



TOWN OF ROWE MASSACHUSETTS
2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Town of Rowe - Town Hall Information and Meeting Schedules

Town Hall
P O Box 462
321 Zoar Road

Phone: 413-339-5520
Fax Number: 413-339-5746
Email: admin@townofrowe.org

Rowe MA 01367

Web Site: www.townofrowe.org

Office of the Board of Selectmen	339-5520	Emergency	9-1-1
Office of the Town Coordinator	339-5520	Police Chief Office	339-5546
Office of the Town Accountant	339-5520	Fire Station	3394001
Assessors' Clerk	339-5520		
Board of Health	339-5520	Animal Inspector	339-4707
Inspector of Buildings	339-8393	Dog Officer	339-5345
Nurse Practitioner	339-9943	Environmental Officer	339-5588 or 339-8591
Tax Collector	339-5520		
Town Clerk	339-4446 or 339-5520	Inspector of Buildings	339-8393
Treasurer	339-5520	Plumbing Inspector	625-6376
		Wiring Inspector	339-5541

Town Hall Hours Weekdays 8:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Except for Legal Holidays)
 (Note: The Town Hall is closed from 12 Noon to 1:00 pm daily for lunch)

Assessors' Clerk	Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon
Town Clerk	Wednesday	8:30 am to 11:30 am
Tax Collector	Thursday	9:00 am to Noon
Treasurer	Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon

Board of Selectmen	Through June 30, 2004: Every other Tuesday 6:00 pm Effective July 1, 2004: Second and last Tuesday each month at 6:00 pm
Board of Health	Through June 30, 2004: Every other Tuesday 6:00 pm Effective July 1, 2004: As Posted
Town Nurse Practitioner	Monday 8:00 am - Noon, 1:00, 3:00 pm Admin, 3:00 - 5:00 pm house calls Tuesday 2:00, 6:00 pm Thursday 8:00 am - Noon, 1:00, 3:00 pm Admin, 3:00, 5:00 pm house calls

Board/Commission	Frequency	Location
Assessors	Monthly (As posted)	Rowe Town Hall
School Committee	Monthly (As posted)	Rowe Elementary School
Library Trustees	Monthly (As posted)	Rowe Town Library
Council on Aging	Monthly (Last Wednesday - 12:00 Noon)	Rowe Town Hall
Finance Committee	Monthly (Second Tuesday - 6:00 pm)	Rowe Town Hall
Conservation Commission	As posted	Rowe Town Hall
Park Commission	Monthly (First Wednesday - 6:00 pm)	Rowe Town Hall
Planning Board	As posted	Rowe Town Hall

All other Committee, Commission and Board meetings are held as posted on the Town Hall Bulletin Board at least 48 hours (not including Sundays or legal holidays) prior to the time and date of the meeting. All meetings are public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

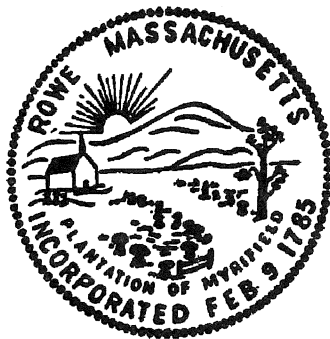
Cover Photos by Norma Donelson
 Front Cover December Sunrise at Pelham Lake
 Back Cover Flowering Crab - Late Spring at Mill Pond

Two Hundred and Seventeenth

Annual Report

of the

Town of Rowe Massachusetts



For the Year Ending

December 31, 2003

Contents

Dedication	5	Finance Committee	57
In Fond Remembrance	6	Tax Collector's Report - Fiscal Year 2003	58
Town Report Contest Results	7	Treasurer's Report	59
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	9	Town Accountant	60
Board of Selectmen	10	Town Accountant - Revenue & Expenditures	60
Town Officials/Employees Appointed by Board of Selectmen	13	Town Accountant - Appropriation Balances	62
Organization Charts	15	HUMAN SERVICES	65
TOWN CLERK	17	Animal Inspector	67
Report of the Town Clerk - Vital Statistics	18	Board of Health	67
Report of the Town Clerk - Licenses/Permits Sold	19	Board of Health - Licensing, Tests and Inspections	68
TOWN ELECTION RESULTS, May 17, 2003	19	Board of Health - FRCOG Health Agent	70
TOWN ELECTION RESULTS, Oct. 28, 2003	20	Council on Aging	70
Elected Town Officials	20	Health Services	71
Appointments by Selectmen Sworn in by Town Clerk	21	Veterans' Agent	72
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS, May 12, 2003	23	PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT	73
RECAPITULATION OF ATM ARTICLES FY2004	28	Conservation Commission	75
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS, May 12, 2003	29	Planning Board	75
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, Nov. 24, 2003	30	The Rowe Goal Post Editor	76
VOTERS LIST - Nov. 24, 2003 - Special Town Meeting	32	PUBLIC SAFETY	77
CULTURE & RECREATION	35	Dog Officer	78
Cultural Council	37	Police Department	78
Library Trustees	37	Fire Department	78
Old Home Day Committee	38	Emergency Medical Services [EMS]	79
Park Commission	39	Building Inspector	80
EDUCATION	41	Plumbing Inspector	80
Congratulations Graduates Class of 2003	43	Wiring Inspector	80
School Committee	44	PUBLIC WORKS	81
School Enrollments	44	Beautification Committee	83
Rowe Elementary School - Principal's Report	45	Cemetery Commission	83
Rowe Elementary School District Superintendent	46	Summer Youth Employment	83
Mohawk Trail Regional School - Principal's Report	48	Highway Department	84
Mohawk Trail Regional School District Annual Library/Media Services Report	49	REGIONAL REPORTS	85
Mohawk Trail Regional School District Library/Media Services Program Highlights	49	Franklin County Council of Governments	87
Mary Lyon Foundation	50	Franklin County Solid Waste Management District	88
Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund	50	MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION	89
Department of Special Education	51	United States of America - Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Federal, State and Local Officials	91
Franklin County Technical School District	52	Notes	92
FINANCIAL REPORTS	53	ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT, May 10, 2004	End of Book
Board of Assessors	55		
Board of Assessors Property Transfers - 2003	56		

Town of Rowe

County of Franklin Commonwealth of Massachusetts

(First Settlement—Fort Pelham 1744 – Originally Known as the Plantation of Myrifiield)
Incorporated February 9, 1785

Population: 381
Total Area: 24.07 Square Miles
Land Area: 23.55 Square Miles
Public Roads: 45.30 Miles
Elevation: 1,370 Feet
Longitude: W 072 53 55
Latitude: N 42 41 42

FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Board of Selectmen, Open Town Meeting

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Second Monday in May

ANNUAL ELECTION: First Saturday following Annual Town Meeting

Fiscal Year 2004 Tax Rates and Assessed Valuations*:

CLASS	TAX RATE	VALUATION	LEVY	% OF TOTAL
Residential	\$3.59 per thousand	\$ 30,631,245.00	\$ 109,901.07	4.717505%
Commercial	5.67 per thousand	147,564.00	836.83	0.035921%
Industrial	5.67 per thousand	311,421,344.00	1,766,068.47	75.808510%
Personal Property	5.67 per thousand	79,851,550.00	452,837.63	19.438060%
Total		\$421,051,703.00	\$2,329,644.00	100.000000%

Fiscal Year 2004 Revenue Sources

Tax Levy	\$2,329,644.00
Local Receipts	63,150.00
Cherry Sheet	128,106.00
Other Available Funds	275,000.00
Free Cash	769,684.00
Total	\$3,565,584.00

Fiscal Year 2004 Appropriations and Charges

Appropriations	\$3,420,361.00
Cherry Sheet Offsets	78,415.00
Cherry Sheet Charges	13,111.00
Snow & Ice Defici	32,376.00
Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions	21,321.00
Total	\$3,565,584.00

*Information is from the Assessors Tax Rate Recapitulation

ROWE is a thinly-settled but delightful town, having 581 inhabitants, and a good bracing, healthful atmosphere, in the north-west section of Franklin County. It has Whittingham (in New Hampshire) on the north, Heath on the east, Charlemont and Florida on the south, and the latter and Monroe on the west.

It is accommodated by the Troy and Greenfield Railroad. The entrance to the Hoosac Tunnel is on the right bank of the Deerfield River, opposite to the south-western angle of the town.

The land is mountainous, the scenery wild and picturesque. On the northern line, Jilson's Hill rises to the height of 2,109 feet; and prominent hills flank the valley through which Pelham Brook and its numerous tributaries run south-westerly into the Deerfield River. This river, here a swift and handsome stream, sweeps around the western borders of the town. Pulpit Rock, on its left bank, is a conspicuous natural curiosity. Epidote and talc are found in this vicinity; and several men are now working in an extensive soapstone quarry.

There is a woollen-mill on Pelham Brook; and the town has a chair and a basket factory; but the principal business is farming and lumbering. There are 92 farms. The soil is strong, and good for grazing. The number of sheep in 1865 was 1,818, which in 1872 had fallen to 412.

The town has 109 dwelling-houses, seven schoolhouses (mostly new), a public library of about 500 volumes, and three churches,—one Unitarian, one Baptist, and one Methodist.

Comfort and independence prevail among the people. "Their mountain air gives vigor to their minds and muscles; and the crystal springs from their own hills refresh them under fatigue and toil."

The opening of the Hoosac Tunnel will enhance the value of the land and its productions.

This town, originally Myrifiield, was incorporated Feb. 9, 1785. A part of Zoar, containing six families, was annexed to it April 2, 1838. The ruins of old Fort Pelham, which was one in the line of fortifications erected about 1744, are still to be seen on Pelham Brook.

An excerpt from *Gazetteer of Massachusetts*,
written by the Rev. Elias Nason, M.A., in

1873

Dedication

The Rowe 2003 Annual Town Report is dedicated to the following citizens who by their personal dedication to this community have made Rowe a Better Place. They have contributed a genuine "Community Spirit" which has helped to make our town so special, and also contributed to the overall progress of our small town government. Rowe will miss these long-time community leaders.

Karl & Pearl Jurentkuff

Karl "Joe" and Pearl Jurentkuff moved from Rowe in July 2003 to their other home on Cape Cod after living here for 43 years. Joe started with Yankee Atomic in 1960 as an Auxiliary Operator, and retired as Plant Operations Manager in 1992.

Karl served Rowe as a Special Police Officer for 22 years, the Town Moderator for 13 years, on the Zoning Board of Appeals for 17 years, the School Committee for 9 years, as a Park Commissioner for 4 years, and even as our Dog Officer for 2 years. He had many other committee assignments over the years—but especially the Old Home Day Committee on which he served for many, many years.



Karl & Pearl Jurentkuff

Pearl served as Assistant Editor of The Rowe Goal Post for 14 years, Registrar of Voters for 5 years, Finance Committee for 3 years, the Bicentennial Commission and several other committees—including many, many years with Joe on the Old Home Day Committee.

They were both deeply involved in other community activities, including the Rowe Community Church where Joe was Moderator and Pearl was Deacon. They raised three children here, and are now happily enjoying many grandchildren. They are deeply missed by the entire Rowe community.

Melissa S. Quinn



Melissa S. Quinn

The Town of Rowe was well served for 18 years by Melissa Quinn who retired in December 2003. She was the mainstay at the Town Hall for all those years providing personal assistance to townspeople and others.

Her positions as Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen and Board of Health and as Town Accountant gave her an intimate knowledge of our town government. She was especially helpful to department heads and other town officials in helping them in the performance of their duties. Her pride in preparation of the Annual Town Report to our townspeople each year produced several awards from the Massachusetts Municipal Association for her superb ideas in crafting these reports.

Such service will long be remembered. Many years of happy retirement is due Melissa and her husband, Dick Quinn, as well as the sincere appreciation of their fellow citizens. They also raised three children in Rowe, and are also happily spending time with their grandchildren. They plan to continue to live in and enjoy the town of Rowe.

In Fond Remembrance



Katherine Shumway
January 25, 1927 – July 16, 2003
Place of Death: Keene, NH



Martha Annette Rice
January 30, 1936 – July 28, 2003
Place of Death: Greenfield MA

Richard Leo Bullett
January 4, 1919 – September 19, 2003
Place of Death: Pittsfield MA

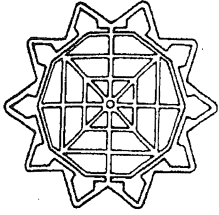
(No Photo Available)

Brian Vega
December 23, 1972 – December 5, 2003
Place of Death: Rowe MA

(No Photo Available)



Ellsworth "Junior" Veber
April 13, 1934 – December 22, 2003
Place of Death: Greenfield MA



**Massachusetts
Municipal
Association**

Sixty Temple Place (800) 882-1498
Boston, Massachusetts 02111 (617) 426-7272 FAX (617) 695-1314

MMA's Annual Town Report Contest

Category I (population 12,500 or greater)

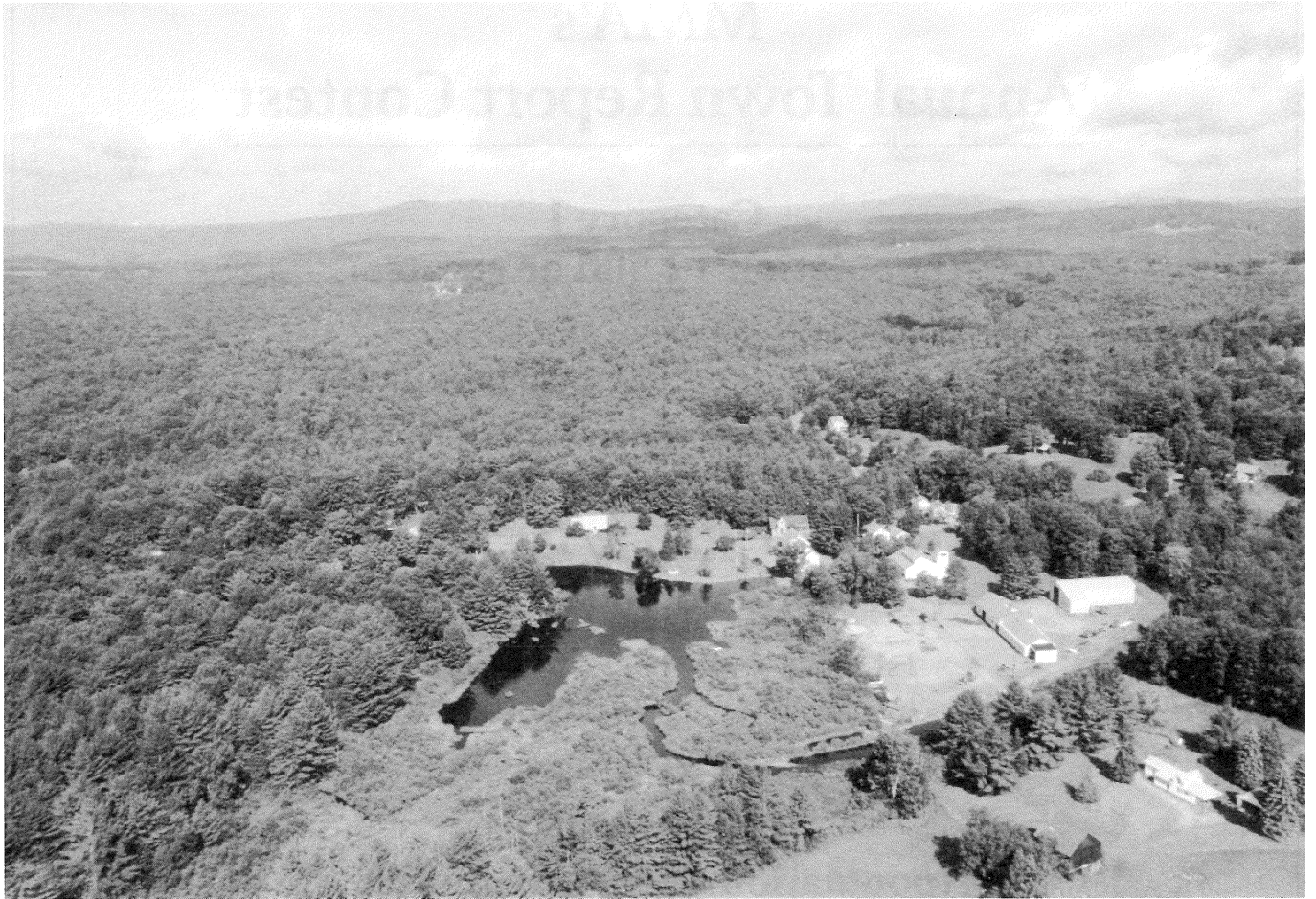
1st Place	Gloucester
(tied)	Westwood
2nd Place	Brookline
3rd Place	Arlington

Category II (population 5,000 to 12,499)

1st Place	Topsfield
2nd Place	Nantucket
3rd Place	Boxford

Category III (population 4,999 and under)

1st Place	West Tisbury
(tied)	Edgartown
2nd Place	Rowe
3rd Place	Lanesborough



Donelson Photo

Looking North over Mill Pond and Rowe Village



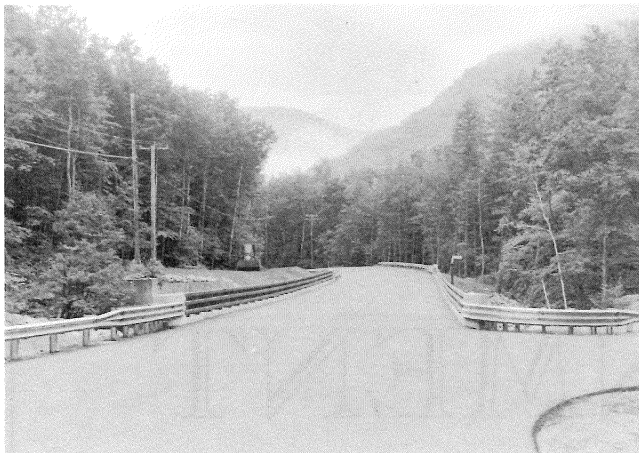
GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Board of Selectmen

Two of the three seats on the board changed during 2003. At the Annual Town Election in May 2003 **Ellen Babcock** was elected to the 3-year position. Incumbent **Geoff Bagley** did not seek re-election. At a Special Election in October **Leonard Laffond** was elected to the vacancy created by the resignation of James Brown in August. Seven months remained on that seat.

Infrastructure

The new Town Line bridge over Pelham Brook on Zoar Road was completed and officially opened in the summer of 2003. The state contracted with Maximillian Construction Co. of Pittsfield, MA for construction of this bridge. The new wider bridge, erected just west of the existing bridge, greatly improves roadway safety in that area. The existing bridge has been demolished.



Tower Photo

New Town Line Bridge on Zoar Road

Department of Public Works

A major responsibility of the Selectmen is the supervision of the Department of Public Works. The Board expresses appreciation and support for DPW Supt. **James Taylor** and his capable conduct of this very important function of Town government. Jim Taylor and his crew continue to draw compliments and appreciation for their efforts in maintaining our roads, especially during the winter months. They also take pride in the care of the road intersections and the Town Common. Our Summer Youth Employment Program (**The "Grasshoppers"**) under the guidance of **Jim Lively** also produced many compliments for the manicured appearance of the roadsides during the summer and fall.

