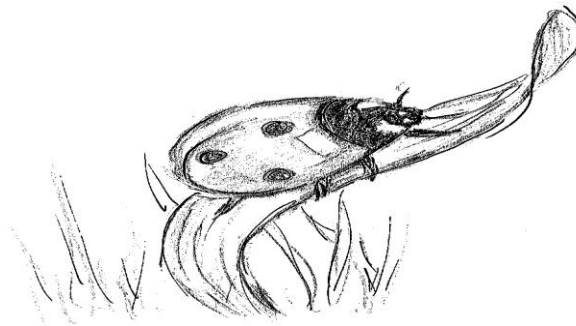
Notes:

Scrap Metal* includes all White Goods, scrap metal and steel.

E-Waste** includes Batteries from PC, TV, Microwaves and Computer Monitors, and Fluorescent Lights.

August 2010 Glass, Tin and Plastics are separated.

Batteries are vehicle batteries.



Ladybug

MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION AND DEMO STATISTICS

	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls
January	7.93						22.63		15.05	2	20.62	3	5.71	1
February	21.78		21.96								7.02	1	12.19	2
March	30.70		14.17		42.11		30.63		30.09	3	8.98	1	27.68	4
April	45.08		59.10		63.07		29.12		31.31	5	28.84	4	25.87	5
May	74.26		41.12		78.29		45.00		35.55	7	42.17	6	24.53	3
June	56.53		84.83		42.04		27.89		37.87	6	29.79	4	23.35	4
July	95.88		68.57		35.66		47.00		33.38	10	38.11	5	20.31	4
August	61.36		62.29		41.99		24.15		47.85	8	28.90	4	12.59	2
September	31.07		40.41		37.26		19.18		81.94	11	28.05	4	20.57	4
October	50.39		38.67		44.52		22.74		42.48	14	19.99	3	13.45	2
November	25.38		75.16		40.51		26.69		61.57	8	37.79	5	12.07	2
December	32.90		32.85		18.00		30.00		23.50	4	21.66	3	5.31	1
		83												
Totals:	533.26	83	539.13	0	443.45	0	325.03	0	440.59	78	311.92	43	203.63	34

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE STATISTICS

	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls	Tons	Hauls
January	64.67		69.67		92.18		83.84		94.83	8	76.04	6	64.07	5
February	54.53		80.95		100.71		67.16		62.67	5	67.16	6	70.28	6
March	72.04		52.69		96.43		80.64		65.31	6	73.45	6	86.02	6
April	71.1		82.74		78.94		77.85		84.05	7	83.67	6	96.30	7
May	69.01		88.65		121.28		108.44		115.48	10	114.62	9	68.17	5
June	89.55		118.61		106.74		93.21		88.07	8	98.12	8	96.69	7
July	94.58		110.23		120.06		110.13		139.03	10	136.41	9	119.46	7
August	112.71		124.68		131.64		135		114.37	8	112.69	8	96.56	6
September	101.38		96.83		105.14		96.63		95.21	8	96.09	8	116.22	7
October	78.77		108.73		90.57		76.63		108.77	9	111.18	8	76.95	5
November	98.98		86.96		115.8		97.74		86.98	7	94.19	7	90.21	5
December	78.15		84.67		79.26		73.09		95.32	8	98.94	8	88.09	7
		89												
Totals:	985.47	89	1105.41	0	1238.75	0	1100.36	0	1150.09	94	1162.56	89	1069.02	73

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

own Clerk/Tax Collector's Hours: Monday-Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-12 Carole Ingham, Town Clerk/Tax Collector ndclerk@worldpath.net Stephanie MacKenzie, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector ndtctc@worldpath.net Town Hall, 4 Main Street, PO Box 207, New Durham, NH 03855-0207	603-859-2091
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The Office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector took in \$9,328,721.06 in revenues in 2010. The Tax Collector's office collected over 93% of the current property taxes due, right in line with previous years' collection. The State of NH Commissioner of Revenue has determined that the overall equalization ratio for New Durham to be 106% for the year 2009.

The town has seen a marked decline in the number of motor vehicles registered in the last three years, due mostly to a struggling economy. Revenues generated from motor vehicle registrations were down approximately \$38,000 from those in fiscal year 2007.

The Town Clerk's Office continues to issue **OHRV and boat registrations**. This has created a small source of revenue, \$4,300 in the fiscal year 2010, for the Town of New Durham. When you get your boat renewal letter from the State of NH you may bring it to our office to process. The town does receive part of the fees paid when completing the process in our office. So please consider registering your boat with us.

