

# Revival News & Notes



The Newsletter of Revitalizing Waterbury, Inc.

May 2009

No. 16

## Blooming Barrels

Revitalizing Waterbury's village beautification program will start to show life in late May. Already the barrels are out and ready to be filled with beautiful flowers and plants that make our downtown attractive throughout the summer and into the fall. The project is coordinated by the Design Committee of RW.

Sponsorship of a barrel is a way to remember a special occasion, loved one or admiration for a community doer or organization. It is a wonderful way to pay tribute while giving a gift that delights the community and visitors alike.

Last year the barrels were spectacular and this year they will be just as impressive. Sponsorship of a barrel is \$50, which includes plants, materials, maintenance and a commemorative plaque.

Sponsorship forms are available at Stowe Street Emporium or can be mailed to you by calling 244-5321. You can also download a form from the homepage of [www.revitalizingwaterbury.org](http://www.revitalizingwaterbury.org).



## RW Welcomes New Board Members

Four community members joined the RW board at our annual meeting on March 14th. They are Carrie Griffin, Liz Schlegel, Will Senning, and John Wulff.

Carrie grew up in Waterbury and has her own financial services business specializing in financial protection and retirement planning. Outside of work, her interests include coaching soccer and gymnastics at area high schools. Carrie and her husband Erik have two children and live in Waterbury Center. Liz Schlegel is business manager of Burlington-based Found Line. Among her accomplishments, Liz was a founding member of the board of Local First Vermont, and has volunteered for RW for many years. She lives in Waterbury Village with her husband Tom Stevens and their three children. Will is a Duxbury native and is an associate at Darby, Stearns, Thorndike, Kolter & Ware. He graduated from Hampshire College in Amherst, MA, likes to play hockey and yes, he is Cindy Senning's son. John is a semi-retired businessperson who continues to be active on several corporate boards: Sunoco, Moody's, and Celanese. He lives in Waterbury with his wife Linda. They have three grown children, two of whom live in Waterbury, and one grandchild. We welcome these members to our board and look forward to all they will bring to RW.

## Stowe Street Arts Festival

Downtown Waterbury Celebrates the Arts

We're busy preparing for the 8th annual Stowe Street Arts Festival. This rain-or-shine event will be held July 17-18 on Stowe Street, which will be closed off to traffic. As in past years, there will be a Friday night BBQ hosted by the Waterbury Congregational Church, and a dance party featuring Phill 'n the Blanks performing from 7 to 10 pm. The event is a celebration of all of the arts, with artists presenting and selling work, performing, and sharing in community and kid-friendly activities.

There will be arts-themed promotions throughout the downtown in the week leading up to the Festival, and many street-side windows will be artfully decorated. Saturday's events begin with a children's arts parade from the horseshoe at the State Office Complex to Stowe Street. Music and performance artists will be providing live entertainment throughout the day, and there will be food from local vendors, art demonstrations, and wonderful artwork to appreciate and purchase! We hope to see you on Friday night, July 16, and on Saturday, July 17, to celebrate the arts!

RW is still accepting exhibitor registration forms from visual and craft artisans who wish to display and sell their work, and there are discounts for artists based in the local area. Check out our website for details: [www.revitalizingwaterbury.org/ssaf.php](http://www.revitalizingwaterbury.org/ssaf.php).

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

It is time once again for Revitalizing Waterbury's Annual Membership Drive. Did you know that RW raises nearly half its funding through its membership drive? Your contribution helps us keep the momentum going with our comprehensive efforts to revitalize and enhance downtown Waterbury. We hope our 170 individual, family, and business members feel like part of a team whose projects and initiatives are all about making downtown Waterbury a great place to live, work, visit and do business.

Please look for a letter from RW in the next month and respond by renewing your membership. You can also renew your membership online at [www.revitalizingwaterbury.org/contribute.php](http://www.revitalizingwaterbury.org/contribute.php). We appreciate your continued support.

