



# THE GREENSBORO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018

## *Officers of the Greensboro Association*

**President:**

John C. Stone, III

**Vice Presidents:**

Andy Dales

John Schweizer

Naomi Ranz-

Schleifer

**Secretary:**

Victoria Von Hessert

**Treasurer:**

Richard Lovett

**Asst. Treasurer:**

Andy Dales

**Auditor:**

Jennifer Lucas

## *Committees:*

Calendar

Communications

Community

Initiatives

Conservation

Events

Finance

Fund for Greensboro

Grants Program

Lake Protection

Membership

Music (Sunday

evening)

Newsletter

Nominating

Swim Program

Website

Zoning By-laws

Newsletter Editor:

Karen Gowen

## **Greensboro Association Awards 13 Community Grants**

The Greensboro Association awarded six Community Service Grants and seven Project Grants totaling \$12,000 in 2017. Per the Association's mission statement, these grants "support initiatives and organizations that enhance our Greensboro Community for both year-around and seasonal residents". Money for all these grants comes from dues and generous donations of our membership.

2017 Recipient Organizations were:

### **Community Service Grants**

Greensboro Fireworks

Caspian Beach Maintenance

Town Ski/ Outdoor Trail Maintenance

The Library Summer Reading Program

Hardwick Food Pantry

Caspian Beach Swim Program

### **Project Grants**

Four Seasons of Early Learning Play-  
scape

Hardwick Rescue-New Defibrillator

Greensboro Cemetery: Resetting

Headstones

Wonder Arts After-School Program

Heartbeet Dorm Renovations

Historical Society Audio Tapes Program

Town Recreation -Ball field Repairs

Additionally, each July, the Greensboro Association sponsors the Annual Caspian Challenge Walk and Run. Proceeds are awarded to a different local charity each year.

Applications for GA Grants are available on the GA Website or from Grant Committee members. All applications must be submitted by May 30th. Members of the 2017 Grant Committee were Devin Burgess, Andy Dales, Day Patterson, Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, John Schweizer(Chair) and Victoria Von Hessert. –John Schweizer



The Greensboro Association mission is to conceive, advance, and support village initiatives and organizations that enhance our community and to protect Caspian Lake and its surrounding environment for both full and part-time residents of Greensboro.

## Town Meeting 2018

Town meeting was held at the Highland Center for the Arts this year instead of Fellowship Hall or the school. Thank you to Kyle Gray for facilitating live streaming of the meeting this year, which is now available for viewing on YouTube. View the video at this link: <https://bit.ly/2vWQbMq>

We enjoyed visits from two of our legislators, including Senator John Rodgers (D-Essex/Orleans) and Representative Sam Young (D-Orleans/Caledonia). The bulk of this time was devoted to a passionate conversation about gun control legislation currently being debated in both chambers of the Vermont Legislature.

The town's proposed FY19 budget of \$1,912,567.67, an increase of 6.16%, passed on a voice vote after some discussion about what areas of the budget saw increases.

We also re-elected Sue Wood to complete the remaining year of a 3-year term on the Select Board. New Select Board members are Matt McAllister (2-year term) and Andy Kehler (3-year term). These elections were all done by a paper ballot with somewhere between 120 and 130 votes cast in each round of balloting.

Phil Gray and Jan Travers were recognized for their many contributions to life in Greensboro as this year's recipients of the Greensboro Award. To read more about this award and Phil and Jan's work in town, visit the town website at [greensborovt.org](http://greensborovt.org).

The final article of the warning included a resolution presented at many town meetings across Vermont that focused on state and local commitment to sourcing renewable energy. While there was some discussion about the detail and wording of the resolution, it passed on a voice vote.

Other issues discussed during the final article included affordable housing in Greensboro and refurbishment efforts in Greensboro Bend, as well as the work of the Greensboro Planning Commission.

