



# NH Wheelers

A NH Good Sam Chapter  
November 2017 Newsletter



NH Wheelers have winter meetings on the 2nd Sunday of each month at local watering holes. During the camping season, meetings are usually on the 2nd weekend of the month, at the monthly campout. Guests are always welcome.

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NH Wheelers Web Site Address: [www.nhwheelers.com](http://www.nhwheelers.com)

## Our 2017-2018 Schedule

	<b>Check with the Wagon Master to see which campouts require an advance deposit.</b>
14 Jan 2018	Makris Lobster House, RT 106, Loudon NH
11 Feb 2018	Makris Lobster House, RT 106, Loudon NH
11 Mar 2018	Makris Lobster House, RT 106, Loudon NH
Apr 27-29 2018	Bailey's Camping Resort, Scarborough ME 207-883-6043 Make own reservations
May 11-13 2018	Walnut Grove Campground, Alfred Maine 207-324-1207 Make own reservations
31 May to 3 June 2018	Harbor Hill CG, Meredith NH 603-279-6910 Make own reservations and pay campground.
13-15 July 2018	Lake Forest CG, E. Wakefield NH. Make reservations with Janice Murray. Need Deposit
<b>Aug 2018</b>	<b>NH Rally (Samboree) Lancaster NH</b> <b>Make own reservations with State</b>
Sept 14-16 2018	Harbor Hill CG, Meredith NH 603-279-6910 Make own reservations and pay campground.
Oct 5-8 2018	Newfound RV Park, Bristol, NH. Make own reservations: Send \$15/person to Greg for the catered meal.
Nov ?? 2018	Makris Lobster House, RT 106, Loudon NH Exact date to be determined due to Vet's Day.
Dec 10 2017	Makris Lobster House, RT 106, Loudon NH

***Deposits for Campouts need to be sent in 30 days before campout!***

## Our Meetings

*Our summer meetings usually take place at 9:30 AM on the Saturday of the camping weekend. Winter meetings are on the second Sunday of the month in Loudon at Makris Restaurant and Lobster House on Route 106; 1/2 mile north of 393. Arrive by 11:30 to order a meal which will be served as soon as it is ready. The meeting starts when most have eaten but no later than 1 PM.*

## Minutes of the last meeting

### New Hampshire Wheelers

The November 12, 2017 meeting of the NH Wheelers was called to order by President Greg Thayer at 12.35 with 10 member families present at Makris Lobster House in Loudon, NH. The pledge to the flag was recited and a moment of silence was held for those in need of our prayers.

We had one long absent member, Pam Sleeper, at our meeting and we welcomed Maureen DeRoy and Linda Spofford back after an extended absence.

**Secretary's Report:**

The Secretary's minutes for the October meeting were read by Jim Belanger and accepted after a motion by Janice Murray and seconded by Greg Thayer.

**The Treasurer's report:** A treasurer's report was given by Greg Thayer. The report was accepted after a motion by Armand Pinard, seconded by Kathy Thayer.

**Membership:** No new members were submitted for membership.

**Correspondence:**

We received a request for a donation from the NH Food bank which is addressed below under new business.

**Web-Master:**

Nothing new to report.

**Wagon Master:**

There was no official wagon master report.

**Wellness:**

Alan Hunter is having stomach problems which is keeping him from participating in usual Wheeler activities. Janice gave an update on her and Dave's health. Both are battling issues with hernias and with scheduling dates for surgery. During the examinations, the doctors discovered a mass on Janice's kidney as well as femoral issues which complicates things. Linda Spofford is in the midst of procedures with cataracts but is expected to have no unexpected issues. Spencer Stickney is experiencing a resurgence of foot and hip pains which impedes his ability to work.

**Unfinished Business:**

Greg reminded everyone that it is time to make reservations with Bailey's campground in Old Orchard Beach Maine and with Walnut Grove campground in Alfred Maine for the 2018 campouts in April and May. He also reminded the few who have not yet paid their 2018 dues that now is the time.

**New Business:**

Janice Murray moved that we donate \$100.00 to

the NH Food Bank, second by Kathy Thayer and the motion carried.

Greg reminded everyone that our next meeting, the December 2017 meeting, will be our annual Christmas event. Members are asked to bring a Yankee Swap gift to exchange with a value of about \$10.

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:**

Greg read off the names of members with birthdays and anniversaries in November.

**Announcements:**

Armand received a call from Rita Carignan and visited with her. She has sold the property she owns in Manchester, paid off her motorhome and is planning to move to Nevada to live with her daughter within the next week or so. She had items she felt should remain with the Wheelers and Armand picked those up. He will bring them to a future meeting.

**The 50/50 raffle:**

The 50/50 raffle brought \$25.00 to Linda Spofford.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM after a motion by Spencer Stickney, seconded by Janice Murray.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Bélanger, Secretary

## President's Comments

Hello Wheelers

It was so nice to see so many members at our recent meeting at Makris Restaurant last Sunday. This includes Linda Spofford, Pam Sleeper and Maureen DeRoy (and John). Hopefully we will see them many more times heading into 2018. I just wish we were camping instead of at a luncheon meeting.