The DPW also made progress on the state-mandated storm water pollution control program (the Truck Wash Station) which should be completed in late Spring 2004. Following completion of the new state-funded bridge at the Rowe/Charlemont town line, Supt. Taylor has made special efforts

to improve the safety of Zoar Road (Joe King Hill) with the installation of new signage and additional road line markings. These very effective safety enhancements were made at a modest cost.

An important piece of additional equipment—a John Deere Backhoe Loader—was authorized by the town meeting in May 2003. It was delivered in the fall of 2003 and was put to immediate use, improving the efficiency of the Department.

Public Safety

A special thank you goes to our Public Safety personnel... Police, Fire & EMS. Not only are they on call 24/7... they also put in countless hours on duty and keeping current on their certifications. Many hours are spent requalifying, requiring to not only give up nights, but weekends also. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Special thanks to **Police Chief Henry Dandeneau**, **Fire Chief Ed May**, and **EMS Director Gail May**.

A *Community Crime Watch* program was established to seek cooperation of all citizens to help the Police Department maintain the security of our town against unlawful activi-



Tower Photo

*Florence Veber
Town Hall Custodian*

ties. With the cooperation of neighboring towns, improved direction signs leading into Rowe have been negotiated or installed. A new Rowe citizen, **Christopher "Selmi" Hyytinen** of Hazelton Road has been appointed a Special Police Officer—Trainee. He will hopefully become a fully-qualified officer in early 2004. Selmi is also an EMT on our Emergency Medical Services team and active member of the Rowe Fire Department. Welcome aboard Selmi!

Town Hall Staff

A major change at Town Hall was occasioned by the decision of long-time Selectmen's Administrative Assistant and Town Accountant, **Melissa Quinn**, to take early retirement on December 31, 2003, after 18 years of outstanding service to the town. The Selectmen again extend their appreciation to Ms. Quinn for her dedication. During her tenure the workings of the town changed dramatically from manual to automated systems and controls. Melissa welcomed all changes with both gratitude and enthusiasm and helped bring the town into the 21st century.

When working to fill the vacancy created by Melissa's retirement, the Selectmen opted to combine both positions under one new title—Town Coordinator—using a slightly modified position description. Following an extensive search, in early January 2004 the Selectmen voted to hire the only applicant, Selectman **Ellen Babcock**, who immediately resigned from the Board. [Note: Ms. Babcock abstained from the entire hiring process as she was an applicant.] At the time of her resignation, Ellen was serving her 16th year on the Board of Selectmen/Board of Health, and has served in many other elected and appointed positions as well. We are confident she has the experience and dedication to capably serve all the townspeople in this new position for many years. *Since it would take a minimum of seven (7) weeks to call a special election (March 2004), it was decided to await the Annual Town Election in May 2004 to fill the vacancy on the Board created by Ellen's resignation.*



Town Photo

*Ellen Babcock
Town Coordinator/Town Accountant*

Other Highlights - 2003

As is typical for all towns, some controversy arose when a few citizens raised questions regarding the Health Services office and the position of Nurse Practitioner. Also, as usual, it was eventually peacefully resolved and the town has moved on to other matters.

During the summer of 2003 the State Legislature voted to establish another Early Retirement Incentive Program to be effective December 31, 2003. The Selectmen voted to offer this program to all eligible employees, of which there were six. Two employees, Melissa Quinn at the Town Hall and Cynthia Laffond at Rowe Elementary School, accepted this offer. They both formally retired on December 31st, and will be sorely missed. We wish them both well in their retirement.

The Town Fitness Center at Town Hall has benefited many residents, and the Park Department is commended for establishing and staffing this facility. Several years ago we outgrew the Assembly Room at the Town Hall for town meetings... and now we've outgrown it for use as a Fitness Center and Senior Center as well. A larger location with an appropriate kitchen facility is sorely needed. The recently appointed Community Center Study Committee is diligently at work on the examination of the Soule property and the potential there for a Community Center to handle the needs of the entire community—including the Seniors and the Fitness Center.

A new bulletin board for Official Public Notices was installed outside (under the roof) to the right of the main entrance (Town Common side) of the town hall. All such notices are now available for viewing 24/7.

An ongoing project is the restoration of the Avery Fountain, so-called, which is a State-designated PWS (Public Water Supply). A temporary location has been established on property of the Rowe Community Church on the north side of Zoar Road. A permanent location is being sought. Negotiations with the owners of the former site (south side of Zoar Road) may resolve the problem in 2004.

Other Ongoing Projects

- Major By-Law Review
- Installation of road boundary monuments on Cyrus Stage Road (*Spring 2004*)
- Remodeling of Town Hall front entrance (*Contract Awarded*)
- Abandonment of Yankee Road (*FRCOG Action*)
- Seeking greater control over the problems associated with Vandalism and with excessive motor vehicle speed on many town roads (*Increased Police Patrolling, etc.*)
- Seeking town-wide cellular service
- Seeking high-speed internet service throughout town



Tower Photo

*Melissa Quinn
Town Accountant (Retired)
Town Administrative Assistant (Retired)*

Besides our thanks for Melissa, the Board would also like to recognize the other Town Hall staff... **Florence Veber**, **Sandy Daviau**, **Sue Williams** and **Sue Wood** for their day-to-day handling of the operations of the town. You're all tremendously appreciated.

The Board expresses sincere appreciation to the townspeople of Rowe for their understanding and support for the employees at the town hall, and at the several departments, including the School, the Library and the Park. Special appreciation is extended to the many volunteers such as the **By-Law Review Committee**, the **Council on Aging**, the

Beautification Committee, the **Friends of Pelham Lake Park**, the **Cultural Council**, and the **Parent Teacher Partnership**, and the various study committees who all also help make Rowe such a great place to live. In these difficult and dangerous times throughout the nation and the world, it should be comforting to us all to live in this community with its old-time neighborly spirit of caring friendships.

Please be an active member in your community. Share your ideas... volunteer your services... seek an office. **Participate!**

Respectfully submitted,
John H. Williams
Ellen L. Babcock (resigned)
Leonard J. Laffond
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Tower Photo

*Rowe Postal Carrier Brenda Small and
Postmaster Wendy Birch*

Town Officials/Employees Appointed by Board of Selectmen

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD
OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH (1 YEAR)
TOWN ACCOUNTANT (3 YEARS)
CONSTABLE (1 YEAR)**

Melissa S. Quinn (*retired December 31, 2003*)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERINTENDENT**

James W. Taylor

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
EMPLOYEES**

Albert R. Williams, Assistant Superintendent
Lance P. Larned
Richard E. Hamilton

FIRE CHIEF

Edwin L. May

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Daniel Miller, Deputy Chief
Dennis May, Captain
Paul McLatchy, Captain
William Reardon, Lieutenant
Rob Williams, Lieutenant
James White, Lieutenant

**CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR/HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS CONTROL OFFICER**

Edwin L. May

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS - CHIEF

Henry J. Dandeneau

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

Gail May
Michael Smith
Charles Bellows
Jared Bellows
Melinda Dyer
Holland Herzig
David Rich

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER IN TRAINING

Christopher Selmi Hyytinen

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH

James M. McKee

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Gail May, EMT, EMS Coordinator
Christopher Selmi Hyytinen, EMT

ATTENDANCE OFFICER FOR ROWE SCHOOL

Gail May

ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER

Sheila Furgerson

TOWN NURSE PRACTITIONER

Ruth E. Loomis, APRN

TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN

Florence M. Veber

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

William G. Foster

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS (Alternate)

None

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Gerald Jubinville

WIRING INSPECTOR

John F. Rossi

ASSISTANT WIRING INSPECTOR

None

CONSTABLE

Roger L. Brown

DOG OFFICER

Albert R. Williams

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Robert R. Rice (Resigned)
L. Norma Brown

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

James W. Taylor

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Lisa Danek Burke, Chairman
Robert R. Rice
John H. Williams
Robert J. Clancy
Ellen L. Babcock

**RECYCLING COORDINATOR/TRANSFER
STATION ATTENDANT**

Richard A. Tower

**DEERFIELD RIVER WATERSHED
OPEN SPACE PLAN COMMITTEE**

Leonard J. Laffond

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Ellen L. Babcock, Administrator
James Lively, Superintendent
Joseph Lively, Supervisor
Abigail Lively, Supervisor
Seth May, Assistant Supervisor
Amanda Brown
Purnima Booth
Timothy Johnston

Andrew Lively
John Paige
Abigail Phelps
Brittani Sprague
Samantha Wessman
Maggie White

TREE WARDEN

James W. Taylor

MEASURERS OF WOOD, BARK AND LUMBER

Ellsworth E. Palmer
James H. Williams
Thomas P. Danek, Jr.

SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT PEST/ ELM DISEASE CONTROL

Albert R. Williams

FENCE VIEWERS

Leonard J. Laffond
Leonard J. "Pete" Brown

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Helen R. Shields
Susan C. Wood
Judith A. Pierce
Heidi Cousineau

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

John H. Williams

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Anne E. Besgen
Mary E. Lenth (Declined)
Marilyn Wilson
Ellyn B. Packard
Robert J. Clancy
Susan P. Gleason

TOWN COUNSEL

Craig W. Barry, Jr. Esq.

SPECIAL COUNSEL

Koppleman & Paige

HEALTH AGENTS

Sharon White
Lisa Danek Burke

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Ellen L. Babcock
Joanne M. Brown
Richard A. Tower
Mary Jo Phelps, Chair
John H. Williams

COUNCIL ON AGING

Sandy P. Daviau, Co-Chair
Ruth E. Loomis, Co-Chair
Christine A. Tower

Joanne M. Brown
James M. McKee

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Lillian H. Danek, Term Expires 2006
Floyd W. Smith, Terms Expires 2006

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

(Prior Years' Appointments)
Karl Jurentkuff (*resigned*) Term Expired 2004
Henry J. Dandeneau, Term Expires 2004
George Gaudry, Term Expires 2005

AGENT FOR VETERANS

David F. Scrivens

FRANKLIN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE

Floyd W. Smith

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ellen Babcock	Ellynn B. Packard
Geoffrey Babley	Michael Posever
Myra B. Carlow	Margaret Rice
Angela Foshay	John Williams
Leonard Laffond	Susan Wood (declined)

CARL NILMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Karen Soviecke

TOWN DIRECTORY COMMITTEE

Myra B. Carlow
Ellynn B. Packard

COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Lehr House)

Ellen L. Babcock
Judy Pierce
Cynthia Laffond
Melissa Quinn
Lisa Danek Burke (declined)

WINDPOWER STUDY COMMITTEE (now Renewable Energy Study Committee)

Earl Carlow, Co-Chair
John Packard, Co-Chair
Carlos Heiligmann
Ellen Babcock
John Williams

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Myra B. Carlow (to fill vacancy created by the
resignation of Leonard Laffond)

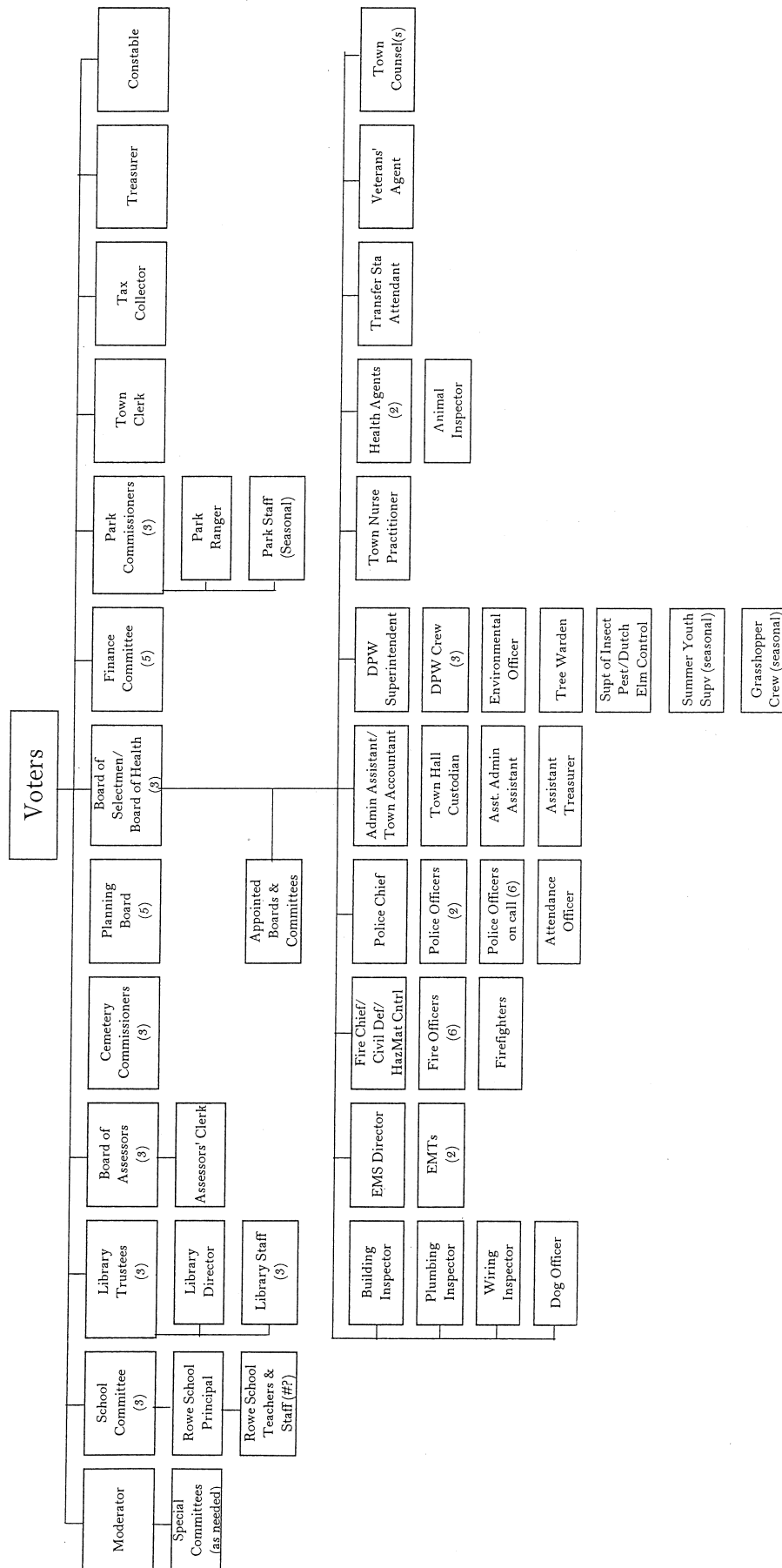
LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Evelyn Dandeneau (to fill vacancy created by
resignation of Susan White)
[Joint appointment with Library Trustees]

PARK COMMISSION

Michael Laffond (to fill vacancy created by
resignation of Karl Jurentkuff)
[Joint appointment with Park Commissioners]

Town of Rowe Organizational Chart

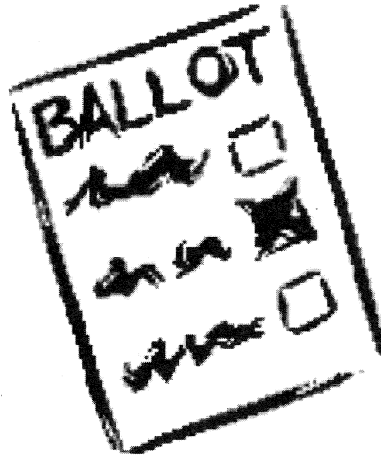


Town of Rowe

Boards, Committees & Other Positions

Appointed by the Selectboard

Administration & Finance	Public Works	Cultural	Human Services	Public Safety	Schools
By-Law Review Committee	Beautification Committee	Cultural Council	Council on Aging	Building Code Board of Appeals	Carl Nilman Scholarship Fund
Registrars of Voters	Conservation Commission	Historical Commission	FCCA Representative	Zoning Board of Appeals	
Renewable Energy Study Committee (Windpower Comm)	Fence Viewers		FCHCC Representative		
	Measurers of Wood, Bark & Lumber		Nursing Committee		
	Pound Keeper				



TOWN CLERK

Report of the Town Clerk - Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

**Mass General Law prohibits release of info
for persons under 17 w/o parental permission**

TAYLOR ELIZABETH LOOMIS
Leann Zavotka Loomis
Sean Robert Loomis
June 13, 2003
Place of Birth: Greenfield MA

BAILEY REESE COUSINEAU
Heidi Lehr Cousineau
David Allen Cousineau
June 17, 2003
Place of Birth: Greenfield MA

JEFFREY ALLEN BUCK
Elizabeth Victoria Rodriguez Salas
Phillip Edward Buck
November 16, 2003
Place of Birth: Greenfield MA

MARRIAGES

Craig William Cudnohufsky and
Rachael Elizabeth Gibson
April 7, 2003
Tacoma WA residents, married in Rowe

William Richard Nolan and
Robin Whitney Reed
July 15, 2003
Married in Bennington, Vermont

Daniel Matthew Miller and
Amy Claire Wilson
August 3, 2003
Pasadena MD residents, married in Rowe

DEATHS

Fred Roger Andrews
March 1, 1955 - May 24, 2003
Place of Death: Rowe MA

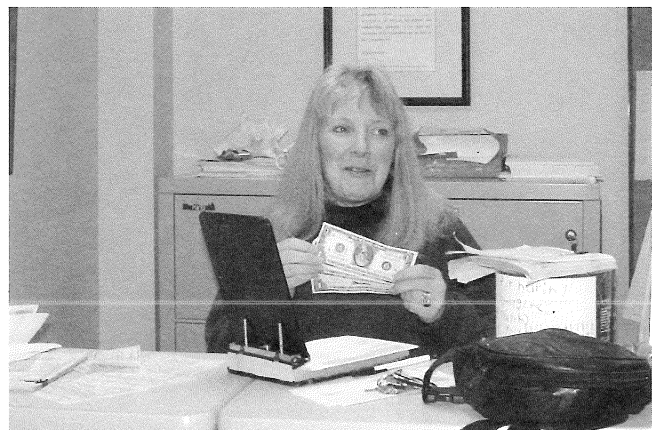
Katherine Shumway
January 25, 1927 - July 16, 2003
Place of Death: Keene NH

Martha Annette Rice
January 30, 1936 - July 28, 2003
Place of Death: Greenfield MA

Richard Leo Bullett
January 4, 1919 - September 19, 2003
Place of Death: Pittsfield MA

Brian Vega
December 23, 1972 - December 5, 2003
Place of Death: Rowe MA

Ellsworth W. Veber, Jr.
April 13, 1934 - December 22, 2003
Place of Death: Greenfield MA