Working draft sections of the new town plan, including the vision for Greensboro that guided development of these Goals, Policies, and Action statements, were available for review at the meeting. The Commission would appreciate your feedback on these materials, which are now available on the Greensboro Town website in the Planning Commission's section. Send your comments to Dan Predpall at [dpredpall@greensborovt.org](mailto:dpredpall@greensborovt.org). The Planning Commission still has open seats.

Last, but not least, voters agreed to hold the town's annual Funky Fourth Celebrations on Saturday, July 7th. Mark your calendars!

### Fund For Greensboro

Special thanks to Greensboro Association members for your dues and generous added contributions. I am delighted to report that the Caspian Lake Fund has topped a milestone of \$100,000, dedicated to maintaining the pristine quality of Caspian Lake and its environment.

The unrestricted Fund for Greensboro and Community Endowment together now exceed \$43,000 toward our primary goal of \$100,000, at which point we will be able to "put to work" these funds, generating an annual distribution to support Greensboro grants and critical needs. I thank you for your ongoing support.

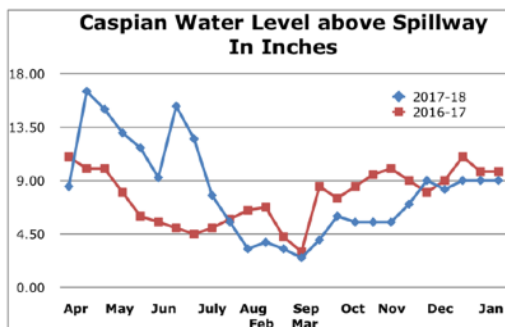
Please consider a gift of cash or stock, or a legacy gift, to impact Greensboro for generations to come. Gifts and commitments made this year of \$10,000 or more will propel us toward our goal and entitle charter membership in the Greensboro Association 1791 Society. Please contact Becky Arnold for information at 802-533-2356. –Becky Arnold

## Caspian Ice Damage and Lake Level

Moderate shoreline ice damage particularly along the north and west shores of the Caspian Lake has occurred again this winter. The damage was due to high water levels in combination with ice pack movement, expansion and contraction.

GA Lake Levels Committee (Stew Arnold, Andy Dales & John Schweizer) working with Jeff Crocker and Perry Thomas from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has made some progress in this area this year. The ANR agreed in late August to allow Hardwick Electric (owner of the dam) to open the outflow gate at the dam in an experiment to establish a new year-around average lake level. The experiment objective is to lower the average lake level enough to minimize shoreline ice damage while maintaining a healthy riparian zone and ecosystems in and around the lake.

In early January the ANR instructed Hardwick Electric to raise the dam gate one inch with the intent of increasing the outflow at the bottom of the dam. It was the GA Lake Level Committee's recommendation to the ANR that the gate be raised by at least six inches.



The chart above shows that in the month of January after the gate was opened, the lake level at the spillway increased 3.5 inches rather than decreased. Precipitation in January/February was at or below normal levels so it appears that the outflow was inadequate. A possibility we are studying is that the outflow may have been limited by accumulated debris blocking the new one inch opening at the bottom of the gate. Raising the gate one inch also restricted overflow at the top of the gate.

Going forward, our committee will continue working with ANR and Hardwick Electric to collect and analyze data in order to adjust the dam outflow to meet our common goals of minimum ice damage while protecting our beautiful lake and its ecosystem. —John Schweizer

## Greensboro Free Library

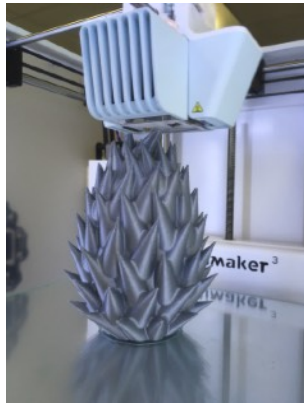
The Greensboro Free Library will again be hosting a diverse series of adult and children's programming this summer. Please come in and check our calendar or see our website for details [www.greensborofreelibrary.org](http://www.greensborofreelibrary.org). We have a large selection of books as well as the book boxes near the Memorial Garden and Willey Beach Trail in Greensboro and one at the playground in Greensboro Bend. Enjoy our faster internet due by this summer! Experience our new MakerSpace! We are always happy to welcome volunteers, if interested please contact Debbie at [kasperdebbie72@gmail.com](mailto:kasperdebbie72@gmail.com)