Please always remember to hold on to your vehicle registration. The original registration is required in order to transfer your vehicle; otherwise you will have to pay \$15.00 to the State and \$3.00 to the Town. As a reminder, if you have purchased your leased vehicle and now own it, you must change the title and registration as soon as you receive the title from the leasing company or as soon as you have refinanced this vehicle in your name. When registering a vehicle (new, renewal or transferring) you must always start with the Town. If you are unsure, please contact our office and we will help you: 603-859-2091.

Election of the town and school officers is Tuesday, March 8th from 8AM - 7PM in the school gymnasium. The Town meeting is Wednesday, March 9th in the gymnasium at 7PM. Be there and make your vote count. If you have not registered to vote and wish to do so, you may come to our office during regular business hours; or register with the Supervisors of the Checklist during their posted sessions; or at the election on Election Day.

April is dog license renewal month! Next year's dog licenses are available in January for the upcoming year, if you should wish to renew before the April 30th due date. New Durham has a dog ordinance, which requires your pet to be in your control at all times. Look for us at the annual rabies clinic in April at the police station.

Legislative Updates – Involuntary merger of lots prohibited (Chapter 345) prohibits any municipality or village district from merging preexisting subdivided lots or parcels, except upon the consent of the owner. This new law does not appear to invalidate involuntary mergers that have been deemed to have occurred prior to the effective date of September 18, 2010. It also does not prevent a municipality from requiring the property owner to merge contiguous substandard lots as a condition precedent to developing the lots. It merely states that the municipality itself may not merge them.

Liens for Housing Code Violations; Landlord Agents. Chapter 203 (SB 354) creates a lien in favor of the municipality whenever a court enters a fine against a property owner for violating a

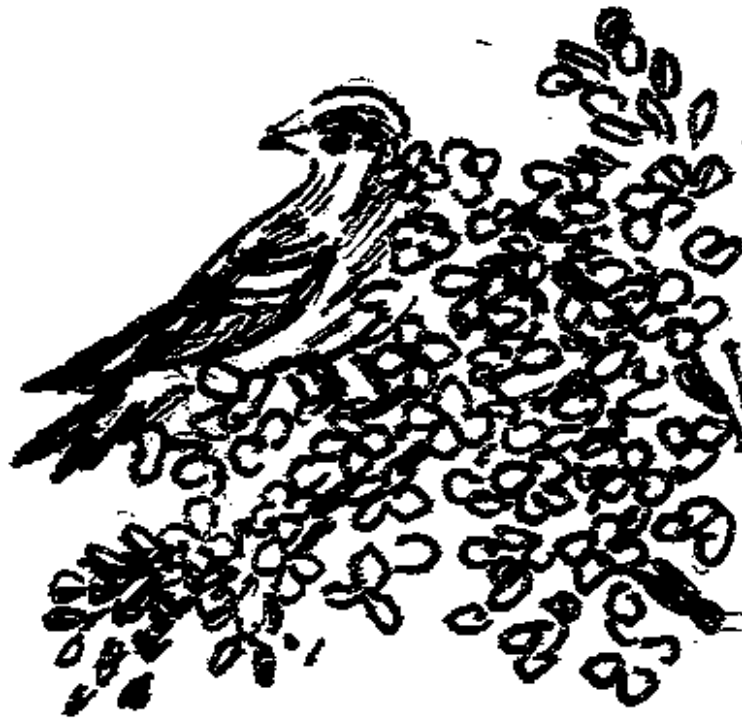
municipal housing code or the minimum standards under RSA 48-A:14. The lien may be filed with the registry of deeds 45 days following the entry of the fine. It may be foreclosed if it is not satisfied within 120 days after it is recorded, but it is subordinate to any mortgage, tax lien, or other encumbrance recorded prior to it. The chapter also requires every owner of property that is rented for residential use (other than certain single-family and owner-occupied properties) to file with the town clerk a statement that provides the name, address, and telephone number of a person within the state who is authorized to accept service of process for any legal proceeding brought against the owner relating to the property. Effective date January 1, 2011.

In 2011 the **Town Clerk's Office** plans to streamline the way residents pay for motor vehicle registrations, if approved at Town Meeting. First, all transactions will involve a single check written to the Town of New Durham rather than requiring two checks. Also, we want to introduce 'E-Reg', a pay-as-you-go, online vehicle renewal registration system. Finally, we would like to have the ability to process credit cards.

Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Stephanie MacKenzie completed the state certification process and became a New Hampshire Certified Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector in August. Congratulations Stephanie!

Stephanie and I have enjoyed our interactions with you in 2010, and look forward to continuing our wonderful relationship with the residents of the Town of New Durham in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Ingham
Town Clerk/Tax Collector



TOWN HISTORIAN

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Library Trustees and staff for their assistance with the reorganization of the historical section of the library during their renovations to the building project. It was a lot of work to reshelv the books and put back the files and bookshelves. We would like to thank Sara Foynes for volunteering to paint the book case. It looks great. The improvements to the interior of the building look wonderful.