Susan Wood, Town Clerk

McKee Photo

Report of the Town Clerk - Licenses/Permits Sold

DOG LICENSES

37	Males @ \$3.00	\$111.00
5	Females @ \$6.00	30.00
43	Spayed Females @ \$3.00	129.00
1	Kennel @ \$50.00	50.00

TOTAL \$320.00

Less fees retained by Town Clerk - 64.50

**To Franklin Regional
Council of Government \$255.50**

SPORTING LICENSES

F1 - Resident Fishing @ \$22.50	(25)	\$ 562.50
F2 - Resident Minor Fishing @ \$6.50	(01)	6.50
F3 - Resident Fishing 65-69 @ \$11.25	(04)	45.00
F4 - Resident Fishing 70 and over, Free	(07)	Free
F6 - Non-resident fishing @\$32,50	(01)	32.50
F7 - Non-resident 3 day fishing @ \$18.50	(01)	18.50
H1 - Resident Hunting @ \$22.50	(10)	225.50
H8 - Resident Minor Hunting @ \$6.50	(03)	19.50
S1 - Resident Sporting @ \$40.00	(22)	880.00
S2 - Resident Sporting 65-69 @ \$20.00	(04)	80.00
S3 - Resident Sporting 70 over - Free	(07)	Free
DH - Duplicate Licenses @ \$2.50	(01)	2.50
DF - Duplicate Fishing @ \$2.50	(01)	2.50

STAMPS

M1 - Archery @ \$5.10	(14)	71.40
M2 - Waterfowl Stamp @ \$5.00	(03)	15.00
M3 - Primitive firearm Stamps @ \$5.10	(15)	76.50
W1 - Resident Wildlife Stamps @ \$5.00	(69)	345.00
W2 - Non-Resident Wild. Stamps @\$5.00	(02)	10.00

TOTAL FEES COLLECTED \$2,392.40

Less fees retained by Town Clerk -39.15

**To Division of
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE \$2,353.25**

RAFFLE PERMITS

Three (3) PTP Raffle permits @ \$10.00 \$ 30.00

To Town Treasurer \$ 30.00

TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

**MAY 17, 2003 - ROWE TOWN HALL
183 residents, of 271 registered, voted**

Election Officials: Lillian Danek - Warden
Robin Reed - Clerk
William Brown and Barbara
Stickney - Tellers
Christine Tower - Constable
Susan C. Wood - Town Clerk

SELECTMAN (3 YEARS)

Ellen Babcock - 120
Nancy Brown - 55
Blanks/Write-ins: 8

ASSESSOR (3 years)

Ellen Babcock - 133
Blanks/Write-ins: 50

PARK COMMISSIONER (3 years)

Mary Jo Anne Phelps - 142
Blanks /Write-ins: 41

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 years)

Lisa Danek Burke - 159
Blanks/Write-ins: 24

PLANNING BOARD (5 years)

David Scrivens - Declared Write-In - 43
Blanks/Write-ins: 140

FINANCE COMMITTEE (3 years)

Carlos Heiligmann - 153
Blanks/Write-ins: 30

FINANCE COMMITTEE (3 years)

Leonard Laffond - 128
Blanks/Write-ins: 55

LIBRARY TRUSTEE (3 years)

Joanne (Jodi) Brown, 159
Blanks/Write-ins: 24

LIBRARY TRUSTEE (1 year)

Evelyn (Evie) Dandeneau - 171
Blanks/Write-ins: 12

CEMETERY COMMISSION (3 years)

Richard A. Tower, Sr. - 174
Blanks/Write-ins: 9

TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

OCTOBER 28, 2003
ROWE TOWN HALL
88 residents, of 276 registered, voted

Election Officials: Lillian Danek - Warden
Robin Reed - Clerk
Willian Brown and
Barbara Stickney - Tellers
Christine Tower - Constable
Susan C. Wood - Town Clerk

SELECTMAN (until May 2004)

Leonard J. Laffond	- 62
Blanks	- 2
Jim Brown	- 21
Myra Carlow	- 1
John Riggan	- 1
Jim Williams	- 1

Elected Town Officials

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Heidi Cousineau	2004
Frederick N. Williams, Chair	2005
Ellen L. Babcock	2006

BOARD OF HEALTH

James D. Brown (Resigned 8/5/03)	2004
Leonard J. Laffond (Elected 10/03)	2004
John H. Williams	2005
Ellen L. Babcock - Chair	2006

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James D. Brown (Resigned 8/5/03)	2004
Leonard J. Laffond (Elected 10/03)	2004
John H. Williams, Chair	2005
Ellen L. Babcock	2006

CEMETERY COMMISSION

James H. Williams	2004
James W. Taylor	2005
Richard A. Tower	2006

CONSTABLE

Christine A. Tower	2005
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jean A. Atwood	2004
Myra Carlow (Appointed)	2004
William A. Loomis, Chairman	2005
David W. Lenth	2005
Leonard Laffond (Resigned)	2006
Carlos Heiligmann	2006

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Susan White (Resigned)	2004
Evelyn L. Dandeneau (Appointed)	2004
Daureen W. Petersen, Chairman	2005
Joann M. Brown	2006

MODERATOR

Robert J. Clancy	2004
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PARK COMMISSION

Karl Jurentkuff (Resigned)	2004
Michael Laffond (Appointed)	2004
John H. Williams	2005
Mary Jo Phelps, Chair	2006

PLANNING BOARD

Dennis Lively	2004
Anne Foshay	2005
Michael M. Posever, Chairman	2006
Rebecca P. Bradley	2007
David Scrivens	2008

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Margaret M. Woodside	2004
Margaret B. Rice, Chair	2005
Lisa Danek Burke	2006

TAX COLLECTOR

Sandra P. Daviau	2004
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TOWN CLERK

Susan C. Wood	2005
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TREASURER

Susan A. Williams	2005
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Appointments by Selectmen Sworn in by Town Clerk

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH

Melissa S. Quinn - June 17, 2003

AGENT FOR VETERANS

David F. Scrivens - July 1, 2003

ANIMAL INSPECTOR

Robert R. Rice - April 03, 2003

ASSISTANT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Albert R. Williams - June 11, 2003

ATTENDANCE OFFICER FOR ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Gail May - July 11, 2003

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Joanne M. Brown - June 10, 2003

Ellen L. Babcock - June 17, 2003

John H. Williams - June 17, 2003

Richard A. Tower - June 18, 2003

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

Leonard J. Laffond - February 3, 2003

Geoff Bagley - February 3, 2003

Ellen Babcock - February 3, 2003

Myra Carlow - October 14, 2003

Ellynn Packard - October 29, 2003

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Ellen L. Babcock - June 17, 2003

John H. Williams - June 17, 2003

Lisa A. Danek-Burke - June 17, 2003

Robert R. Rice - June 17, 2003

Robert J. Clancy - June 17, 2003

CONSTABLE

Roger L. Brown - June 10, 2003

COUNCIL ON AGING

Joanne M. Brown - June 10, 2003

Sandra P. Daviau - June 11, 2003

Ruth E. Loomis - June 11, 2003

James M. McKee - June 18, 2003

Christine A. Tower - June 18, 2003

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Marilyn Wilson - June 14, 2003

Robert J. Clancy - June 17, 2003

Anne E. Besgen - June 24, 2003

Susan Gleason - June 25, 2003

Ellynn B. Packard - July 1, 2003

DOG OFFICER

Albert R. Williams - June 11, 2003

EMS COORDINATOR

Gail May - July 11, 2003

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT)

Gail May - July 11, 2003

Chris Hyytinen - August 4, 2003

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

James W. Taylor - June 11, 2003

TREE WARDEN

James W. Taylor - June 11, 2003

FENCE VIEWERS

Leonard J. Laffond - June 18, 2003

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Myra Carlow - November 20, 2003

FIRE CHIEF - CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONTROL OFFICER

Edwin L. May - June 24, 2003

FRANKLIN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE

Floyd W. Smith - August 3, 2003

HEALTH AGENT

Sharon White - June 5, 2003

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

James W. Taylor - June 11, 2003

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

William G. Foster - June 10, 2003

MEASURERS OF WOOD, BARK & LUMBER

Ellsworth E. Palmer - June 11, 2003

OLD HOME DAY COMMITTEE

Jennifer A. Morse - February 4, 2003

Tom Danek - February 4, 2003

Sheila Furgerson - February 4, 2003

Margaret Woodside - February 4, 2003

PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR

Gerald Jubinville - July 9, 2003

POLICE CHIEF

Henry J. Dandeneau - June 17, 2003

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Ruth E. Loomis, RN, NP - June 11, 2003/intent

- January 28, 2004/actual

RECYCLING COORDINATOR/ TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

Richard A. Tower - June 18, 2003

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE FRANKLIN
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

John H. Williams - June 17, 2003

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

Gail May - July 11, 2003

Charles Bellows - July 12, 2003

Jared Bellows - July 12, 2003

Melinda Herzig - July 12, 2003

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER TRAINEE

Christopher Selmi Hyytinen - October 6, 2003

**SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT PEST/
ELM DISEASE CONTROL**

Albert R. Williams - June 11, 2003

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Melissa S. Quinn - June 17, 2003

TOWN DIRECTORY COMMITTEE

Myra B. Carlow - June 11, 2003

Ellynn B. Packard - July 1, 2003

TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN

Florence M. Veber - June 11, 2003

TRUCK DRIVER

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Richard Hamilton - June 11, 2003

Lance Larned - June 11, 2003

Albert R. Williams - June 11, 2003

WINDPOWER STUDY COMMITTEE

Earl Carlow - October 28, 2003

John Packard - October 29, 2003

John Williams - November 14, 2003

Carlos Heiligmann - November 12, 2003

Ellen Babcock - November 24, 2003

WIRING INSPECTOR

John Rossi - July 2, 2003

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Floyd W. Smith - August 3, 2003

RESIGNATIONS:

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Susan White - March 3, 2003

PARK COMMISSIONER

Karl E. Jurentkuff - June 27, 2003

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Leonard J. Laffond - November 13, 2003

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS

Town of Rowe COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

The Annual Town Meeting was held at the Rowe School on Monday, May 12, 2003 at 7:40 PM.

Quorum present.

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Robert Clancy.

In the absence of the Town Clerk Susan Wood, Sandra Daviau was nominated and elected to serve as acting Town Clerk.

Tellers Marilyn Wilson, Frederick Lowell, Earl Carlow and Sheila Furgerson were reappointed by the Moderator. Warrant was posted April 15, 2003. (Acting Town Clerk and Tellers were previously sworn in at Special Town Meeting immediately preceding Annual Meeting.)

ARTICLE 1: The motion was made and seconded to accept reports of the Town officers and committees.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 2: The motion was made and seconded to empower the Board of Selectmen to choose all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 3: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the conduct of General Government, including the charges and expenses of the various town offices, and compensation for elected and appointed officials for the 2004 fiscal year.

Administration

General Administration	\$29,000.00
Summer Youth Employment Program	25,500.00
Town Officer Expenses	1,250.00
Municipal Audit	5,000.00
Municipal Center Custodian Wages	15,881.00
Municipal Center Operation/Maintenance	18,000.00
Gracy House Maintenance/Repair	500.00
Municipal Center Fuel Oil	2,500.00
Elevator Maintenance Contract	4,950.00
Bank Charges/Loan Interest	500.00
Computer Equipment/Software	6,000.00
Computer Network Support	16,000.00
Printing Town Reports	3,250.00
Legal Expenses	4,000.00
Subtotal Administration	132,331.00

Bonding and Insurance 38,000.00

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Core Assessment	41,559.00
Fees for Services	7,700.00
Subtotal FRCOG	49,259.00

Board of Selectmen Office

Selectmen Stipend	6,902.00
Accounting Officer/Clerk Salary	47,250.00
Asst. Accounting Officer/Clerk Compensation	2,000.00
Subtotal Selectmen Office	56,152.00

Assessors Office

Assessor Stipend	4,838.00
Clerical Wage	7,085.00
Operation	3,000.00
Mapping	1,000.00
Reval/Property Update	1,000.00
Software/Computer	2,000.00
Subtotal Assessors Office	18,923.00

Treasurer Office

Treasurer Stipend	6,000.00
Assistant Treasurer Compensation	100.00
Subtotal Treasurer Office	6,100.00

Tax Collector Stipend 6,000.00

Town Clerk Office

Town Clerk Stipend	6,000.00
Registrar & Census Taker Compensation	350.00
Election/Teller Expense	1,500.00
Subtotal Town Clerk Office	7,850.00

Miscellaneous

Beautification	2,000.00
Council on Aging	5,900.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous	7,900.00

School Committee Stipends 4,160.00

Planning Board

Operation	600.00
Goal Post Publication	18,500.00
Subtotal Planning Board	19,100.00

Veterans' Services

Veterans' Agent Stipend	500.00
Operation	400.00
Veterans' Benefits	300.00
Subtotal Veterans' Services	1,200.00

Miscellaneous Officer Stipends

Moderator	400.00
Constable	500.00

Animal Inspector	500.00
Dog Officer	600.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous Officer Stipends	2,000.00

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT 348,975.00

The motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read:

Selectmen Stipend	\$3,451.00
Board of Health Stipend	\$3,451.00

The total of the article would remain the same.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (on the amendment)

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (on the main article)

ARTICLE 4: The motion was made and seconded to adopt Chapter 110, Section 110 of the Acts of 1993 which amends MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clauses 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E and Paraplegics. This act reduces the eligibility to file for a veteran's exemption from five (5) years domicile to one (1) year domicile prior to filing for servicemen that now reside in the town who never enlisted or were never inducted from Massachusetts.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 5: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for Public Schools for the 2004 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Instructional Programs & Tuition to Mohawk & Franklin County Tech	572,980.00
Instructional Staff Training	14,508.00
Special Education and Other Tuitions	86,867.00
Speech Pathology & Audiology	13,425.00
Psychological Services	13,094.00
Library Services	19,533.00
Health Services	55,094.00
School Committee	7,330.00
Principals Office	96,079.00
Food Services	19,784.00
Plant Operations	83,342.00
Shared Services	49,581.00
Pupil Transportation	17,038.00
Special Education Transportation	1,009.00

Sub-total Public Schools	1,049,664.00
School Choice Receipts	-80,000.00

TOTAL 969,664.00

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 6: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$50,000.00** for the purpose of funding the Technology Assistant position (with benefits) at the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School.

OPAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 7: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$222,000.00** for the purpose of capital improvements at

the Rowe Elementary School to include the replacement of ceilings and lights in classrooms and office spaces and HVAC improvements in offices and classroom space.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL SCHOOLS 1,241,664.00

ARTICLE 8: The motion was made and seconded to adopt the following bylaw:

No more than one member of a family - Spouses, Siblings, Parent and Child, may serve on an elected or appointed Town Board, Committee or Commission.

MOTION DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE

ARTICLE 9: The motion was made and seconded to restore the status of the public health nurse for the Town of Rowe as a registered nurse licensed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

There was a motion made and seconded to table Article 9 indefinitely.

OPAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE TO TABLE ARTICLE 9 INDEFINITELY

ARTICLE 10: The motion was made and seconded to replace the wording of Article III, Section 5, of the By-laws with the following wording: *The Board of Health shall consist of three members appointed by the Selectmen. It shall have the powers and duties as set forth in Chapter 111 of the general laws and other applicable laws. The Board of Health shall appoint the Public Health Nurse, the Health Agent, the Animal Inspector and the Transfer Station Attendant. The Board of Health shall maintain the Refuse Garden and the Transfer Station.*

The motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read "The Board of Health shall consist of three members to be elected."

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (on the amendment)

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (on the main motion)

Note: On February 24, 2004, the Attorney General approved this by-law as voted by town meeting with the exception of the underlined text "the Animal Inspector," as this is inconsistent with G.L. c. 129, § 15. Therefore, appointment of the Animal Inspector will continue to be made by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 11: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the Protection of Persons and Property for the 2004 fiscal year.

Police Department

Police Chief Stipend	7,805.00
Officer Wages	5,000.00
Operation	6,600.00
Subtotal Police Department	19,405.00

Fire Department	
Fire Chief Stipend	5,778.00
Officer Stipends	6,000.00
Fire-fighter Reimbursement	7,000.00
Forest Fire Control	100.00
General Operation	23,050.00
Civil Defense Operation	1,000.00
Hazardous Material Control	1,000.00
Subtotal Fire Department	43,928.00

Emergency Medical Service	
Coordinator Stipend	1,387.00
Operation and Maintenance	3,500.00
Emergency Personnel Stipends/Expenses	4,200.00
Ambulance Service	2,000.00
Subtotal Emergency Medical Service	11,087.00

Street Lighting	4,500.00
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Inspections	
Building Inspector Fees (Estimated)	4,500.00
Electrical Inspector Stipend	1,037.00
Plumbing Inspector Stipend	1,037.00
Subtotal Inspections	6,574.00

Cemeteries Maintenance	5,000.00
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Conservation Commission Operation	200.00
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TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS/PROPERTY	90,694.00
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ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 12: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for Public Health and Sanitation for the 2004 fiscal year.

Public Health & Sanitation	
Board of Health Operation	6,000.00
Health Services Salary	43,331.00
Health Services Operation	6,207.00
Health Services Physician Stipend	1,000.00
Refuse Garden Operation	50,000.00
Attendant Compensation	11,839.00
Solid Waste District Administration	4,793.00
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day	500.00

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION	123,670.00
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ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

There was a motion to reconsider (under Town Bylaw Article II, Section 14) Article 12.

THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER WAS DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE

ARTICLE 13: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for various employee benefits as specified for the 2004 fiscal year.

Employee Benefits	
Randolph, MA Retirement Assessment	800.00
Franklin County Retirement Assessment	73,764.00**
Group Medical, Medicaid, Health & Life Insurance	191,500.00**
Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00**
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	267,064.00

**Includes benefits for school employees

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 14: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following non-reimbursable sums for the operation of the Highway Department for the 2004 fiscal year.

General Operation/Highway Projects	
Heavy Equip. Operator Wages	148,953.00
Highway Superintendent Salary	63,630.00
Highway Operation & Maintenance	36,000.00
Fuel for Town Vehicles	17,000.00
Annual Highway Projects	30,000.00
Road Surface Maintenance/Reclamation	45,000.00
Winter Roads Maintenance	50,000.00

TOTAL	390,583.00
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ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 15: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH to STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$50,000.00**, to be "tentatively earmarked" for future purchase of Highway Equipment. *Note: Appropriations designated as "tentatively earmarked" for a named purchase are for budgeting purposes only. A future town meeting is not bound by this vote.*

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 16: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the purchase of an air compressor for the town garage.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 17: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$25,000.00** for the purchase of one 2003 four wheel drive backhoe with attachments. *Note: \$75,684.00 of the cost of the backhoe will be financed from Chapter 246 reimbursable monies. See Article 18*

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 18: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$75,684.00** for the maintenance, repair, improvement and construction of town highways, or any other purpose allowed under Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2001, which amounts shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through funds made available by the said acts.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL HIGHWAY ALL FUNDS 544,267.00

ARTICLE 19: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the Rowe Town Library for the 2004 fiscal year.

Rowe Library	
Librarian Salary	10,000.00
Library Staff Wages	11,207.00
Operation and Maintenance	15,300.00
TOTAL	36,507.00

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 20: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$2,500.00** for improvements to the Library building.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 21: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$5,000.00** for paving a handicapped parking lot at the Library.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL LIBRARY 44,007.00

ARTICLE 22: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the management and operation of Pelham Lake Park for the 2004 fiscal year.

Park Commission	
Park Wages	38,600.00
Head Ranger Wage	34,000.00
Operation and Maintenance	22,420.00
TOTAL	95,020.00

The motion was made and seconded to amend the article so that the Head Ranger Wage would reflect a 5% pay increase over FY 2003 wages.