### Mountain View Country Club Welcomes Your Children, Family and Friends!

MVCC offers a range of activities, including golf, tennis, and social events, as well as lessons, clinics and children's camps from late May to Columbus Day. The Club is non-profit, member-owned and volunteer run, and promotes a friendly, family-oriented atmosphere that welcomes new members, guests and visitors. If you have kids or grandkids visiting this summer, bring them to the weekly Kid's Night during July and August for an evening of running around, playing games and eating pizza, while grown-ups gather on the deck for BYOB drinks and nibbles. The event is open to the public (with a small fee for non-members) and is a great way to start friendships that will last a lifetime. For more information on this and other events, as well as membership and introductory playing permits, visit the Club's website at [www.mvccvt.com](http://www.mvccvt.com), send an email to [membership@mvccvt.com](mailto:membership@mvccvt.com) or call the Pro shop at 802-533-7477.



## Sparking Innovation, Creativity & Collaboration in our Community



Since receiving a USDA Rural Business Development Grant, WonderArts has joined forces with a variety of community stakeholders to launch SPARK, a community driven effort to bring together people, expertise, and resources and provide access to high tech equipment, software, and collaborative environments. The “Spark Crew,” a group of dedicated individuals from several different towns, have been working to establish a Beta version of SPARK’s offerings that will allow individuals of all

ages and businesses to take advantage of all that a creative incubator, business accelerator, and innovation hub can provide. Current equipment including a 3-D printer, large-format printer, vinyl cutter, and computers outfitted with a collection of design software have been set up in the WonderArts program space and Spark Crew members are developing a host of classes to teach and engage people of all ages in a range of skills from digital design and marketing to product fabrication.



SPARK aims to bring together entrepreneurs and community members to incubate ideas, support and grow the local economy, be a resource for workforce development, engage students through unique educational opportunities, and foster connectivity throughout our community. In it’s



fledgling state we have already had stakeholders from over a dozen towns participate in strategic planning and visioning and we are excited for more people to get involved this summer, so stay tuned! To learn more about immediate offerings, ways to engage with SPARK right now, or to get involved in the Spark Crew contact Ezra Ranz-Schleifer, email [spark@wonderartsvt.org](mailto:spark@wonderartsvt.org), or call WonderArts at 802.533.9370.

## News From Lakeview Union School

Lakeview Union School serves 62 students from Stannard and Greensboro in grades K-6. This year, our school offered a range of after-school programming, funded in part by area businesses, and continued its work improving student literacy. Our teachers undertook important professional development in understanding childhood trauma (stemming from the opioid crisis, generational poverty, and economic stress) and learning to manage its impact in classrooms.

Those who follow Vermont politics are probably aware of our Legislature's efforts to control the rising costs of public education through the consolidation of smaller school districts into larger ones (Act 46) and through various tax reform proposals. Since the jury is still out on what long-term savings will accrue from school consolidation and since none of the tax reform proposals have been finalized by the Legislature, it remains unclear what their impacts will be for Greensboro resident taxpayers. The nonresident property owners' education tax rate is set by the Legislature.

On the school consolidation front: In November our school district, together with other districts in our supervisory union, submitted our proposal to be considered as an alternative structure under Act 46 to the Vermont Agency of Education. We will not know what the Secretary of Education recommends to the State Board of Education until June, and we will likely not know the final outcome of this process until perhaps as late as November 2018.