The Town has been awarded a grant from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, known as LCHIP, for completing a Historical Structures Report on the 1908 Town Hall. Improvement and repairs are needed at the Town Hall and the Selectmen realize the importance of protecting the integrity of the building when this work is conducted. However, by the nature of town governance, not everyone who serves as an official understands the importance for compliance with the Secretaries Standards for Restoration, Preservation and Reconstruction. Any building listed with the National Registry for Historical Places must follow these standards when work is to be performed, and the Town Hall is listed on the registry. We look forward to assisting the contractors with the preparation of the historic structures report.

The electrical thermostat was replaced in the vault this year.

Due to personal reasons, I was unable to move forward with the process of declaring abandoned the old uncared for graveyards. Hopefully, sometime in the near future, things will settle and the process can resume.

Assistance with research is by appointment, please call 859-4643.

Respectfully Submitted:
Catherine Orlowicz, Town Historian
Cheryl Cullimore Associate

Ela River Falls



WELFARE REPORT

Under RSA 165 “Whenever a person in any town is poor and unable to support himself, he shall be maintained by the overseers of public welfare of such town, whether or not he has residence there.”

In the Welfare Office, we provide assistance to individuals, families and households who temporarily lack the adequate resources to meet their basic needs. We work as facilitators to direct those in need to federal, state and non-profit relief agencies, and continue to work with clients on budgeting and other self- supporting steps. These steps help reduce the financial burden on our department’s budget, as well as on the taxpayers of New Durham. While providing assistance, we strive to promote self-reliance, independence and self-sufficiency for our clients.

This year we have seen several new families as well as some we have helped in the past. The Fuel Assistance program continues to help residents of New Hampshire with their heating cost thus taking some of the burden off the Town.

The state also provides a **2-1-1** help line. This help line can provide information on who should be contacted for help with a particular need.

Please remember that the Welfare Office is here to help and provide assistance but the Town does place a lien on property or requires a payment arrangement be made by asking those who are residents but not property owners to sign a Promissory Note.

This past year the Town has received \$7,327.20 from lien releases and reimbursement payments.

Assistance Statistics 2010

Fuel Assistance	\$ 3,236.35
Utility Assistance	\$ 451.43
Rent Assistance	\$ 4,367.39
Medical Prescriptions Assistance	\$ 357.71
Other miscellaneous	\$ 288.25
Total	\$11,092.11

Respectfully submitted

Laura Zuzgo, Welfare Officer

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

New Hampshire State Law gives the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) four responsibilities.

1. Consider appeals of Land Use decisions of the Planning Board or Building Inspector;
2. Consider requests for a variance from the requirements of an ordinance;
3. Make special exceptions in situations authorized by the Zoning Ordinance; and
4. Consider requests for an “equitable waiver of dimensional requirements.”

In practice, in New Durham, the significant majority of cases considered by the ZBA are requests for variances. The concept of a variance comes from the longstanding legal understanding that when it comes to uses of the land, “one size does not always fit all.” Sometimes it is appropriate to allow a property owner to do something a little differently than the Zoning Ordinance requires, if “literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.”

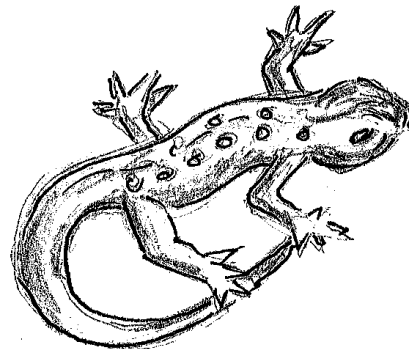
In 2010, eight property owners submitted applications for a variance. A ninth was withdrawn. One is awaiting action by the ZBA. The Board approved all seven that came before it. Five of the eight applications involved small lots that do not meet today’s zoning standards. All five are located on Merrymeeting Lake. Some of these lots are also on steep slopes. The ZBA considered these applications as reasonable requests that were often part of an effort by the property owner to increase protection of the lake. The three applications not located on the lake included

- A request to create a new lot with less road frontage than required—because the existing lot had inadequate frontage;
- A request to build closer to the road than the ordinances permit—because the applicant proposes to improve an existing structure which cannot be relocated without unreasonable cost;
- And a request by the Board of Selectmen to set up a Bulletin Board in front of Town Hall that is bigger than allowed in the Town’s Sign Ordinance—in order to create easier public access to postings about civic activities and Town committee meetings.

The Zoning Board is looking for new alternates. We deal with interesting cases. We hold efficient meetings. We enjoy ourselves while doing serious work. Contact our staff person David Allen at 859-7171 if you think you might want to join us.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Prelli, Chair
Zoning Board of Adjustment



SPOTTED NEWT