**THE MOTION TO AMEND
WAS DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE
ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (on Article 22)**

ARTICLE 23: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$4,000.00** for improvements to the Park Headquarters.

The motion was made and seconded to amend the article to use the \$4,000.00 for Park Youth Wages.

**THE MOTION TO AMEND
WAS DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE
SHOW OF HANDS VOTE (on Article 23)
YES 57 NO 26**

ARTICLE 24: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of

\$7,000.00 for new equipment for the Park Fitness/Health Program.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 25: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$2,500.00** for repairs to the Browning Bench building.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 26: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** for repairs to the Park tennis courts.

OPAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 27: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** for material and supplies related to an Americorp project.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL PARK 114,520.00

ARTICLE 28: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$8,000.00** for an Old Home Day celebration.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 29: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$8,000.00** for Old Home Day fireworks.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

TOTAL OLD HOME DAY 16,000.00

ARTICLE 30: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$4,000.00** for cemetery fence repairs.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 31: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$1,500.00** for the development, printing and distribution of a Town Directory.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 32: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$28,000.00** for the purchase and installation of an emergency generator at the Town Hall.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 33: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$1,000.00** for air conditioning certain offices at the Town Hall.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 34: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** to **STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$37,500.00**.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 35: The motion was made and seconded to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** to **STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$37,500.00**.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 36: The motion was made and seconded to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be used as a Reserve Fund for the 2004 fiscal year.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 37: The motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a contract with the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Charlemont to salt, sand and plow approximately 1.7 miles of Zoar Road, lying within the Town of Charlemont, for one (1) winter season beginning November 1, 2003, in exchange for Charlemont salting, sanding and plowing of 0.7 miles of Tatro Road in Rowe during the same winter season.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 38: The motion was made and seconded to thank the Community Center Study Committee for their work and to put any additional action on hold for one year.

THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE

The sense of the meeting was to direct the Moderator to include a broader representation of the community in appointing new members to the Community Center Study Committee.

The motion was made and seconded to limit the Community Center Study Committee to five members.

THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED BY ORAL VOTE

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

A true copy.

Attest: Sandra P. Daviau, Acting Town Clerk

(Recap of Annual Town Meeting on page 28)

RECAPITULATION OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES FY2004

(Recapitulation is for information only)

APPROPRIATIONS FROM TAXATION

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	348,975.00
SCHOOLS	969,664.00
PROTECTION PERSONS/PROPERTY	90,694.00
HEALTH/SANITATION	123,670.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	267,064.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	390,583.00
LIBRARY	36,507.00
PARK DEPARTMENT	95,020.00
STABILIZATION FUND	37,500.00
OLD HOME DAY	16,000.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM TAXATION

2,375,677.00

APPROPRIATIONS FROM FREE CASH

MOHAWK TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT	50,000.00
FUTURE HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT (To Stabilization)	50,000.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AIR COMPRESSOR	3,000.00
CHAPTER 246	75,684.00
LIBRARY REPAIRS	2,500.00
LIBRARY PARKING LOT	5,000.00
PARK HEADQUARTERS IMPROVEMENTS	4,000.00
PARK FITNESS/HEALTH PROGRAM	7,000.00
BROWNING BENCH REPAIRS	2,500.00
PARK TENNIS COURT MAINTENANCE	3,000.00
PARK AMERICORP PROJECT	3,000.00
CEMETERY FENCE REPAIRS	4,000.00
TOWN DIRECTORY	1,500.00
TOWN HALL OFFICES AIR CONDITIONING	1,000.00
STABILIZATION FUND	37,500.00
RESERVE FUND	20,000.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM FREE CASH

269,684.00

APPROPRIATIONS FROM STABILIZATION	
ROWE SCHOOL HVAC IMPROVEMENTS	222,000.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BACKHOE	25,000.00
TOWN HALL EMERGENCY GENERATOR	28,000.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM STABILIZATION

275,000.00

TOTAL FY2004 BUDGET ALL FUNDS

\$2,920,361.00

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS

May 12, 2003 - FY 2003
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Town of Rowe

Special Town Meeting was held at the Rowe School on **Monday, May 12, 2003 at 6:45 PM**. Quorum present. Meeting was called to order by Moderator Robert Clancy. In the absence of the Town Clerk, Susan Wood, Sandra Daviau was nominated, elected and sworn in by the Moderator to serve as Acting Town Clerk. Tellers Marilyn Wilson, Frederick Lowell, Earl Carlow and Sheila Furgerson were appointed and sworn in by the Moderator. Warrant was posted April 28, 2003.

ARTICLE 1: The motion was made and seconded to **TRANSFER from FREE CASH** to the **STABILIZATION FUND** the sum of **\$42,172.00**.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 2: The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of **\$30,016.00** from the Assessors' Reval/Property Update account to an Assessors' GIS Mapping Project account.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 3: The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of **\$3,000.00** from the Mill Pond Water Management account to the Park Operations and Maintenance account.

ORAL UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 4: The motion was made and seconded to transfer the sum of **\$6,416.00** from the Pelham Lake Dam Project account to the Browning Bench Repairs account.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 5: The motion was made and seconded to have the Select Board include line-item budget breakdowns from each department with the town warrant for all future town meetings and special town meetings. The line-item breakdown should include pay raises, operating expenses, maintenance expenses, special project costs, and description of same.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YES 69 NO 55

There was a motion made and seconded (under Town By-law Article II, Section 14) to reconsider Article 5.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YES 67 NO 64
(on reconsideration of article)

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YES 60 NO 74
(on main Article 5)

ARTICLE 6: The motion was made and seconded to have the Selectmen conduct a feasibility study into having a cell phone tower installed in Town, and to report back to the voters of Rowe with the results for further action.

ORAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

ARTICLE 7: No business was transacted under this article.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

A true copy.

Attest: Sandra P. Daviau, Acting Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

November 24, 2003 - FY 2004
Warrant posted November 10, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., at the Rowe Elementary School

Moderator: Robert Clancy

Town Clerk: Susan C. Wood

Selectmen: Ellen Babcock, Leonard J. Laffond and John Williams

Tellers: William Reardon, Sheila Furgerson, Kevin Maroney and Nina Bosler

ARTICLE 1: The motion was made to approve the tax agreement between the Town of Rowe and Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC) for fiscal year 2004 for real estate, land and personal property owned by YAEC and located within the Town of Rowe for a total assessed value of \$10,629,856.00.

Requested by the Board of Assessors
PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS AYES

ARTICLE 2: The motion was made to withdraw from the County Dog Program. (Explanation: The Town would continue to participate in the bid for dog tags and licenses, and would reimburse the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) for the same, plus a \$30.00 fee for the bidding and purchasing. The fees collected would be retained by the Town of Rowe, in the General Fund. Currently, dog licenses and tags are procured by the FRCOG, dog license fees are first remitted to the FRCOG, and are then returned to the Town of Rowe, less the cost of procuring the licenses and tags. This change would simplify and speed up the process. Dog licenses fees are set by the Town, with the exception of \$0.75 per license, which is retained by the Town Clerk.)

Suggested by the Town Clerk
PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS AYES

ARTICLE 3: The motion was made to discontinue and abandon any portion of town roads that may still be in existence between Monroe Hill Road and the Vermont state line that lie within one mile of Yankee Road, including any portion of Yankee Road that may be a town road.

CARRIED BY AYES

ARTICLE 4: The motion was made to accept Chapter 40, § 8D of the Massachusetts General Laws and to establish a Rowe Historical Commission, composed of three members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

CARRIED BY AYES

ARTICLE 5: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$10,000.00** for the placing of highway boundary monuments on Cyrus Stage Road, which is a Franklin County layout where monuments were not placed by the Town when the highway was relocated.

CARRIED BY AYES

ARTICLE 6: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$7,500.00** to the Library Director Wage account.

Requested by the Library Trustees
PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS AYES

ARTICLE 7: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the purchase of a broom and radio for the Highway Department backhoe.

PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS AYES

ARTICLE 8: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the Park Health and Fitness account to provide expanded services.

Requested by the Park Department

Discussion: The Position of Personal Fitness Trainer is now 10 hrs a week, at \$20 per hour, to be expanded to 17 hours a week.

CARRIED BY AYES

ARTICLE 9: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$200,000.00** for the purchase of the Lehr property at 306 Zoar Road (Map 3, Lots 11 and 69) for community purposes.

The motion was made by Selectman Ellen Babcock to postpone indefinitely Article Nine and seconded by Selectmen John H. William and Leonard Laffond.

Discussion: Explanation of the motion was given by Selectman Babcock: The Town of Rowe was approached a year ago by the Lehr family, to see if the Town had any interest in their property. George Dole, who has done quite a bit of building for the Town of Rowe visited the Lehr property and advised the Selectmen that something brand new, all on one floor, could be built for the same amount of money that it would take to do the Lehr property and the Town already owns the Soule Property. The Town's option to buy the Lehr property will run out January 1, 2004 and will not be picked up again.

The Selectmen did meet with the Franklin Housing and Re-Development Authority to discuss congregate housing for elders. The Selectmen were advised that the preference is not for congregate housing and that the Lehr property would take a good amount of money to bring up to code for public use. The Selectmen have tabled discussion on elder housing.

Myra Carlow asked to have the motion clarified: Did this mean the Town will not pursue the option to buy the Lehr property? Moderator Robert Clancy answered in the affirmative.

**THE MOTION TO POSTPONE WAS PASSED
BY AYES, WITH ONE NAY**

ARTICLE 10: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$10,000.00** for the purpose of obtaining professional services to prepare engineering and/or design studies for renovation of the Lehr property at 306 Zoar Road (Map 3, Lots 11 and 69) for town use purposes.

The motion was made to postpone Article 10 indefinitely.

**THE MOTION TO POSTPONE WAS PASSED
UNANIMOUSLY**

ARTICLE 11: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** the sum of **\$10,000.00** for the purpose of obtaining professional services to prepare engineering and/or design studies or other necessary studies, for use of the former Soule property (Map 3, Lot 23) for town use purposes.

Dialogue concerning Article 10 consisted of questions as to exactly how the \$10,000 would be spent. Selectman Ellen Babcock explained the money would be used to explore the feasibility of using the Soule property as a Community Center.

Question from Margalee Riggan: "Can Mr. Williams tell us, can the Town use Park Land for a center?" Park Commissioner and Selectman John William's response: "Park land is very restricted. Any change of Park usage requires an act of Legislature. Any large building built on Park land is almost out of the question. State parks are sacred. Parks have a special category in Massachusetts."

PASSED BY AYES

ARTICLE 12: The motion was made to **APPROPRIATE from FREE CASH** to the **STABILIZATION FUND** the sum of **\$466,500.00**.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting ended at 8:00 PM.

Attest: Susan C. Wood, Town Clerk

VOTERS LIST - November 24 , 2003 - Special Town Meeting

Alix, Richard E.	U	Crowningshield,		Hudson, Sharon C.	R	McLatchy, Lesley K.	U
Atwood, Donald J.	U	Howard C.	U	Huff, Helen Elizabeth	U	McLatchy, Paul, Jr.	U
Atwood, Jean Ann	U	Crowningshield,		Hyytinen, Christopher	U	Miceli, Steven M.	U
Avery, Charles L.	D	Jeanette	U			Miller, Daniel J.	U
Avery, Marion A.	U			Jackman, Linda Eileen	L	Miller, Deborah	U
Babcock, Ellen	U	Dandeneau, Evelyn L.	U	Jackson, Crystal Ann	U	Miller, Lisa Lynn	D
Baker, Roberta T.	U	Dandeneau, Henry G.	U	Jackson, Darlene A.	U	Morse, Alfred C., Jr.	U
Baker, William J.	U	Dandeneau, Henry J.	U	Jackson, Lisa Marie	U	Morse, Jennifer A.	U
Barish, Jane L.	U	Dandeneau, Marion E.	U	Jackson, Oral L.	U	Morse, Marjorie H.	U
Belval, Marilyn F.	U	Danek, Debora J.	U	Johnston, Robin Lee	U		
Belval, William C.	U	Danek, Lillian H.	D	Jolly, Russell W.	D	Novack, Gary	D
Benson, Francis S.	U	Danek, Thomas P., Jr.	U	Jones, Elizabeth	U		
Benson, Luella M.	U	Daviau, Edward A.	U			Oliver, Kathleen	R
Bergeron-Larsen, Linda	U	Daviau, Sandra P.	U	Kalaus, Dorothy M.	U		
Berry, Prudence	D	Demetz, AnneMarie	D	Kalaus, Warren	U	Packard, Ellynn Baxter	D
Besgen, Anne E.	R	Dionne, Loretta Irene	D	Katz, Deborah B.	U	Packard, John R. H.	D
Bjork, Alan W.	R	Donelson, Brian A.	R	Katz, Frederick	D	Page, Dorothy F.	U
Bjork, Florence M.	R	Donelson, Norma J.	R	Kilgour, Christine	D	Paige, Mary Eve	U
Bjork, Timothy J.	U	Donovan, Eugene J.	D			Palmer, Edwin A.	U
Booth, Robin	D	Donovan, Sandra	U	Laffond, Cynthia M.	R	Palmer, Ellsworth E.	U
Bosler, Clayton	D	Dunnell, Michelle M.	D	Laffond, Laurie L.	U	Peters, Tabitha	U
Bosler, Nina	D	Dunnell, Paul P.	R	Laffond, Leonard J.	U	Peterson, Daureen W.	U
Boutwell, Joyce A.	U	Dvore, David	U	Laffond, Michael S.	R	Phelps, Daniel R., Jr.	U
Boutwell, Raymond L.	U			Lamed, Lance P.	U	Phelps, MaryJo Anne	U
Boyd, Irene M.	U	Essert, Mary B.	U	Lehr, Dorothy E.	D	Phillips, Marie	U
Boyd, William M.	U	Essert, Robert D.	U	Lenth, David W.	R	Pickett, Felicity	U
Bradley, Michael F.	U	Evans, Leslie A.	U	Lenth, Mary E.	U	Pierce, Judith Ann	R
Bradley, Rebecca P.	U			Lepine, Florence L.	U	Pike, Eric A.	R
Brown, Christopher M.	U	Faivre, Audrey I.	R	Lesure, Lawrence M.	U	Pike, Laurie Jean	U
Brown, James D.	U	Foberg, Kirsten Ellen	U	Lindabury, Donald E.	U	Pike, Michelle C.	U
Brown, JoAnn M.	D	Foshay, Angela F.	U	Lively, Carol F.	U	Poehlein, David G.	U
Brown, June W.	R	Foster, Bernice A.	U	Lively, Deborah L.	U	Posever, Michael M.	D
Brown, Leonard J., Jr.	R	Foster, William G.	U	Lively, Dennis G.	U		
Brown, Lillian Norma	R	Furgerson, Sheila M.	U	Lively, James W.	U	Quinn, Melissa S.	D
Brown, Nancy A.	U			Lively, Jonathan	U	Quinn, Richard K.	D
Brown, Roger L.	D	Gallagher, Robert L.	U	Lively, Joseph Adam	U	Quist, Kelle J.	U
Brown, William M.	R	Gates, Eugene H.	R	Lively, Sandra Julia	U	Quist, Walter J.	U
Bryant, Lisa A.	D	Gates, Leah M.	U	Loomis, Leann Zavotka	U		
Buck, Philip Edward	U	Gaudry, George L.	R	Loomis, Ruth E.	U	Reardon, Mary A.	U
Burke, Daniel J.	U	Gleason, Susan P.	U	Loomis, Sean R.	U	Reardon, Tiffany J.	U
Burke, Lisa Danek	U	Gordon, Ronald P.	U	Loomis, William A.	U	Reardon, William Neil	U
		Gordon, Rosemary R.	U	Lowell, Frederick K.	D	Reed, Robin W.	D
Cables, Alfred R.	U	Gracy, Sarah Jane	R			Reynolds-Gallagher,	
Carlow, Earl	D	Grogan, Barbara	R	Magee, Maia	U	Danette	U
Carlow, Myra Bennett	D	Guest, Susan Parker	L	Maroney, Kevin	G	Rice, Bradley J.	U
Cascone, Nancy J.	U	Guest, Vincent Joseph	L	Maroney, Maria	U	Rice, Dean T.	R
Chiofalo, Thomas L.	U			May, Dennis F.	U	Rice, Donald A.	R
Clancy, Robert J.	D	Halberg, Neil	U	May, Edwin L.	R	Rice, Jennifer L.	D
Cooper-Quevedo,		Hardison, Billy L.	D	May, Gail	U	Rice, Margaret B.	U
Paige Anne	D	Hardison, Justin L.	U	May, Katherine E.	R	Rice, Robert R.	U
Corarito, Arthur D.	U	Hardison, Leonda I.	U	May, Micah David	R	Riggan, John R.	D
Corarito, Deanna	U	Heiligmann, Carlos	D	May, Paul E.	R	Riggan, Margalee O.	D
Corarito, Douglas	U	Heiligmann, Katherine	D	May, Seth A.	U	Roberson, David A.	U
Corarito, Mary Ann	U	Houghtaling, Deborah	D	Mazanec, Douglas S.	U	Roberson, Laura S.	U
Cousineau, David Allen	R	Houghtaling, Thomas	U	Mazanec, Janice E.	U	Roche, Barbara J.	D
Cousineau, Heidi	R	Houghtaling, Timothy L.	U	McKee, James M.	U	Rode, Christina M.	U
		Hudson, Gary H.	R	McLatchy, Kern L.	U	Rossi, John F.	R

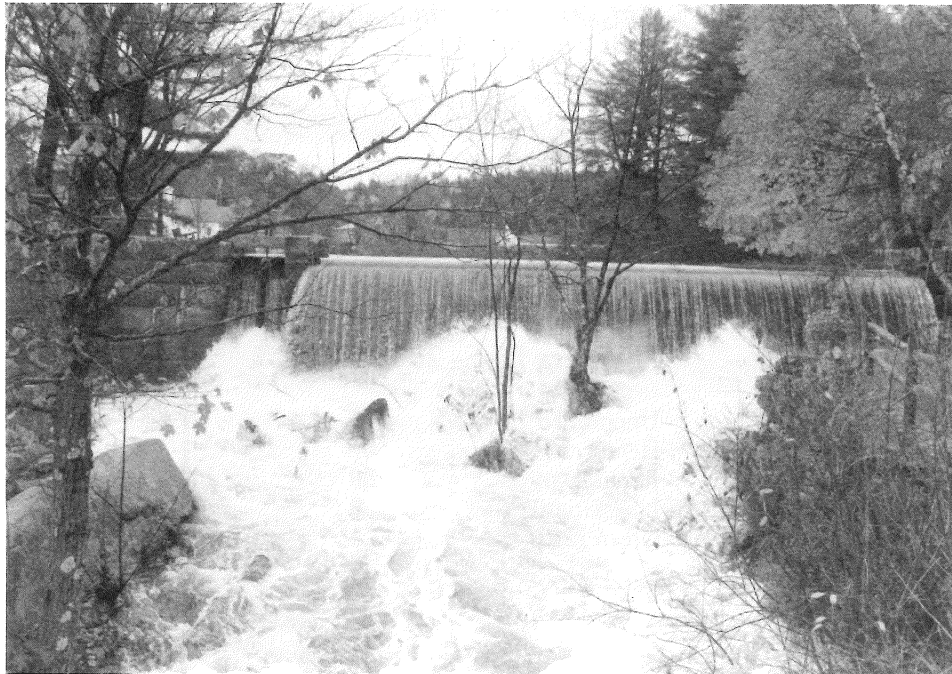
Voters List (Cont.)