I was glad to see the motion and vote to send \$100 to the New Hampshire Food Bank. So many people need food help all year not to mention the holidays and those of us that can should support this organization. Kath and I have been involved in various food programs and pantries over the years and we know that the need exists. Thanks to the Wheelers for the support.

Things to think about and remember. Make reservations for Baileys Campground in April and

Walnut Grove in May. Remember to save the can tabs and enlist any friends or organizations that you are associated with to save them too. I always say if you're not saving them for someone else save them for me.

Looking to the future; remember our December 10th meeting is our Yankee Swap after our meeting. There are camping shows coming up in the new year so if anyone is going let us all know and maybe we'll have a club expedition to head to one. We still plan to check out Murphy's Taproom in Bedford as a meeting location but Kath's work schedule makes it difficult. We'll let everyone know if we make a run to go there for lunch.

Finally, as I read over our wellness list I realized too many of us are in need of our thoughts and prayers to be well. Keep all of us in your thoughts. You all are part of my family and I want you in my life for a long time.

So that's it! See you next month for our Yankee Swap and have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. My thoughts are always with you.

**Greg Thayer**

## **Secretary's Comments**

Hello Wheelers. There are a couple of items I would like to stress on and urge you to think about over the winter months. We do our best to keep this group interesting and enjoying. But, as you might notice from this month's "Wellness" section of the minutes, we are not getting any younger. We really need to look around and shake hands with folks in our area who have campers but don't belong to any specific group. So, what am I getting at? I'm getting at the fact that when I joined the Wheelers, we had just about 60 members. Of course, 30 of them were not active but had chosen to remain members, pay their annual dues and receive the "mailed" newsletter every month. We then had discussions about raising the dues for the inactive members to \$15 per year instead of \$10 so we could cover mailing costs for the newsletter. The rationale was that, since they didn't attend meetings and didn't contribute to the fund raisers we had like brown bag auction and 50/50 raffles, we needed to cover

cost of stamps, envelopes, paper, etc. for monthly mailings of the newsletter. That option was never adopted as we quickly switched to posting our newsletter on a web site which required internet and computers to read. But, it eliminated ALL mailings of newsletters, not only the ones for inactive members. We soon saw a reduction in membership as the "honorary" members which had not been participating quickly dropped off the membership rolls. So, that left us with about 25 to 30 active members and we went along our merry way. However, due to "life goes on" issues our membership average age was on the rise with few new members joining the group. Our attrition was ignored for a while until we realized our camping weekends had much less attendance than usual. That was bad for activities but good for finding campgrounds to accommodate us. But, all in all, we need to start looking for new and younger members to join our group. When it comes to moving tables and carrying wood for the campfires, etc etc, it is obvious we need new younger members. So, think about it over the winter. We have spoken about a letter or card designed to hand out to prospective members showing our logo, our web site and telling a little about us. We haven't put that plan into action as of yet and that's another thing we need to work on.

The other thing I need to mention which came to light while I was updating our schedule on the web site. Next year, 2018, the November meeting would fall on Veterans Day. Now, I may not be the only one of us but I assure you I will NOT be attending a Wheeler meeting on Veterans Day. We need to address this issue at a future meeting and decide to hold the meeting on schedule or pick an alternate date.

**Sincerely; Jim Bélanger**

## **On the Lighter Side**

As a new steamship sailed into the harbor, a grimy coal barge floated immediately in front of it. Move that old scow, shouted an officer from the bridge. An elderly face suddenly appeared from the barge's hatchway. Are you the captain, the old man asked? No, the officer replied. Then speak to your equal, I'm the captain of this vessel!

Jet lag is nature's way of making you look like your passport photo.

We have a strange custom in our office. The food has names there. Yesterday, for example, I grabbed a sandwich out of the fridge and its name was "Michael".

I told my girlfriend she drew her eyebrows too high. She seemed surprised.

A Sunday school teacher asked a little boy, Do you know what happens to boys who use bad language when they play marbles? Oh yes, the boy replied, They grow up and play golf.

A worker asked his boss if he could raise his salary. Relax, the boss replied. I've been able to raise it every other payday, haven't I?

Defense Secretary James "Mad Dog" Mattis said climate change is real and threatening global stability. He then asked that his nickname be changed to "reasonable dog".

A church in a rural area was badly in need of repairs and the parishioners met to discuss what could be done to raise the necessary funds. One of the wealthiest – and stingiest – of the members rose and said he would give \$500, than sat down. Suddenly a large chunk of plastering fell from the ceiling and hit him on the head. He jumped up, looking confused, and said; Did I say \$500? I meant \$5000!, then he sat down again. After a moment a voice from the back said; Hit him again Lord!

### **PERSONAL COMMENT!!**

It isn't an EASY job to prepare minutes, a newsletter AND updating a web site. So, where am I going with this? I hear NO comments on the "Lighter Side" of the newsletter which leads me to think nobody reads it or cares about it. If that is the case, I would be happy to eliminate it from future newsletters. Finding new jokes, every month, is not an easy task and I certainly don't mind stopping it. So, your opinion is important. Should the "Lighter Side" continue or can we live happily without it?