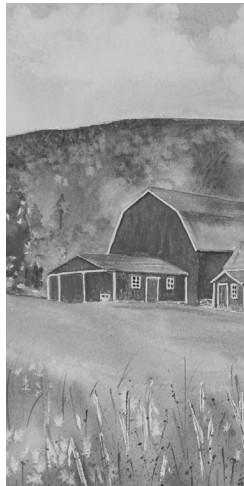
## Waterbury to Host *The Art of Action*

For the first two weeks of April 2010 Waterbury will be a host community for *The Art of Action: Shaping Vermont's Future Through Art* exhibition. This project is a result of a partnership between the Vermont Arts Council and philanthropist Lyman Orton. The project commissions ten visual artists to create suites of artwork that address issues identified by Vermonters as essential to our state's economic, environmental and social future. The work is designed to inspire Vermonters to act toward attaining their vision for the future of our state, and to reaffirm that Vermont is "the place to be" for creative and entrepreneurial leaders.

Waterbury will be one of eighteen stops statewide for this unique traveling exhibition. What Waterbury plans in terms of events and activities in conjunction with the exhibit is up to us, so let's make the most of it! If you want to read more about *The Art of Action* go to [www.artofaction.org](http://www.artofaction.org) but better yet, please consider getting involved. Contact Jeanne Kirby, RW Downtown Director, at [jeanne@revitalizingwaterbury.org](mailto:jeanne@revitalizingwaterbury.org) or 802-272-6515 for more detailed information.

## Local Artwork Flies High

Last spring, RW put out a call to artists seeking artistic images that could be made into banners to decorate lampposts downtown. Well, one year later, the banners are ready for hanging! In May the banners will adorn the lampposts on Stowe Street, Railroad Street, and Elm Street. Twelve images were selected that reflect Waterbury - where we live, work, and play, and many of the winning artists are students at Crossett Brook Middle School. Banner artists include Joanna Bisceglia, Avery Gaudette, Cindy Griffith, Rachel Laundon, Kasey Jones, Mame McKee, MK Monley, Emily Reagan, Henry Reynolds, Lloyd Rollins, Darby Rutledge, and Nell Shea. Our thanks to all artists who entered. We will be putting out another call to artists for more banner art this summer. So get your artistic wheels turning.



Joanna Bisceglia

## \$pring for Waterbury Event a Success

Revitalizing Waterbury's annual spring shopping spree was once again a big hit with shoppers and businesses! On April 4, the one-day community shopping and dining event showcased the tremendous variety of local businesses in Waterbury, and gave folks a chance to support two local non-profits with their purchases.

This town-wide tradition has raised over \$20,000 in total since launched in 2006. It's a great opportunity to get shoppers out and about during a slower time of year, and community members appreciate having a special reason to shop, dine, and enjoy the benefits of buying local.

Restauranters and business owners reported plenty of traffic and positive sales activity. William McNeil of Hen of the Wood said, "Hen of the Wood believes in local support. We showcase this through the food we serve and the local organizations we support. We appreciate the effort that Revitalizing Waterbury has shown to keep it local through the \$pring for Waterbury event."

This year, RW's nonprofit partner was Waterbury LEAP, an all-volunteer organization that encourages our community to reduce carbon emissions, promote energy efficiency and use renewable resources.

Over 60 businesses participated and to date the event has raised over \$4,000 with donations still coming in. RW would like to thank our community for choosing to "purchase with a purpose," and all the businesses that took part.

RW meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 5:30pm at the Thatcher Brook Primary School conference room next to the office.

Upcoming meetings: June 9 and July 14.

All meetings open to the public.

[revitalizingwaterbury@gmail.com](mailto:revitalizingwaterbury@gmail.com) • [www.revitalizingwaterbury.org](http://www.revitalizingwaterbury.org)

PO Box 473, Waterbury, VT 05676

**OFFICERS:**  
Elizabeth MacGowan  
*President*  
Dawn Lee Minter  
*Treasurer*  
MK Monley  
*Secretary*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
Jack Carter  
Rick Darby  
Carrie Grace Griffin  
David Luce  
Laura Parette  
Liz Schlegel

Will Senning  
Lynn Taylor  
John Wulff

**DOWNTOWN DIRECTOR:**  
Jeanne Kirby

A local festival celebrating all the arts!  
Stowe Street Arts Festival July 17-18.

PO Box 473  
Waterbury, VT  
05676