Rossi, Martha A.	U	Soviecke, Mitchell	U	Veber, Carole A.	U	White, Glenn M.	U
Scrivens, Betty R.	U	Sprague, Brandon A.	U	Veber, Ellsworth W. Jr.	R	White, Susan M.	D
Scrivens, David F.	R	Sprague, Katherine D.	R	Veber, Florence M.	U	Williams, Albert R.	U
Shafer, Renate Lese	U	Sprague, Kevin D.	U	Veber, George F.	R	Williams, Frederick N.	U
Sherman, Connie P.	U	Stetson, Jane B.	U	Veber, Shirley	R	Williams, James H.	R
Sherman, Dohn W.	U	Stetson, Wendell L.	U	Veber, Terry	U	Williams, James (Tom)	R
Shields, Helen R.	D	Stickney, Barbara	R	Vega, Brian	U	Williams, John H.	R
Shumway, Katherine	U	Swenson, Kristen C.	R	Vernes, Elizabeth A.	U	Williams, Nancy N.	R
Sibley, Mary E.	R	T aylor, James W.	U	Vernes, Ian Arie	U	Williams, Robert O.	U
Sittinger, Robert G., Jr.	R	Taylor, Sharon L.	U	Volland, Phyllis E.	D	Williams, Susan A.	U
Smith, Floyd W.	U	Taylor, Susan Berry	U	W ayne, David B.	D	Wilson, Douglas Rev.	D
Smith, Phyllis T.	U	Tower, Christine A.	U	Wayne, Rebecca B.	D	Wilson, Marilyn	R
Snivley, Mary Elizabeth	R	Tower, Richard A., Sr.	R	Webster, Gideon K.	U	Wood, Jennifer Y.	D
Snyder, Catherine T.	U			Weller, James D.	U	Wood, Susan Carol	D
Snyder, Timothy C.	R	V adeboncoeur, Joseph A.	U	Wessman, Daniel J.	U	Woodside, Margaret M.	D
Soviecke, Anna	U	VanItallie, JeanClaude	U	White, Gerrit C.	U	Woodward, Eleanor L.	U
Soviecke, Karen	U					Woodward, Martin V.	U

Town of Rowe Voters List - 2003

Unenrolled	172
Democrat	47
Republican	50
Libertarian	3
Green Party	1
Total Voters	273

SCWood 11/19/03

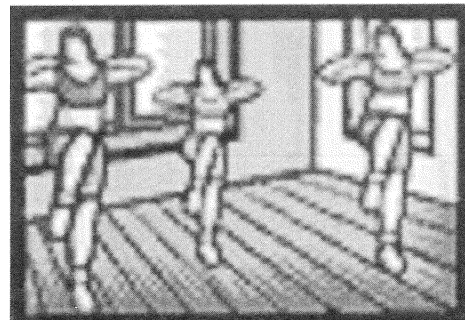


Hgh water over Mill Pond Dam

Tower Photo



CULTURE & RECREATION



Cultural Council

During the year January to December 2003 the Rowe Cultural Council met twice, once on November 4th and again on November 20th for the purpose of evaluating applications for grants to be made for 2004. Members of the Council are **Ellynn Packard, Sue Gleason, Bob Clancy** and **Anne Besgen**. Funds were awarded to 12 applicants for a total of \$2895. This is less than in previous years due to a reduction in funding from the state.

Successful applicants were all from West County or providing cultural activities in West County. The Council would like to have more applicants from Rowe next year. The number of persons likely to be served is a factor in the decisions of the Council. Two grants were made to the Rowe Council on Aging for music at their events, which serve elders primarily from Rowe and also Charlemont. No applications were received this year for music at Old Home Day.

The state requires that the Council have five members, and the Council is actively seeking a fifth person to serve. The members of the Council spend approximately 2 hours per year in meetings and the bulk of the work is done by the Chair, probably only totally about 10 to 15 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellynn Packard, Chair

Library Trustees

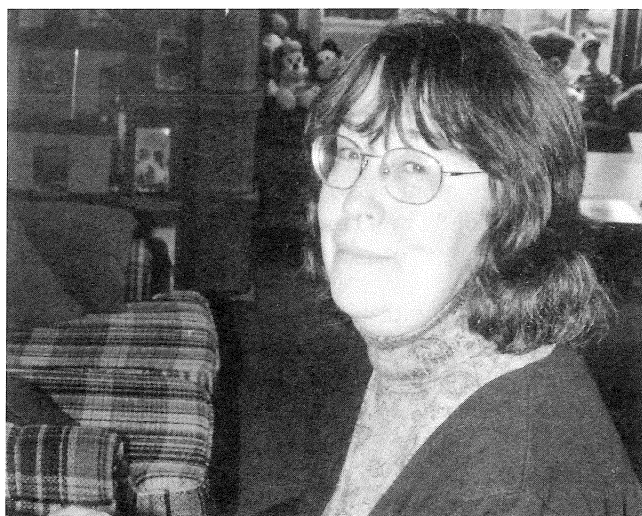
The year 2003 was a sad year for us. Our beloved Library Director **Martha Rice** died after a long and terrible illness. We all miss her so much. She was able to attend to summer reading/tracking program at the Pelham Lake Park which she had planned, with great enjoyment and anticipation. **Susan Gleason** was Acting Director up to this time.

The handicapped parking lot was prepared for paving in the spring by the road crew, and they did a superb job. The lot was paved and it is so much easier and safer for patrons to go in and out. Also many patrons who could not manage the stairs now can walk in the back door.

The Trustees attended a meeting in Amherst at the Jones Library. The panel distributed information about the Patriot Act and the impact it would have on libraries everywhere.

We furnished the main room with new furniture and rug. The decor is very tasteful. It now looks comfortable and welcoming. The colors are lighter and more cheerful.

Daureen Petersen (chairman) had a heart attack in August and heart surgery in September. She is recovering. The



Tower Photo

Sue Gleason, Rowe Town Library Director

Trustees did a great job keeping things going as did Sue Gleason. Sue was hired as Library Director after we interviewed for the position. We feel we are so lucky to have her.

We are planning a memorial plaque for Martha. She had wanted a mantel clock, and we are arranging for that now.

The insurance company recommended that we replace the front door (with its opening for book returns) with a separate stand-alone book drop. The book drop has been purchased and has been installed on the front porch.

The Book Group continues to meet on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Daureen Petersen, Chair
Joanne Brown
Evelyn Dandeneau



JH Williams Photo

*Newly redecorated Rowe Town Library and Alan Bjork,
Librarian Assistant*

Old Home Day Committee

The Old Home Day weekend of July 11-13, 2003, began with a potluck dinner and dance on the town green Friday night. Approximately 50 people ate under the tent and danced to the DJ **"The Dance Party."** A great time was had by all.

Saturday started with the **Fishing Derby at Jack and Nancy Williams'** Highland Pond. The weather was perfect with blue skies and low humidity. Only six fish were caught, but the kids were all happy when they all went home with tackle boxes provided by fishing derby sponsor Jim Daneker of Potter Road.

The theme for the day was **"Mardis Gras in Rowe."** Many floats, bikes, tractors and fire trucks showed up for the Old Home Day Parade. The afternoon continued with entertainment in the gazebo, food vendors, kids' games, the closest-to-the-pin golf contest and craft vendors.



Donelson Photo

Everybody's favorite...Rowe Community Church's Strawberry Shortcake Booth

The chicken barbeque was again a huge success thanks to the **Readsboro Lions Club**. Over 400 dinners were served. [This is the biggest event each year for this Lions club. It is quite an effort on their part...resulting in the best barbeque chicken around.] Even with just a bit of rain it didn't keep people from attending. As always the children loved to watch **Bob Clancy**, Rowe School Daredevil Principal, jump from a plane and land at the town-owned Soule property.

The day ended with an always fun concert at the beach by the local band **"Small Change,"** and the closing ceremonies.

The Gymkhana was held on Sunday with many town children entering ponies in the Beginners' Level. Many ribbons and prizes were won by the riders, and spectators came to cheer, on all of the participants. The **Rowe OHD**

Gymkhana is the first in the Tri-County Gymkhana Series.

The Old Home Day Committee also hosted a **"Surf 'N Squeal"** pig roast and steamed clam dinner at the Park on August 16th. Once again the Readsboro Lions Club outdid themselves. The meal was wonderful! Yankee Notions was the entertainment for the night, thanks to the Rowe Cultural Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Danek, Chairperson
Jenn Morse
Brandon Sprague
Margaret Woodside
Carol Lively
Sean Loomis
Dick Alix
Sheila Furgerson



Donelson Photo

Grand Marshals Sarah Jane Gracy, Donald Lindabury and Ellsworth Palmer with chauffeur Jack Williams



Tower Photo

Guests of Honor Pearl and Karl Jurentkuff and Mary Sibley

Park Commission

The year 2003 was one of continued growth for the park. Under the guidance of our Park Ranger, **Sean Loomis**, we have been able to develop and expand services to townspeople throughout the year. The increase in usage of the Fitness Center moved the Park Commission to request additional hours for Fitness Director **Marie Phillips**. At the November Special Town Meeting, an increase to 17 hours per week was approved. Many townspeople have utilized Marie's expertise, and the Park Commission would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to her. The Fitness Center is utilizing the Town Hall Assembly Room. Town funding enabled us to upgrade 2 pieces of equipment this year....we now have a commercial grade *Precor* treadmill and new *Precor* elliptical training machine. Two Healthy Eating classes were offered along with 7 different exercise classes, Attendance figures were excellent. As of this report 50 town residents are working with Marie on an individualized exercise training plan.

May elections brought **Mary Jo Phelps** on board as a new Park Commissioner. Mary Jo filled the position previously held by **Ellen Babcock**. Thank you Ellen for your

love and interest in the park in the time spent as Park Commissioner. The following month the board accepted the resignation of **Karl Jurentkuff**. Karl and his wife Pearl had sold their home in Rowe and were moving to Cape Cod. It goes without saying that we wish to thank Karl for his service to the park and his dedication to a job well done. The Selectboard and Park Commissioners jointly appointed **Michael Laffond** to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Jurentkuff. Mike grew up in Rowe and is an avid outdoorsman. His fresh outlook and willingness to serve are deeply appreciated.

Each summer the Park offers swim lessons to children from Rowe. A new swim raft was installed in time for Old Home Day. In addition, tennis lessons were available to all age groups. A five-week recreational program headed up by **Jennifer Morse** saw 46 participants. The Park summer schedule was non-stop and was host to five guided hikes, 2 dances, 6 senior picnics, 7 Friday night movies, and a staggering 36 Rowe family picnics with over 1,000 attendees! All of the staff at the park are doing an exemplary job and should be commended. The facilities are maintained in A-1



Aerial View of Pelham Lake Beach and Swimming area.

Donelson Photo



Donelson Photo

A favorite picnic spot at Pelham Lake Park

condition and staff members are the friendliest and most helpful to be found anywhere. This summer saw the addition of a wonderful new trail to the Park System. The "Davis Mine Loop Trail." All new trail signs were erected, a canoe rack for residents was built at the dam spillway, and a GPS mapping project including pocket guide trails map and a 4' x 6' map kiosk is in the works. Building maintenance included a new cedar roof for the Browning Bench building. Long range plans for this beautiful historical building are insulating and finishing the interior so that it may be utilized as a warming shed for cross country skiers. Access to trails groomed with the park snowmobile is located nearby this building.

Roger Brown, at the recommendation of Marie, has participated in the CPR Certification Course offered at Baystate Medical Center. Roger completed his studies and passed the rigorous testing required. Thanks to Roger for his continuing commitment to the safety of our fitness center attendees.

It is the Park Policy to complete an employee evaluation on an annual basis. The Park Commissioners voted to adopt the same guidelines the Rowe Elementary School utilizes. By doing so we hope to judge job performance in a professional way.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Jo Phelps, Chair
Jack Williams
Michael Laffond

Thanks to all of our Staff. You've all done a great job this past year.

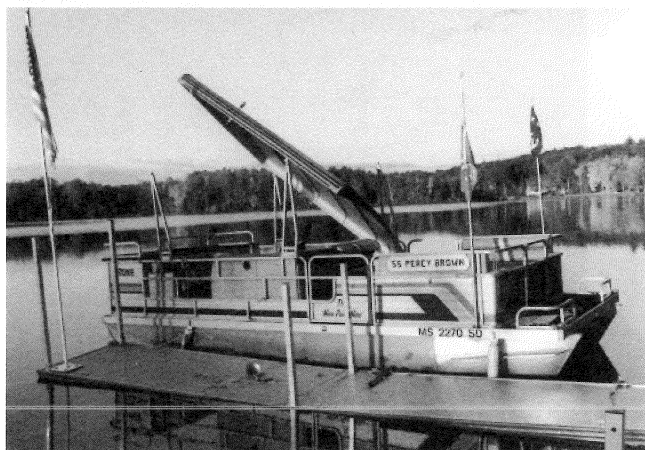
Tim Bradley
Ben Foberg
Al Morse
Courtney Powell
Roger Brown
Peter Besgen

Jeremy Hoffman
Pat Bradley
Maya Donelson
Jennifer Morse
Marie Phillips
Carol Lively



Tower Photo

Park Ranger Sean Loomis burning brush

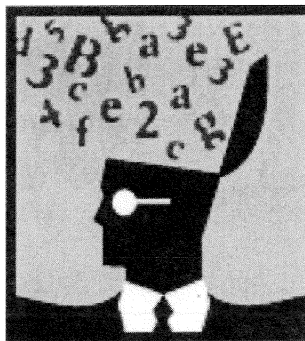


Tower Photo

*The SS Percy Brown sustained some wind damage,
but was repaired in no time.*



EDUCATION



Congratulations Graduates Class of 2003

Mohawk Trail Regional High School

Kirsten Foberg



North Carolina School of the Arts

Arolyn Williams



School Committee

We have had another productive and interesting year at our school. We have seen the money that is so generously appropriated by the town used to fund programs that benefit the children in our care at the elementary level and continue through middle and high school.

An outstanding example is the Spanish language program which is unique in our area and which our graduates are now, with the town's money, able to pursue at the Middle School level. Proficiency in a second language is very quickly lost if there is no chance to continue with conversation and study. Our 7th, graders have that opportunity. In a recent meeting with parents and students, there was a general agreement that having a Spanish language class at Mohawk (our kids tested at the 9th grade level while still at Rowe) must continue.

A lot has been said about the advantage of early education in technology. Our school not only has the hardware for our students but also the know-how of our staff to make that hardware useful to them for the future. The desktop publishing that the upper class is doing with Colleen King in the after-school program is very sophisticated. The students will carry these skills to high school and beyond.

Everyone in the school building benefits from the new lighting and the better ventilation, especially in the nurse's office and in the small classroom used for speech therapy and other services.

As we look around us at the massive program cuts and agony they cause for school committees, town officials, parents and students, we realize again how fortunate we are to have the continued support from the town and the economics to support it.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Rice, Chair
Margaret Woodside
Lisa Danek Burke

School Enrollments

Rowe Elementary School

35	Rowe residents
26	School of Choice (includes 7 Pre-School)
	(2) Heath
	(14) Charlemont
	(6) Colrain
	(2) Shelburne Falls
	(2) Buckland
61	TOTAL Rowe Elementary School
	[Started year at 64...2 moved, 1 withdrew to home school]

Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School

19	From Rowe
	[Started year at 21... 1 withdrew to home school, 1 moved]

Franklin County Technical High School

4	From Rowe
	[Started year at 6... 1 moved, 1 withdrew]

Hampshire Education Collaborative (High School)

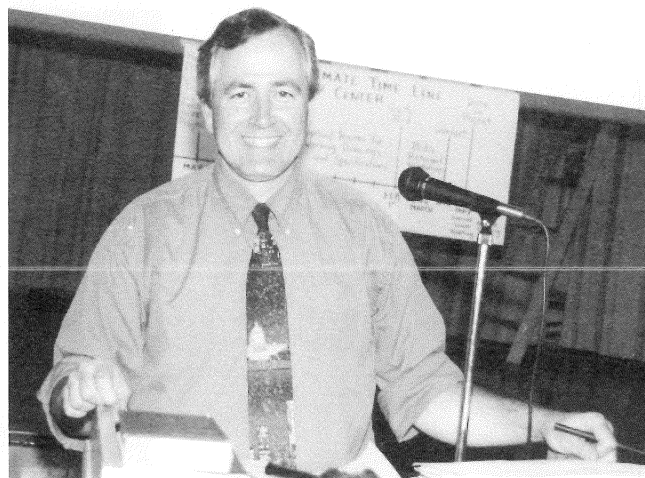
1	From Rowe
---	-----------

School Choice -Out

1	To Heath Elementary School
---	----------------------------

Home Schooled Students

4	Elementary level
1	Middle School/High School level
5	TOTAL Home Schooled



Donelson Photo
Bob Clancy, Rowe Elementary School Principal

Rowe Elementary School - Principal's Report

I am very pleased to submit the Annual Town Report for the Rowe Elementary School. Calendar year 2003 proved to be another good year for our school and its students. Student numbers increased both from in town residents and by way of school choice. The curriculum continues to be challenging, rewarding and fun. Students find learning an adventure in this way, which results in a great start to life-long learning. Our Massachusetts Comprehensive Testing (MCAS) proves this as students' scores continue to be above State averages. Strategies in test taking as well as general instruction in the format of standardized tests are presented to students—but it is the in-depth and thematic units that continue to be the rule in classrooms, and we will not “teach to the test.”

We sent our first group of students to Mohawk with six years of Spanish language instruction from teacher Colleen King. Our sixth grade students were observed by a visiting team from the high school and found to be at or above a high school Spanish level II. The Rowe School Committee committed the funding for a teacher at Mohawk to work with these students each day as the six-week elective that was available would not have met the needs of these students.



Tower Photo

Cindy Laffond, Rowe Elementary School Secretary

Our teachers continued to meet for annual grade level meetings and participated in content specific committees with other teachers from the schools within the Mohawk and Hawlemont School Districts. Teachers attended workshops, took coursework outside of the district for professional development, engaged in discussion in staff meetings and inservice days in the areas of mathematics, science, language arts, technology and other areas of student learning which has provided information for ongoing improvement to our curriculum and the delivery of instruction.

The school wide Cultural Studies Unit this past year was India. An artist-in-residence, Ranjaana Devi, worked with students for a week that culminated in an evening of theater. Primarily one of dance with the K-6 students that featured the five elements of space and creation, water, the wedding dance, fire and wind, was a delight for the entire community. Pre-school students were also featured with a presentation of the play “Aani and the Tree-Huggers.” Mini-courses that students participated in during the unit included block printing, Mandela’s, constructing a doorway arch and huts for the show and cooking. Evie Dandeneau, with the help of Margaret Woodside and other staff and parent volunteers, put on a community lunch of Indian food that was absolutely scrumptious.