On financial matters that we can control: While we remain passionate in our desire to make Lakeview the best possible place for our kids, the Lakeview Board has had to cut both budgeting and staffing levels for next year, both to offset impacts from significant shortfalls in the State Education Fund and to stay below the state's penalty threshold for excess

education spending. So far, the key programs that make Lakeview special remain intact. We continue to struggle with the irony that while the total operating budget for our school has been reduced from last year, our operating costs per student have risen.

Tax issues notwithstanding, we as a community are at a critical moment for Lakeview. Driving per pupil spending increases across our region is a reduction in students, a trend we currently expect to continue in coming years. We are also anticipating the possible loss of important supplemental state funding for small schools, and we do not anticipate any significant surpluses from this year's budget. The school board will be working with other local school districts to look for more collaboration opportunities, as well as with local municipal boards in Greensboro to help chart a future for the school. We will also be exploring options for developing resources for private and grant funding.

We will be hosting ongoing round table discussions to gain a better understanding of what options for students our community supports and hope you will be able to join us. –Victoria Von Hessert

## Greensboro Free Library

The Greensboro Free Library will again be hosting a diverse series of adult and children's programming this summer. Please come in and check our calendar or see our website for details

[www.greensborofreelibrary.org](http://www.greensborofreelibrary.org). We have a large selection of books as well as the book boxes near the Memorial Garden and Willey Beach Trail in Greensboro and one at the playground in Greensboro Bend. Enjoy our faster internet due by this summer! Experience our new MakerSpace! We are always happy to welcome volunteers, if interested please contact Debbie at [kasperdebbie72@gmail.com](mailto:kasperdebbie72@gmail.com)

## Caspian Arts

Caspian Arts is an organization of artists from Greensboro, Craftsbury, Hardwick and Glover whose goal is to support and promote visual arts in the local area. **Sunday, July 22, 2018** is the date of their annual summer Studio Tour, during which member artists welcome visitors to their studios from 11am to 5pm.

There will be a Tour's End Party at 5:30 pm at the Yellow Barn in East Craftsbury. This is an opportunity to meet the CA artists, see more of their work, and perhaps win one of three \$100 "art certificates", using tickets that have been collected at each studio during the tour. The certificates can be used at any of the studios participating in the tour.

Additionally, there will be a gallery exhibit of Caspian Arts member's work on view at the East Craftsbury Yellow Barn for three weekends starting on July 21st. More information can be found at <http://www.caspianartsvt.com>.

Many of the Caspian Arts members have work on display at The Miller's Thumb Gallery during the summer months and the group exhibits at various locations around the state. For more information about membership in the group or the individual artists, visit the website or contact President, Judy Dales at [judy@judydales.com](mailto:judy@judydales.com).

## Pete's Greens

Pete's Greens is a four season, certified organic vegetable farm in the heart of Craftsbury village. Find fresh Pete's Greens produce at the Willey's Store year 'round. Can't find what you're looking for? Come visit the seasonal farmstand on South Craftsbury Rd from May - October, seven days a week, 8 am - 8 pm. Check out the living roof, assortment of farm-fresh vegetables, and locally sourced dairy, grains, and meats! Pick up your Good Eats CSA share every week at locations across northern Vermont. Four sizes of shares, for all household sizes and budgets, are available. You can even glean with us on Saturday mornings. Check us out at [www.petesgreens.com](http://www.petesgreens.com). Vermont can feed itself!

## Miller's Thumb Gallery

The Miller's Thumb Gallery opens for its 9th season on May 12th. Housed in Greensboro's historic grist mill, the Miller's Thumb bring together the fine art, fashion and contemporary crafts of 90 local artists. The gallery is under the brand new ownership of long-time co-director Anna Weisenfeld who looks forward to the gallery flourishing in town for many years to come. From July 14th-September 8th an exhibit will be hung in memory of beloved artist and Greensboro resident Marion Stegner. "Ladies of the Canyon: In honor of Marion Stegner" will feature work inspired by Marion, and strong powerful women everywhere. The gallery will also be hosting late night Fridays throughout the summer complete with drinks, twinkle lights, and ever rotating artworks.