We were able to once again visit Washington DC for our 5-day extended field trip having changed the destination the previous year due to security concerns in our Nation’s Capital. The trip included a visit with our Congressional Representative, John Olver and we were able to view ongoing debate in the House on the Homeland Security Act. Smithsonian Museums, a play at the Kennedy Center, Arlington National Cemetery and many of our National Memorials were also visited. In 2004 the extended field trip for fifth and sixth grade students will be to Natures Classroom in Kingston, Massachusetts.



Tower Photo

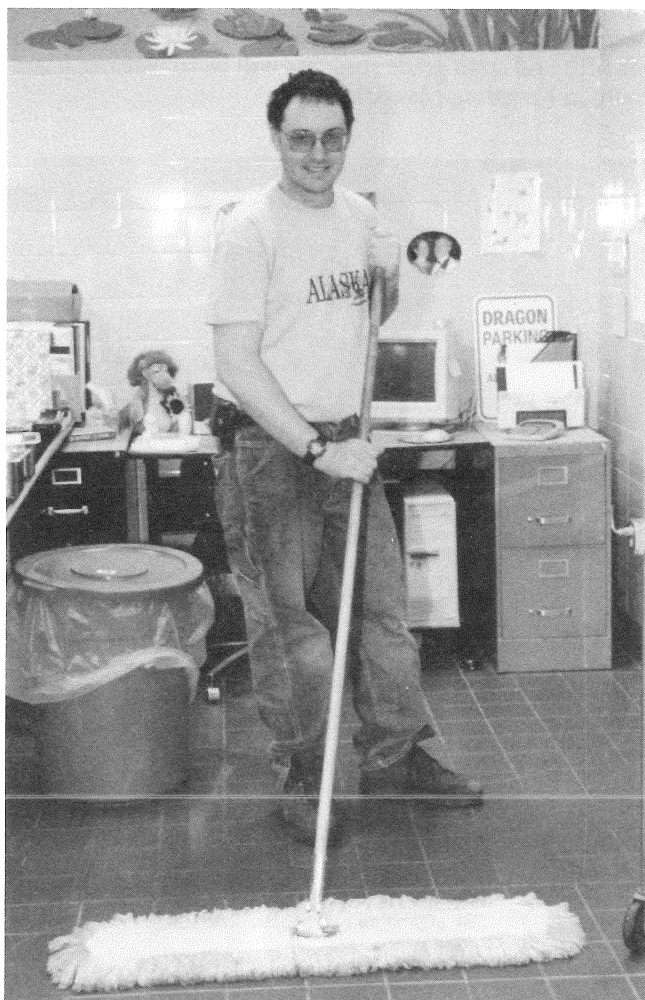
Evie Dandeneau, Rowe Elementary School Cafeteria Manager

The handicapped ramp was completed as well as the installation of new classroom ceilings and lights and HVAC improvements in the specialists' rooms and offices. We have an ongoing capital improvement plan for our forty-five year old school to ensure it remains a safe and first-rate facility. The next steps include a new well away from the parking lot to prevent possible contamination (this is a recommendation of the DEP), an engineering survey and recommendations for improvement to poor drainage on the property, possible relocation of athletic fields, and a library/media center.

The entire staff and I would like to thank the Town of Rowe for its continued support of the Rowe Elementary School and the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School where our students continue their learning adventure.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Clancy, Principal



Tower Photo

Brandon Sprague, Rowe Elementary School Custodian

Rowe Elementary School District Superintendent

It is with great pleasure that I submit my sixth report as Superintendent. A special thanks to Maggie Rice, Chairperson, Margaret Woodside and Lisa Danek-Burke for serving as your School Committee representatives. Their strong leadership, numerous hours in School Committee meetings and other school related activities, and their commitment to public education and doing what is in the best interest of students is greatly appreciated. They have a passion to meet the needs of all students attending the Rowe Elementary School. I also wish to recognize the teachers and support staff for all they do in helping students achieve their goals as well as parents, community officials and the townspeople for their continued support and cooperation. I understand why many people refer to it as the best public "private" school in Massachusetts. You have every reason to be proud.

We are fortunate that the residents of Rowe have demonstrated strong support for public education by providing financial support for the education of students not only at Rowe Elementary but also Franklin County Technical School and Mohawk Trail Regional School. Providing financial assistance to fund a technology position at Mohawk has directly benefited Rowe students as well as Mohawk students. In addition, the provision of funds to help support a Spanish teacher allowed Rowe students to continue receiving Spanish instruction in seventh grade. Without this funding it would not have been possible to offer this service. You have lead by example and the state should follow your lead. Because it is important to continue the Spanish program for eighth grade students along with new seventh grade students and there is a continued need to have technology support to keep the system and equipment operating, these two positions will be included in the Rowe Elementary School budget instead of having separate warrant articles at Town Meeting. We are hopeful that you will continue to see the value of these critical positions.

The School Committee continues to direct the priorities in their 3-year building facility plan. Your support has helped renovate areas of the building and is money well spent to protect your investment. Principal Robert Clancy, who once served as the director of facilities at Mohawk, has a strong background in plant maintenance and has been able to serve as "clerk of the works" in supervising projects. This have saved money and ensured that the work is being completed according to specifications. I very much appreciate the effort and energy he has devoted to maintaining and improving the school facility.

The Principal and Staff are gearing up for the lengthy process of reaccreditation. Rowe Elementary is the only elementary school in the immediate area to be accredited



Donelson Photo

Looking south over Rowe Elementary School, Pelham Lake, Adams Mountain and beyond.

by the NEASC. This is a distinction that the School Committee is proud to hold. The accreditation process has direct benefit to staff and students as teachers and the principal critically examine seven areas. This study and review results in a strategic action plan that will elevate student achievement and improve the operation of the school. We are pleased to have dedicated professionals that recognize the benefits of the accreditation process.

Rowe Elementary is the only school that I am aware of that has computer technology fully integrated into the teaching and learning equation. Students routinely use computer technology to conduct research, prepare reports, communicate, solve problems and do presentations. Recently students and staff produced a school calendar that was very impressive and professionally done. I am amazed at the technical sophistication that these students possess. Naturally, these achievements are a result of the staff setting high expectations for students and leading by example. The Rowe school promotes a nourishing learning environment for both students and staff. While students pursue their academic goals, many teachers attend workshops and enroll in courses to learn more about improving their instructional practices and

expanding their subject content knowledge. The students move on to Mohawk with a solid foundation for learning. This would not be possible without your support.

Cynthia Laffond, School Secretary, is to be recognized for her many years of service as she contemplates retirement. The daily routine of the school has operated smoothly as a result of her efforts. In addition, although she does not work at the school, Melissa Quinn certainly should be recognized for her many contributions in monitoring and processing the school budget. She has been a terrific resource for the Principal, Business Administrator and myself. They will be missed and we wish them both well in their retirement.

I close this report with one last comment. Rowe Elementary is an excellent example of a community school. I am proud to serve as its Superintendent and encourage you all to visit the school and become involved in the education of its students. It is a privilege to work with this caring School Committee, dedicated staff and supportive townspeople. I look forward to the many successes that will follow in the years ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan D. Genovese, Ed. D.

Mohawk Trail Regional School - Principal's Report

It is an honor to present my twenty-second annual report as Principal of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The past year has been marked by many achievements, but also by the single largest retrenchment of staff and programs in the history of the school.

Last year Mohawk was notified that it was awarded a ten-year reaccréditation by the New England Association of School and Colleges. The sixty-page report highlighted many commendations and provided the school with a blueprint for further development of its academic programs and organization. We look forward to the challenges enumerated in the report.

Systematic efforts to expand the use of technology in every classroom have been reinforced through Project MEET, a grant to provide staff with in-house technology consultants. Major efforts are also underway to restructure professional development programs with the school. Every Mohawk graduate must demonstrate proficiency in computer applications.

Examination of our curriculum and MCAS test results form an integral part of daily life at Mohawk. Ninety-eight percent of seniors show mastery of MCAS materials and the efforts are made through specialized remediation to increase the skills of students who have not yet passed. We still maintain our commitment to Advanced Placement courses and have added Advanced Placement United States History through a distance video, conferencing program with Gateway High School. This same technology allows

Mohawk students and staff to take Advanced Programming Courses through Westfield State College.

Athletics and music remain integral to the life of the school. We have maintained sports offerings by increasing user fees and other revenue sources. The middle school musical "Wind in the Willows" was very successful and the high school production of "Les Misérables" appears to be headed for a huge success.

The past two years have marked the largest staff reduction and program elimination since the founding of the school in 1967. Twenty-two full time staff positions were eliminated. All students' options in accounting, woodwork, metal work, auto mechanics, cooking, child development and other areas were eliminated. Many class sizes in the high school soared into the mid-thirties, stretching the physical limits of classroom space. This trend cannot be sustained and many efforts are underway to increase school resources. We thank all those involved.

Philip A. Dzialo
Principal

Mohawk Trail Regional School District Annual Library/Media Services Report

The year 2003 can best be described as the beginning of yet another era fraught with fiscal dilemmas. With the advent of the 2003-2004 academic year in September deep budget cuts adversely affected the school library/media programs. One high school library position was eliminated entirely, necessitating grant and fundraising support, and all but the Rowe Elementary School Library manager positions were reduced. The meager book, equipment and supply budgets became almost nonexistent.

Once again, however, the admirable resiliency and dedication of the district staff made it possible for many of the services to continue. Volunteerism, generosity, innovation and creativity are some of the key words that best describe the current motis operandi. We are incredibly grateful to the ongoing support of so many people like Ray Purington, Barbara Pantermehl, Joanne MacLean, Bambi Miller of the Tyler Memorial Library and organizations such as the Friends of the Heath School Library. The personnel in our school library/media services program are as follows:

Colrain Central	Eugenie Lynch
Sanderson	Beverly Williams
Heath	Wanda Musacchio
Rowe	Colleen King
Hawlemont	Mary Boehmer
Buckland-Shelburne	Toni Wilcox
Mohawk	Carrie Ferretti and Judy Willis

Despite a major reduction in library hours in most of the elementary schools, the following circulation statistics reflect a continued commitment to the children in our school district:

January through December 2003

	Print	Non-Print	ILL	Total
Mohawk	3,613	376	246	4,235
BSE	8,154	872	150	9,176
Colrain	8,271	52	14	8,337
Hawlemont	6,522	76	4	6,602
Heath	3,976	130	39	4,145
Rowe	2,972	56	12	3,040
Sanderson	9,179	50	9	9,238
Totals	42,687	1612	474	44,773

My wish for 2004 is that our school libraries are once again fully staffed, overflowing with beautiful new books and happy children reading above grade level.

Susan B. Silvester, Ed.D.
Director of Instructional Media K-12

Mohawk Trail Regional School District Library/Media Services Program Highlights

- An opening day new book collection was purchased for the Hawlemont Elementary School Library through the Capital Campaign.
- The Buckland-Shelburne Regional School Library received a \$5,500 grant from the Ida Miller Trust at the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts through the Mary Lyon Foundation; this grant will receive a 3:1 match for new books through the Capital Campaign.
- A handmade quilt was created in the Mohawk Trail pattern in the Mohawk blue and gold colors by Mohawk staff Judy Willis and Carrie Ferretti to be raffled as a fundraiser to benefit the Resource Center.
- The Colrain Central School Library and Hawlemont School Library gave all students brand new and used books for their home libraries.
- Computer use of *ibook* laptops at the high school Resource Center has exceeded 9,500 circulations in 2003.
- The ambitious Friends of the Heath School Library raised funds for new books this year through a book fair, tag sale at the Heath Fair, celebration of books program and food sale at the Annual Town Meeting.
- The Rowe Elementary School Library and Spanish language classes have become an exciting, integral part of the elementary school curriculum due in large measure to the extraordinary teaching skills of the Library Manager.

Mary Lyon Foundation

The Mary Lyon Foundation, aka Mary Lyon Education Fund, was incorporated in March of 1991 for the purpose of providing educational resources to the schools and communities of West County. As a 501(c)3 community-based, non-profit organization, the Mary Lyon Foundation sponsors programs and services which benefit local education, such as a Student Assistance Fund for needy children, special education, psychology and history conferences for teachers, summer tennis lessons, a Children's Literature Festival, capital campaigns to raise money for the schools, publication of a Gift Catalog/classroom wish list, mini-grants for teachers, an annual district-wide spelling bee for 5th and 6th graders, scholarships, West County Classroom courses, a rural health initiative and much more. Our ongoing mission is to support excellence in local education.

This past year marked the culmination of five years of fundraising through a series of major capital campaigns for the Heath, Mohawk, Colrain, Buckland-Shelburne, Sanderson and Hawlemont Schools. These vital campaigns, launched during the window of opportunity while school construction and renovation projects were underway, raised a total of nearly a million dollars, and that amount has been matched by the state in a 3:1 ratio to provide computer labs, playground equipment, a new track at Mohawk, science equipment, library books, classroom furniture and so much more for our schools. The final campaign in 2003 benefited the Hawlemont Elementary School, and thanks to an energetic committee, exceeded the goal of \$75,000. The Mary Lyon Foundation, capital campaign committees and staff in these schools wish to extend a very special thank-you to all the business and individuals who so generously supported our fundraising efforts. The overwhelming community support for excellence in local education exceeded our expectations.

The Board of Directors meets every third Thursday at the 6 Water Street office in Shelburne Falls. Members of the Board of Directors are Marion Taylor (President), Winston Healy and Curtis Rich (Vice Presidents), Lynn Dole and Sharon Hudson (Secretaries), Lewis Goodnow (Treasurer), Tiffany Connelly and Annabelle Lytle-Rich (Mohawk Trail Regional School Student Representatives), Steve Warnecke, Carolyn Taylor, Pat Kerrins, Danny Field, Hugh Knox, Gerhard Stebich, Tom Ulrich, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alan Genovese and Susan Silvester. The Mary Lyon Foundation is proud to be a member of the Public Education Network in Washington, D.C., a national umbrella organization for local education funds.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan B. Silvester, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Carl H. Nilman Scholarship Fund

The fund was established under the provisions of the will of Carl H. Nilman for the purpose of providing scholarships. Recipients shall be graduates of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School who desire and are deemed worthy of post high school education or training and who are in need of financial assistance.

This year the Awards Subcommittee read 95 applications. 35 were from seniors and 60 from previous graduates of Mohawk. \$45,000 was to be awarded using 30% for seniors and 70% for graduates. The committee feels that the seniors have ample scholarship funds awarded from other sources while graduates have far fewer resources. 26 scholarships totaling \$13,600 were awarded to seniors (75% of applicants). 48 scholarships totaling \$31,400 were given to graduates (80% of applicants).

The awards committee was: Michele Hillman (Colrain), Pauline Mills (Buckland), Marge Porrevecchio (Charlemont), Marion Scott (Buckland) and Alicia Tripp (Heath). Other members of the committee are: Ken Chaffee, Bob Gruen, Sarah Rice, Julie Aron, Marguerite Willis, Mary Link, Karen Sovieke, Carolyn Taylor (formerly Jarmulowicz), Richard Bole and David Engle.

From 1991 - 2002: \$149,275 has been awarded to Mohawk Seniors and \$329,775 has been awarded to Mohawk graduates for total scholarship amounts of \$479,050.

The Mohawk community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nilman for his foresight in supporting higher education for students of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School. The members of the committee are honored to bring the wishes of his will to fruition.

Students of any age who are graduates of Mohawk are encouraged to apply. Call the guidance office at Mohawk for information as to requirements and deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Hillman, Secretary

Department of Special Education

The December 1, 2003 Special Education Child Count in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District stands at 284. This represents 18% of the total student population.

The Hawlemont Regional School District is servicing 27 students on Individualized Education Plans, which represents 20% of the total school population.

The Rowe School District is servicing 7 students on Individualized Education Plans, which represents 14% of the total school population.

The Mohawk Trail Regional District entered into a partnership with the Center School for Crises Intervention in 1998. This was the Buckland Shelburne Educational Project. This has been a very successful program. This year we expanded the program to include a middle and a high school classroom. Those two programs are located at the High School Middle School. All three programs have been blended together as Walnut Hill at Mohawk.

The special education staff members are now all familiar with the regulations instituted two years ago. From time to time we all struggle with how the regulations fit the student.

The identified areas of disability recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Education are: autism, developmental delay (up to age 9), intellectual impairment, sensory/hearing, sensory/vision, sensory/blind-deaf, neurological, emotional impairment, communication, physical, specific learning disability, and health impairment. Eight of these require an accompanying medical diagnosis.

The Child Study Team at the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle School High School continues into its second year. All elementary school have a Child Study Team as well, which provides assistance to students and teachers of students outside the Special Education system.

The Mohawk Trail, Hawlemont, and Rowe Districts provide special education services to preschool students ages 3-5 within the District's integrated preschools. The number of students referred for services in this age range has

increased this year. At the time of the December 1st report, there were 31 students in Mohawk Trail, 8 students in Hawlemont, and 2 in Rowe. There are several referrals in process. Some will qualify for services, some will not. The Early Childhood Coordinator performs the duties of the special education Team Chairperson, and conducts most of the screening and evaluations for the preschool and kindergarten students. She also acts as a liaison with parents, and outside agencies referring children for our services. She also coordinates the transition into kindergarten.

Throughout all three districts, we provide occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and language therapy, nursing care, assistive technology, counseling, and psychological evaluations. We receive Medicaid reimbursement for some of these services. We also have three staff members who devote part of their time to assisting teachers integrate students with significant needs into the mainstream.

Most special education programs in the three districts are provided within integrated settings. Students generally go to the resource, or small group rooms for occasional instruction.

In addition to the above mentioned Walnut Hill Program, we have the following separate programs at the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle School High School: a Middle School Language Based Learning Program, a High School Language Based Program, a Severe Needs Middle School Program, a Severe Needs High School Program, a Vocational Integration Program, and an Alternative Learning Program.

In each building there is a designated liaison who convenes Special Education Team Meetings, prepares Individualized Education Plans, and consults with the parents.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Morgan, Director
Pupil Personnel Service

Franklin County Technical School District

On behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District Committee and its administration, faculty and staff, we submit the annual report for 2003. Total enrollment as of October 1, 2002 was 507 students with town calculations as follows: Bernardston - 23; Buckland - 14; Colrain - 17; Conway - 10; Deerfield - 2; Erving - 10; Gill - 9; Greenfield - 126; Heath - 11; Leyden - 11; Montague - 78; New Salem - 8; Northfield - 17; Orange - 79; Shelburne - 13; Sunderland - 5; Warwick - 9; Wendell - 10; Whately - 10; and Non-District - 27.

2003 marked the first year that Massachusetts students were required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma; all but one student achieved that distinction. On June 7, the Franklin County Technical School awarded diplomas to 110 students and a state endorsed certificate of attainment to one of its members. After graduation, 40% of the students planned to continue their education, 5% entered the military and 51% entered the work force in positions directly related to their vocational area. Those in positions directly related to their field of study had been among the 18 students taking advantage of the school's work coop program prior to graduation.

During 2003, the students from various vocational programs performed an estimated \$61,000 worth of services on projects benefiting the various towns of Franklin County. Additionally, the Franklin County Technical School requires that all students must be involved in character building community service activities. To that end students were involved in: the annual coat drive; canned food drives; the maintenance of trails in Pelham State Park; rubbish pick-up for the businesses on Industrial Boulevard in Montague; the placement of flags on veterans' graves in Colrain; and the preparation of community meals in Montague. Outstanding students displaying the characteristics of honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility and citizenship were honored each month as "Character Counts" recipients.

Spring MCAS results indicated that Franklin County Technical School equaled the state's passing average in English, exceeded it in Math and exceeded it in English and Math combined. In the past three years, Franklin County Technical School has increased its passing rate in English by 20% and in Math by 30%. Based on these results, the Massachusetts Department of Education notified the Franklin County Technical School that it had received an Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determination for the third year in a row. Students demonstrated their vocational proficiencies in Information Technology, Welding/Metal Fab, Landscaping and Culinary Arts by winning regional, state and national competitions sponsored by Skills USA, FFA, BPA, Notch Construction, the Lincoln Arc Welding Association and Newbury College.

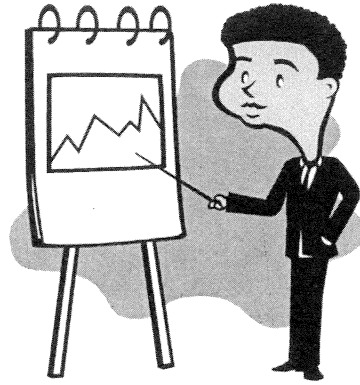
With substantial decreases in Chapter 70 aid and transportation reimbursements, Franklin County Technical School was forced to make dramatic cuts to its services to students in the form of staff and program reductions. Ten positions, all junior varsity and some varsity sports, the music program and the library/media specialist were among items eliminated from the FY04 budget. The total budget was down 6.5% from FY03.

Despite the fiscal picture, Franklin County Technical School remains committed to its mission of providing challenging academic and vocational programs for the students of Franklin County and looks forward to a ten year reaccreditation team visit from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in the fall of 2004. Sincere thanks to the citizens of Franklin County for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Clifford J. Fournier
School Committee Chairman

Patricia J. Bassett
Superintendent-Director/Principal



FINANCIAL REPORTS

Board of Assessors

Membership of the Board remained the same for this year as **Ellen Babcock** was re-elected at the annual town election in May 2003. Ellen also ran for and was elected to another seat on the Board of Selectmen. **Rick Williams** was nominated and elected Chairman when the board reorganized following the town election. Congratulations are in order for **Heidi Cousineau** who successfully completed her Assessors Classification Training program (Course 101) in this her third year on the board.

The board again thanks **Sandy Daviau**, Assessors' Clerk, for handling the day-to-day tasks in the Assessors Office. Sandy has a good deal of contact with the public and always manages to be gracious and helpful to everyone.

The Assessors Office continues to use the assessing software *Assess Pro* and the consulting services of **Patriot Properties** from Lynn MA.

The following routine items were handled at monthly meetings, as needed: **building permits** received from the building inspector were reviewed and field reviews were conducted as necessary to make any adjustments to property cards ...**deeds** recording property transfers received from the Franklin County Registry of Deeds were reviewed and compared to tax maps for verification of data and adjustments were made to property cards...**tax map changes** were documented and forwarded to the mapping service for update ...and **property and excise tax commitments and abatements** were reviewed and approved as required.

In planning for a periodic update of the tax maps (which was last performed in 1999), the Assessors proposed a **major revamp of the tax maps** to take advantage of significant improvements in mapping technology known as Geographic Information System (GIS). This process produces digital maps combined with aerial photography (available free from the state) which is then linked to the existing Assessors database software providing a fully integrated information system. Bids were solicited from three firms and **Cartographics Associates** from Littleton, NH was chosen contingent upon approval of a transfer of funds at a Special Town Meeting. Since the recently completed triennial revaluation process was accomplished for considerably less than had been budgeted, the Assessors proposed to transfer the leftover money to the GIS mapping project. The transfer of approximately \$30,000 was

approved at the FY03 Special Town Meeting just prior to the FY04 Annual Town Meeting. The new GIS tax map system is expected to be in place by the end of 2004.

Another initiative undertaken by the Assessors this year was to propose that the Town adopt a new change in the Mass General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22A-E regarding eligibility to file for **veterans exemptions**. This change, which reduces the domicile requirement from 5 years to 1 year, was approved at the FY04 Annual Town Meeting. At that time, Rowe was the first town in the state to have adopted this provision.

An annual agreement was again signed between the Town and **Yankee Atomic** for their FY04 valuation (\$10,629,856). As required by law, this agreement was approved at an FY04 Special Town Meeting in the fall of 2003.

The FY04 total town valuation was **\$422,051,703** with tax rates of **\$3.59** for Residential and **\$5.67** for CIP (Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property). This compares to a FY 03 total town valuation of \$421,575,303 with tax rates of \$3.49 (Residential) and \$5.52 (CIP).

Please feel free to visit the Assessors' Office during posted office hours or posted meeting times, or contact any of us directly.

Finally in closing, mention must be made of the retirement of **Melissa Quinn** as Town Accounting Officer and Administrative Assistant at the end of the year. Melissa has been a tremendous asset to the Town in keeping the day-to-day operations running smoothly. Her activities throughout the year are too numerous to count, but were particularly invaluable at budget time by maintaining the master budget worksheet, interfacing with the Selectmen, Finance Committee and Assessors, preparing the warrant, and of course putting together her award winning Annual Town Reports. We are truly grateful to have had the pleasure of working with this fine person and we wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick N. Williams, Chairman
Ellen L. Babcock
Heidi Cousineau

Board of Assessors

Property Transfers - 2003

BURT, ELIZABETH A. of Westfield, MA, **HERVIEUX, CHARLENE** of Springfield, MA, **CONWAY, DONNA M.** of West Springfield, MA and **BAINBRIDGE, CHARLES C.** of Tolland, CT, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **BAINBRIDGE, CHARLES C. & JANE** of Tolland, CT, property located off Ford Hill Road.

BURT, ELIZABETH A. of Westfield, MA, **HERVIEUX, CHARLENE** of Springfield, MA, **CONWAY, DONNA M.** of West Springfield, MA and **BAINBRIDGE, CHARLES C.** of Tolland, CT, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **BURT, ERNEST R. & ELIZABETH** of Westfield, MA, property located off Ford Hill Road.

BURT, ELIZABETH A. of Westfield, MA, **HERVIEUX, CHARLENE** of Springfield, MA, **CONWAY, DONNA M.** of West Springfield, MA and **BAINBRIDGE, CHARLES C.** of Tolland, CT, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **CONWAY, GREGORY J. & DONNA M.** of West Springfield, MA, property located off Ford Hill Road.

BURT, ELIZABETH A. of Westfield, MA, **HERVIEUX, CHARLENIE** of Springfield, MA, **CONWAY, DONNA M.** of West Springfield, MA and **BAINBRIDGE, CHARLES C.** of Tolland, CT, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **HERVIEUX, CARL E. & CHARLENE** of Springfield, MA, property located off Ford Hill Road.

BAGLEY, SR., GEOFFREY N. of Rowe, for no monetary consideration, grant to **BAGLEY, MARIE L.** of Rowe, property located at 21 Newell Cross Road.

VEBER, ELLSWORTH W. & SHIRLEY M. of Rowe, in consideration of \$5,000.00, grant to **MCKEE, JAMES** of Rowe, property located on Steele Brook Road.

SHUMWAY, DAVID B. of Lancaster, MA in consideration of \$12,000.00, grant to **ROBERTS, LEONARD H. & JOAN** of Ashfield, property located on Tunnel Road.

BENSON, FRANCIS S. & LUELLA M. of Rowe, in consideration of \$1.00 grant to **BENSON, FRANCIS S. & LUELLA M.** Trustees of **NINE PINE HILL DRIVE REALTY TRUST**, property located at 9 Pine Hill Drive.

VEBER, ELLSWORTH W. & SHIRLEY M. of Rowe, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **VEBER, TERRY & CAROL** of Rowe, property located on Middletown Hill Road.

WELLER, LORI C. Charlemont for no monetary consideration, grant to **WELLER, JAMES D.** of Rowe, property located at 202 Leshure Road.

JURENTKUFF, JR., KARL E. & VIRGINIA P., Trustees of the **JURENTKUFF TRUST** of Rowe, in consideration of \$165,000, grant to **ASH, BRIAN S. & PILOTTE, LAURIE L.** of Rowe, property located at 6 Pine Hill Drive.

COUSINEAU, DAVID A. & HEIDI of Rowe, for no consideration, grant to **COUSINEAU, DAVID & HEIDI** of Rowe, property located at 30 Old Cyrus Stage Road.

WILLIAMS, ALBERT R. of Rowe and **KARIN L.** of Greenfield, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **WILLIAMS, ALBERT R.**, property located at 58 Tatro Road.

GAUDRY, GEORGE L. of Rowe, for no monetary consideration, grant to **BUCHANAN, DEBRA L.** with a P.O. Box in Rowe, property located at 5 Pine Hill Drive.

FIELD ROOSA, CAROL of Alton, NH, Trustee of the **CDF REVOCABLE TRUST**, in consideration of \$100.00, grant to **FIELD, JR., FREDERICK D.**, Trustee of the **FIELD REALTY TRUST** of Littleton, MA, property located on Tunnel Road.

OLIVER, KATHLEEN G. of Rowe, in consideration of \$20,000.00, grant to **CROSSIN, JAMES J. & VICTORIA M.** of Worcester, MA, property located on Davis Mine Road & Old Davenport Road.

BELVAL, WILLIAM C. & MARILYN H. of Rowe, in consideration of \$1.00, grant an undivided one-half interest to **BELVAL, WILLIAM C.**, Trustee of the **BELVAL, WILLIAM C. TRUST & BELVAL, MARILYN H.**, Trustee of the **BELVAL, MARILYN H. LIVING TRUST**, property located at 154 Leshure Road.

AUTIO, HERBERT A. & ELSIE H., Trustee of the **HERBERT & ELSIE AUTIO TRUST** of Rowe, in consideration of \$219,000.00, grant to **ZAVOTKA, WAYNE A. & SUSAN L.** of Pataskala, OH, property located at 413 Tunnel Road.

SPRAGUE, KATHERINE D. Successor Trustee of the **JOHNSON, RUSSELL E. IRREVOCABLE REAL ESTATE TRUST**, in consideration of \$1.00, grant to **SPRAGUE, KEVIN D. & KATHERINE D.** of Rowe, property located on Ford Hill Road.

NOCK, CLAYTON of CT., in consideration of \$11,000, grant to **MAGNAGO, JOHN A.** of Florida, property located at 169 Ford Hill Road.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra P. Daviau
Assessors' Clerk



Sandra Daviau
Assessors' Clerk

Tower Photo

Finance Committee

Year 2003 saw a few changes in the Finance Committee membership. Carlos Heiligmann joined the committee and Lenny Laffond left us to become Selectmen once again. He was replaced with Myra Carlow. We will miss Lenny and his vast experience in town government affairs. Carlos and Myra both bring to the committee years of financial experience in the private sector. They joined Jean Atwood, Dave Lenth and Bill Loomis.

The committee met each month with the primary focus being: 1) the status of the ongoing budgets and 2) preparation for the FY2005 budget which begins on July 1, 2004. The committee worked closely with all departments, especially the Selectmen and Assessors relative to town financial matters.

This annual report covers the last half of fiscal FY2003 (1/1/03-6/30/03) and the first half of fiscal year FY2004 (7/1/03-12/31/03). Some important figures for the two subject fiscal years are: (figures are rounded to the nearest \$1000)

	FY2003	FY2004
Town Total Valuation	\$ 421,575,000	\$ 422,052,000
Residential Valuation	30,273,000	30,631,000
Indus/Commercial Val.	391,302,000	391,420,000
Total Appropriation (all sources)	3,160,000	3,147,000
From Taxation	2,266,000	2,329,000
From Free Cash	173,000	312,000
From Stabilization	599,000	275,000
Transfers	0	40,000
From State/Local Receipts	122,000	191,000
Appropriations/Transfers to Stabilization	125,000	125,000
Certified Free Cash	524,000	434,000
Proposition 2½ Figures		
Levy Ceiling	10,539,000	10,551,000
Levy Limit	2,270,000	2,330,000
Levy (see taxation above)	2,266,000	2,329,000

The town's Levy is the amount raised (or "levied") by taxation each year. Each town has a Levy Limit, which is the maximum figure that can be appropriated from taxation in any given year. The levy limit automatically increases by 2.5 % each year (per Proposition 2½) to a maximum tax rate of \$25/thousand, which equates to our Levy Ceiling (2.5% of Total Valuation). The 2.5% per year increase can only be overridden by town meeting vote.

Based on the FY2003 and FY2004 figures above... to operate the town in FY2003 we needed \$3,160,000. State/Local

receipts of \$122,000 lowered this value to \$3,038,000. To keep within Proposition 2½ limits we appropriated by taxation \$2,266,000. The remaining \$772,000 had to come from our reserve/saving account funds (Free Cash and Stabilization).

You can see that in FY2004 we reduced the money needed (\$3,147,000) to operate the town. But again to stay within Proposition 2½ Limits we had to withdraw \$587,000 from Free Cash and Stabilization.

The following table indicates the trend relative to town savings we the voters have selected the past few years:

Appropriations/Transfers to Stabilization:

FY2002	\$134K
FY2003	\$125K
FY2004	\$125K
Total	\$384K

Appropriations from Stabilization & Free Cash:

FY2002	\$438K
FY2003	\$772K
FY2004	\$587K
Total	\$1,797K

Certified Free Cash balance:

FY2002	\$573K
FY2003	\$524K
FY2004	\$434K

Based on the above you can see we are rapidly depleting our town savings. This savings is used to offset large capital projects and also could help the residential tax burden if the Industrial/Commercial tax contribution were to reduce. As of December 31, 2003 our Stabilization Fund was approximately two million dollars. Each year the town appropriates \$20,000 from Free Cash for the Reserve Fund. The Reserve fund, which is administered by the Finance Committee, is used throughout the year for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures. For FY2003 we had to transfer \$12,195 from the Reserve Fund to various departments that exceeded their annual budget appropriations. Comparing to past years, this was unusually high. This could be another indication that our town financial plan needs to be reviewed and possibly adjusted.

During the FY2004 budget hearings the Finance Committee realized that the salary of many of the Stipend Positions were far to low for the services being performed. Following an extensive review of each Stipend Position, appropriate adjustments were recommended by the Finance Committee. Several Finance Committee projects were started in 2003 and are currently in progress:

- Revising the budget process
- Creating a Capital Asset Inventory
- Developing a five year Special Project List for all departments

The Finance Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Stop by and voice your opinion and concerns. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Atwood
Dave Lenth
Carlos Heiligmann
Myra Carlow
Bill Loomis, Chairman

Tax Collector's Report - Fiscal Year 2003

July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003

Year/Tax	Outstanding	Commitments 7/1/02	Abate- ments	Tax Title	Payments	Refunds	Adjust- ments	Outstanding 6/30/03
98MVE	(11.25)	-	11.25	-	-	-	-	-
99MVE	(303.75)	-	275.00	-	-	-	-	(28.75)
00MVE	(67.50)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(67.50)
01MVE	(156.46)	-	-	-	83.96	-	-	(72.50)
02RE	(627.40)	-	-	-	477.76	-	-	(149.64)
02PP	(55.61)	-	-	-	42.01	-	-	(13.60)
02MVE	(918.13)	(6,054.39)	584.26	-	6,383.11	(584.54)	-	(589.69)
03RE	-	(1,825,766.10)	1,256.98	-	1,822,470.26	(297.83)	-	(2,336.69)
03PP	-	(439,874.73)	-	-	439,301.59	-	-	(573.14)
03MVE	-	(31,741.37)	1,374.57	-	29,753.55	(555.82)	-	(1,169.07)
TOTAL	(2,140.10)	(2,303,436.59)	3,502.06	-	2,298,512.24	(1,438.19)	-	(5,000.58)

MISC. COLLECTIONS

LIEN FEES:	1,075.00
DEMAND & WARRANT FEES:	135.00
DEPUTY COLLECTOR FEES:	184.00
INTEREST ON OVERDUE TAX PAYMENTS:	266.36
INTEREST TURNED OVER TO TREASURER:	100.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra P. Daviau, Tax Collector



Tower Photo

Treasurer's Report

Trust Funds FY2003

Name of Fund	Balance 7/1/2002	Transfer in	Interest	Transfer out	Balance 6/30/2003
M. Wells Memorial Library	7420.35		\$137.35		\$7,557.70
Cemetery	16946.11		\$306.14	4411.00	\$16,841.25
Rowe Library Gift	361.46		\$6.69		\$368.15
Charles Wells Library	2945.91		\$54.55		\$3,000.46
Preserved Smith Library	2539.39		\$47.01		\$2,586.40
Gould Library	14299.49		\$264.75		\$14,564.24
Foster Donation	2639		\$48.86		\$2,687.86
White Memorial Library	4652.12		\$86.13		\$4,738.25
L. Tower/Jones Library	4652.12		\$86.13		\$4,738.25
Rowe Memorial Scholarship	3440.32		\$63.67	-\$25.00	\$3,478.99
TOTALS	59896.27	\$0.00	\$1,101.28	-\$436.00	\$60,561.55

Stabilization Fund FY2003

Beginning Balance 7/1/2002	\$2,711,264.10
Transfers to General Fund	-\$883,897.00*
Transfers from General Fund	\$270,172.00
Interest earned 7/1/02 to 6/30/03	\$31,681.97

Balance as of June 30, 2003 \$2,129,221.07

**A portion of this amount (\$100,000) was borrowed to offset costs in anticipation of tax revenues and was paid back when tax monies were received.*

Agency Account FY2003

Beginning Balance 7/1/2002	\$3,320.56
Deposits	\$5,460.56
Withdrawals	-\$4,425.92
Interest	\$48.23
Balance as of June 30, 2003	\$4,403.43

Respectfully submitted,
Susan A. Williams, Treasurer



McKee Photo
Susan Williams, Treasurer

Town Accountant

All requisite reports were filed with the State and Federal authorities, including Schedule A, Free Cash Balance Sheet, quarterly reconciliation of cash, employer state and federal tax reports, Franklin County Retirement monthly reports, Massachusetts Teacher's Retirement Reports, Department of Employment and Training reports, and Chapter 90 Reports to mention only a few.

Due to my retirement December 30, 2003, for the final time I want to express my appreciation to Treasurer Susan

Williams, Tax Collector/Assessors' Clerk Sandra Daviau and our auditor, Scott Sawyer. Without their help, support, knowledge, patience and dedication, my job would have been impossible.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn
(Former) Town Accountant

Town Accountant - Revenue & Expenditures

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 61, "The town accountant shall make an annual report, to be published as a town document, giving a statement of all receipts and expenditures of the town for the past financial year..."