## A Note from Circus Smirkus

As I step into the ring as Circus Smirkus' Executive Director, I'm glad to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the many friends and neighbors that have welcomed our circus to this community.

I must be the luckiest person in the world to have the opportunity to lead such an exciting organization with so much history and tradition holding up the canvas! It's also a little humbling, because like the circus itself, it's a three-ring job.

Smirkus is so fortunate to be a part of the Greensboro community. You've shared your time, your talents, and your treasures with us over the past thirty years, and I am delighted to steward these gifts as we kick off the many, many seasons to come.

Starting this summer, we are inviting the entire Greensboro community to join us for the performances that end of our Camp sessions in July and August. We hope that many of you will join us under the Big Top or at Camp this summer! I look forward to meeting many Greensboro residents this summer, but you are always welcome to reach out, as well. You know where to find us: in the farmhouse next to the biggest circus tent in town!

Thank you and – as we say in the circus – see you down the road. –Jen Carlo

## A note from Highland Center for the Arts

It is an honor to welcome and invite you, as well as say, “Nice to see you again,” here at the Northeast Kingdom’s newest home for arts and culture.

Following an exhaustive national search, the Board of Directors named me HCA’s Inaugural Executive Director in January of this year. I originally hail from Craftsbury. I spent the past decade in Boston where I received my master’s in Arts Administration and worked for the state arts agency before having the opportunity of a lifetime to come to the NEK and take the lead of an arts organization in a place I call home. I could not be more thrilled to be part of this exciting endeavor.

My initial time here has been spent building out a summer season of programming where we stress the “multi” in “multidisciplinary.” There’s an abundance of film, dance, music, youth programming, classes, theater, and circus arts in the months ahead.

The Hardwick Street Café provides ample opportunity for refreshment, whether with a morning pick-me-up thanks to our new espresso machine serving up lattes, cappuccinos, macchiatos and more each morning; a leisurely lunch on the patio; or a delicious dinner.

I encourage you to visit our website: [www.highlandartsvt.org](http://www.highlandartsvt.org), find us on Facebook, or stop on by for complete information on upcoming shows, special events, and café hours. Cheers, and here’s to all that lies ahead. –Annie Houston

## Caspian Challenge Race and Walk

This year’s Caspian Challenge will be **Sunday, July 29, 8:30 a.m.** Pre-registration is now open. The entry fee will go up after July 5th. We will continue to offer race day registration, but we strongly encourage interested participants to register online in advance. Fees will remain \$15 per entrant (\$10 for pre-registration) This fee is waived for those under age 13. The minimum registration age for the 5-K and the lake run is 8. Kids under 10 are also welcome to participate in our free Fun Run. Look for information on the Greensboro Association’s website. As always, volunteers help make this event a success.



**The Greensboro Association**  
**Greensboro, VT 05841**

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**Trustees of the Greensboro Association**

**Class of 2018:**

Emily Purdy, Day Patterson, Becky Arnold, Sara Slater,  
Vince Cabbage, John Stone III, Victoria Von Hessert

**Class of 2019**

Andy Dales, Linda Ely, Betsy Hunt, Don Jenkins,  
Naomi Ranz Schleifer, Lorelei Wheeler, Allison Stegner

**Class of 2020**

Devin Burgess, Rick Lovett, Karen Gowen, Havilah  
Mann, Mary Parker, John Schweizer, Mary White

Membership in the Greensboro Association is open to all residents of voting age who either own real estate or who have resided in the Greensboro community for one season. Residence at an inn or the guest tenant of a house owner is sufficient to qualify. Grown children of members are especially welcome. Members absent from Greensboro may continue their membership.

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**Key Dates for your Calendar**  
Green Sheet Calendar

**Independence Day Celebrations**

Parade: Saturday July 7th  
Fireworks: Saturday July 7th

**GA Annual Meeting**

Thursday August 2nd 4-6pm

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