General Fund - Revenue

Taxes

Personal Property Taxes	439,875.00*
Real Estate Taxes	1,822,478.00*
Motor Vehicle Excise	34,894.00
Penalties/Interest	366.00
In Lieu of Taxes	1,425.00
Total	2,299,038.00

Charges for Service/Other Departmental Revenues

Other Departmental Revenues	6,110.00
Total	6,110.00

Licenses, Permits and Fees

Licenses and Permits	10.00
Total	10.00

Revenue from State

Cherry Sheet, etc.	133,910.00
Total	133,910.00

Total Fines and Forfeitures

Total	225.00
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Miscellaneous Revenues

Miscellaneous Revenues	22.00
Interest from Investments	14,870.00
Total	14,892.00

General Fund - Revenue

Total	2,454,185.00
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Interfund Transfers

Transfers from Trust Funds	598,897.00
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Total General Fund Revenues and

Other Financing Uses and Transfers	3,053,082.00
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General Fund - Expenditures

Salary and Wages	476,178.00
Expenditures	1,451,639.00
Construction	45,000.00
Capital Outlay	203,056.00
Debt Service	0.00
Unclassified	314,771.00

General Fund - Expenditures	Total	2,490,644.00
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Other Financing Uses

Transfers to Other Fund	170,172.00
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Total Other Financing Uses	Total	170,172.00
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General Fund Expenditures and Other Financing Uses

Total	2,660,816.00
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Special Revenue Fund - Revenues

Charges for Services	12,232.00
Federal Revenue	0.00
State Revenue	103,943.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	993.00

Special Revenue Fund - Revenue	Total	117,168.00
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Transfers From Other Funds	0.00
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Total	0.00
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Total Special Revenue - Revenues and Other Financing Sources

Total	117,168.00
-------	------------

Special Revenue Funds - Expenditures

Salary and Wages	91,765.00
Expenditures	0.00
Construction	0.00

Capital Outlay	0.00	
Debt Service	0.00	
Special Revenue Funds - Expenditures	91,765.00	
Other Financing Uses		
Transfers to Other Funds	0.00	
Other Adjustments	0.00	
Total Other Financing Uses	Total	0.00
Total Special Revenue - Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	Total	91,765.00

Trust Fund - Revenue

Charges for Services	0.00	
Federal Revenue	0.00	
State Revenue	0.00	
Miscellaneous Revenue	5,509.00	
Earnings on Investments	32,759.00	
Total Trust Fund - Revenue	38,268.00	
Other Financing Sources		
Transfers from Other Funds	270,172.00	
Total Other Financing Sources	Total	270,172.00
Total Revenue and Other Financing Sources	Total	308,440.00

Trust Fund - Expenditures

Salary and Wages	0.00	
Expenditures	4,837.00	
Construction	0.00	
Capital Outlay	0.00	
Debt Service	0.00	
Total Trust Fund - Expenditures	4,837.00	
Other Financing Uses		
Transfers to Other Funds	698,897.00	
Total Other Financing Uses	Total	698,897.00
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	Total	703,734.00

Agency Fund Balance

Agency Fund Balance July 1, 2002	211.00	
Additions	13,102.00	
Deductions	-12,597.00	
Balance June 20, 2003	716.00	

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Town Accountant

*personal Property Taxes and Real Estate Taxes are reported net of 60 day accruals

Town Accountant - Appropriation Balances

Appropriation Balances - June 30, 2003

Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
Selectmen - Legal Expenses	8,136.00	-8,136.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - Selectmen Stipend	6,420.00	-6,420.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - General Administration	29,000.00	-25,840.24	3,159.76	10
Selectmen - Misc. Officers Expenses	1,800.00	-1,800.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - Misc. Officers Stipend	1,250.00	-1,174.58	75.42	6
Selectmen - Printing Town Reports	3,250.00	-3,155.63	94.37	2
Selectmen - Municipal Audit	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - Summer Youth Employment	25,500.00	-23,787.78	1,712.22	6
Selectmen - SYE Encumbered	3,418.89	-2,182.89	1,236.00	36
Council on Aging	5,000.00	-4,931.84	68.16	1
Council on Aging FY 2002 bill	172.00	-172.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - Acci/Admin Salary	45,000.00	-45,000.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - Asst Acct Clerk	2,000.00	-1,801.96	198.04	9
Selectmen -Asst Acct Clerk Encumb	171.72	-112.68	59.04	34
Selectmen - FRCOG Core Assessment	44,543.00	-44,543.00	0.00	0
Selectmen - FRCOG Fees	5,520.00	-4,215.00	1,035.00	19
Selectmen - Computer/Software Support	14,000.00	-14,000.00	0.00	0
Assessor Stipend	4,500.00	-4,500.00	0.00	0
Assessor Clerk Wage	6,748.00	-6,748.00	0.00	0
Assessor Clerk Wage Encumbered	480.68	-231.40	249.28	51
Assessor Operation	3,000.00	-1,417.11	1,582.89	52
Assessor Software/Licensing	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.00	0
Assessor Mapping Services	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
Assessor GIS Mapping Project	30,016.00	0.00	30,016.00	100
Assessor Reval/Prop Update	8,000.00	-8,000.00	0.00	0
Treasurer Stipend	4,280.00	-4,280.00	0.00	0
Assist Treasurer Wage	100.00	0.00	100.00	100
Tax Collector Stipend	4,280.00	-4,280.00	0.00	0
Town Clerk Stipend	4,280.00	-4,280.00	0.00	0
Election/Teller Expense	2,053.44	-2,053.44	0.00	0
Registrar/Census Compensation	350.00	-350.00	0.00	0
Conservation Commission	200.00	-74.83	125.17	62
Planning Board Operation	600.00	-227.00	373.00	62
Planning Board Goal Post Operation	19,208.48	-19,208.48	0.00	0
Office Equipment Copier	8,000.00	-6,545.36	1,454.64	0
Planning Board By-Law Reprint	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	100
Planning Board Broadband Study	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
By-Law Review Expenses	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	100
Gracy House Repair Encumbrance	0.00	428.79	428.79	0
Barn Demolition	4,688.00	0.00	4,688.00	100
Town Hall Furnace Repairs	25,000.00	-420.00	24,580.00	98
Town Hall Lighting Fixtures	2,300.00	-2,300.00	0.00	0
Soule Land Expense	570.03	-74.79	495.24	86
State Charges Air Pollution	4,230.00	-4,024.00	206.00	4
Reserve Fund FY 2003	9,735.54	0.00	9,735.54	100
Chapter 53B & Chapter 150 (Chapter 90)	75,954.00	-75,954.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Wages	141,860.00	-141,860.00	0.00	0
Hwy- Wages Encumbered	4,007.38	712.58	4,719.96	117
Hwy - Operation & Maintenance	35,000.00	-34,988.51	11.49	0
Hwy- Fuel for Town Vehicles	17,000.00	-16,585.09	141.91	0

Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
Hwy - Road Maintenance & Reclamation	45,000.00	-45,000.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Annual Projects	30,000.00	-29,997.74	2.26	0
Hwy - Superintendent Salary	52,123.00	-52,123.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Skatepark	1,013.90	0.00	1,013.90	100
Hwy - Snowplow	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Injection Control	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	100
Hwy - Garage Roof Repairs	5,721.36	-4,200.00	1,521.36	26
Hwy - Salt Shed Improvement	346.14	0.00	346.14	100
Hwy - Waste Oil Burner	5,425.00	-5,425.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Winter Roads	45,000.00	-45,000.00	0.00	0
Hwy - Winter Road Overdraft	12,389.21	-32,376.18	-19,986.97	0
Street Lighting	4,500.00	-3,693.95	806.05	17
Cemetery Maintenance	5,497.00	-5,497.00	0.00	0
Cemetery Fence Repair	4,577.98	3,650.00	927.98	20
Town Hall Custodian Wages	15,125.00	-14,586.00	539.00	3
Town Hall Custodian Wage Encumbered	783.50	66.50	550.00	113
Municipal Center Operation/Maintenance	18,000.00	-17,976.32	23.68	0
Elevator Maintenance	4,800.00	-4,492.48	307.52	6
Town Hall Fuel Oil	2,500.00	-2,081.90	418.00	16
Gracy House Repairs/Modifications	500.00	-500.00	0.00	0
Beautification	2,500.00	-1,592.37	907.63	36
Dam Maintenance/Repairs	6,211.80	0.00	6,211.80	100
Police Chief Stipend	7,260.00	-7,260.00	0.00	0
Police Officer Wages	4,000.00	-422.26	3,577.74	89
Police Officer Wages Encumbered	0.00	43.86	43.86	0
Police Department Operation	6,500.00	-2,666.56	3,833.44	58
Police New Cruiser	3,599.10	0.00	3,599.10	100
Fire Chief Stipend	5,375.00	-5,375.00	0.00	0
Fire Officer Stipend	6,000.00	-5,347.30	652.70	10
Firefighter Reimbursement	6,000.00	-6,000.00	0.00	0
Fire Department Operation	23,050.00	-22,901.50	148.50	0
Fire Department Air Compressor	4,126.33	0.00	4,126.33	100
Fire Department Fire Pond Maintenance	9,260.00	0.00	9,260.78	100
Fire Department Truck Purchase	285,000.00	-7,984.00	277,016.00	97
Fire Department Emergency Generator	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	100
Building Inspector Fees/Reimbursements	4,449.43	-4,449.43	0.00	0
Plumbing Inspector Stipend	965.00	-965.00	0.00	0
Electrical Inspector Stipend	965.00	-965.00	0.00	0
Civil Defense Operation	500.00	-500.00	0.00	0
Forest Fire Control	100.00	-100.00	0.00	0
Fire Dept Hazardous Mat Control	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00	0
New Ambulance Fund	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.00	0
EMS Coordinator Stipend	1,290.00	-1,290.00	0.00	0
EMS Operation	3,000.00	-1,375.89	1,624.11	54
EMS Emergency Personnel	3,400.00	-2,800.00	600.00	17
Hazardous Waste Collection Day	500.00	0.00	500.00	100
Refuse Garden Operation	46,227.77	-46,227.77	0.00	0
Dump Attendant Wage	11,275.00	-11,275.00	0.00	0
Solid Waste District Administration	5,333.00	-3,999.75	1,333.25	25
Dump Attendant Wage Encumbered	458.50	-26.50	432.00	94
Recycling Shed	2,933.85	0.00	2,933.85	100
Board of Health Operation	5,542.48	-5,542.48	0.00	0
Health Services Salary	35,375.00	-35,375.08	0.00	0
Health Service Operation	5,847.00	-5,308.83	538.17	9

Account Name	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Remaining
Health Service Op Encumbered	20.00	-20.00	0.00	0
Health Service Physician Stipend	2,000.00	-1,000.00	1,000.00	50
School Committee Stipend	3,870.00	-3,670.35	199.65	5
Rowe Elementary School	870,825.00	-860,682.44	10,142.56	1
Rowe Teachers Salary Encumbered	62,274.49	21,175.09	83,449.58	134
Mohawk Technical Assistant	55,000.00	-55,000.00	0.00	0
Rowe School Capital Improvement	16,035.35	-16,035.35	0.00	0
Rowe School Handicapped Ramp	31,225.00	-27,550.00	6,675.00	11
Rowe Resident Placement	25,000.00	-24,898.27	101.73	0
Rowe School Software	7,000.00	-7,000.00	0.00	0
Librarians Salary	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.00	0
Library Wages	12,264.78	-12,225.18	39.60	0
Library Operation	15,300.00	-14,780.89	519.11	3
Library Wages Encumbered	402.30	290.70	693.00	172
Library Repairs	3,500.00	-2,550.00	950.00	27
Library Computer	2,000.00	-1,046.00	954.00	47
Old Home Day	8,000.00	-7,999.83	0.00	0
Old Home Day Fireworks	8,000.00	-8,000.00	0.00	0
Park Compensation	29,699.00	-26,902.72	2,796.28	9
Park Wages Encumbered	2,651.60	274.80	2,926.40	110
Park Operation	22,133.00	-22,112.89	20.11	0
Park Head Ranger Salary	28,766.00	-28,757.16	8.84	0
Park Ranger Encumbered	1,248.00	-1,248.00	0.00	0
Park Swim Area Management	533.34	-423.79	109.55	20
Park Headquarters Improvement	7,998.80	-4,775.00	3,223.80	40
Park Pelham Dam Project	444.00	-398.84	45.16	10
Park Browning Bench Repairs	7,916.00	-630.00	7,286.00	92
Park Exercise Equipment	650.01	-650.01	0.00	0
Bonding & Insurance	38,000.00	-32,643.23	5,356.77	14
County Retirement	67,037.00	-67,037.00	0.00	0
Non-Contributory Retirement (Randolph)	800.00	-727.72	72.28	9
Unemployment (Self-Insurance)	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
Group Insurance/FICA/Medicare	178,650.00	-161,581.15	17,068.85	9
Veterans' Agent Stipend	450.00	-450.00	0.00	0
Veterans' Administration Operation	400.00	-302.50	97.50	24
Veterans' Benefits	300.00	0.00	300.00	100
Bank Charges	500.00	-453.00	47.00	9
Stabilization Appropriation	117,172.00	-120,172.00	3,000.00	<1**
Stabilization Highway Equipment	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.00	0**

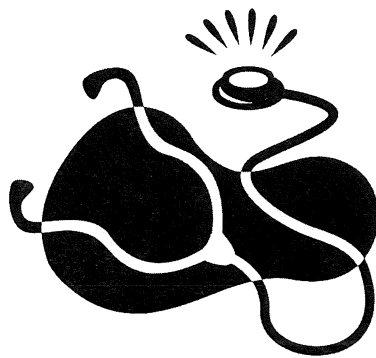
* Legal overdraft for winter roads (snow & ice) account, raised on FY 2004 taxes

** Transferred to Stabilization Account

NA Encumbered Accounts



HUMAN SERVICES



Animal Inspector

The following is a tally of all livestock in town in the year 2003. All animals were fit and well cared for.

	Adult	Young
Cattle: Dairy		0
Cattle: Beef	20	5
Cattle: Steer/Oxen	0	1
Goats	22	7
Sheep	3	
Horses	14	
Ponies	4	
Chickens	109	
Waterfowl	16	
Rabbits	5	
Guinea Pigs	4	

Respectfully submitted,
L. Norma Brown



Tower Photo

Norma Brown, Animal Inspector

Board of Health

The Board met on alternate Tuesdays throughout the year, and attended inspections as necessary. **James Brown** was Chairman the first half of the year. At the Annual Town Election in May 2003 **Ellen Babcock**, who had served on the board previously for 15 years, was once again elected and voted as chairman when the board reorganized following the town election. Another well-seasoned previous member, **Leonard Laffond**, was also once again elected at a Special Election held in October 2003 to fill the vacancy created by Jim Brown's resignation in August 2003.

It had been voted at the May 2003 Annual Town Meeting to create a separate elected Board of Health. Heretofore town

bylaws have stipulated that the Board of Selectmen act also as the Board of Health. Rather than hold a Special Election to fill this new board, the selectmen voted (with Town Counsel's concurrence) to retain the Board of Health seats during this transition year. A new three-member Board of Health will be elected in May 2004.

Food & Housing Inspections

The Board continues to retain the services of FRCOG Health Agent **Sharon White** to perform all other health inspection functions-such as housing, camps for children, food establishments, bed & breakfasts, temporary food carts, lunch wagons, and our school cafeteria. Sharon has been with us for many years and has done an excellent job ensuring codes and regulations are being followed.

PWS Management

The Board continues to retain the **services of Bill Enzer and Berkshire Enviro Labs of Lee MA** as our Certified Water Operator. The town currently has three (3) PWSs (Public Water Supplies)...the Town Hall well, the Rowe Elementary School well and the Avery Fountain. DEP regulations require that all PWSs have a Certified Water Operator. Long before this was a requirement, Berkshire Enviro Labs was conducting all of our water testing. We also have them test the pitcher pump well and swimming area at Pelham Lake Park. We are happy to continue on with their faithful, punctual service. Not only do they do all of the monthly/quarterly /annual/triennial testing required, they also handle all of the laborious paperwork involved. Well worth every penny Thank you Bill, Tom and staff.

Title 5 Matters

The year 2003 proved another exciting year for the Board of Health. It was an incredibly WET year, with high ground-water conditions throughout most of the twelve months. In July, the Board of Health appointed **Lisa Danek Burke** as the Town's Health Agent for Title 5. Lisa is a MA certified Soil Evaluator and System Inspector, and brings experience as a Civil Engineer specializing in waste systems design and other environmental compliance and monitoring systems. Lisa has been a great asset to the board. She is a seasoned professional and we are very fortunate to have her. [Lisa...thank you for your help in compiling this report.]

In 2002 the Board of Health voted to change the Soil Evaluation/Percolation Test season from March 1 through May 31 to April 1 through October 31. This change raised concerns for the 2003 Board of Health relating to potential impacts on current Town of Rowe bylaws and existing Board of Health regulations. Ultimately, the Board of Health allowed Soil Evaluations/Percolation Tests to be conducted through the end of October 2003. In December, 2003, the Board of Health voted to return the percolation test season to March 1 through May 31. The Board cited concerns for Rowe's natural resources due to the abundance of poor soils (Class IV & V) throughout town. These areas of poor soil, where high seasonal groundwater and shallow depth to bed-rock areas exist, adversely impact the proper treatment and disposal of septic system effluent. In addition, a majority of the town has been designated either *Living Waters Core Habitat* or *Critical Supporting Watershed* by the National Heritage

& Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fish & Wildlife (now MassWildlife). It is the intent of the Board of Health to help preserve and protect these critical areas.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts planned to allow a 60 min/inch percolation rate for new construction, beginning in January 2004. The Town of Rowe Board of Health regulations stipulate a maximum of 30 min/inch percolation rate for new construction. In December 2003, the Board of Health affirmed their strong commitment to protecting Rowe's groundwater by continuing to require no more than a 30 min/inch percolation rate for new construction. As in the past, the Board of Health takes into consideration applications for variances to the percolation rate for repairs to existing septic systems.

Transfer Station

One of everyone's favorite spots in town. The treasures and needful things you can find at **Dick Tower's** Swap Shed are great! This has been quite a worthy project that so many people have been able to take advantage of. Whether you're looking for a place to put your treasures that you really don't want to end up in a landfill-or you're looking for a treasure that you didn't even realize you needed—Dick's place will fit the bill. And you can pretty much outfit the apartment or dorm room of a son or daughter going off to college or starting out on their own.

We do have good news on our recycling efforts. In 2003 our recycling rate was 23.7%...up from 20.5% in 2002. Our 2003 recycling efforts provided the following:

- Reduced greenhouse gases equivalent to pulling 31 cars off the road (countywide: 1994 cars)
- Conserved enough energy to power 8 houses for a year (countywide: 425 houses)
- Save 372 trees from being cut (countywide: 34,392 trees!)

That's quite impressive for our little town. And if you take into consideration the items recycled at Dick's Swap Shed, these numbers would be well higher. Thank you all for taking the time to recycle. And many thanks to Dick Tower for managing this area. You're doing a great job Dick!

The Board would also like to thank **Jan Ameen** and staff at the **Franklin County Solid Waste Management District**. They manage all of our solid waste, recycling and hauling contracts, the regional hazardous waste collection days, and now handle our sharps and biohazard waste collection; along with compiling all necessary reports and statistics throughout the year. [Please see their separate report in the Regional section of this town report.]

It's been another busy year for the Board. We hope we've served you all well.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen L. Babcock, Chairman (resigned)
Leonard J. Laffond, Chairman
John H. Williams

Board of Health - Licensing, Tests and Inspections

LICENSES ISSUED:

Septic Hauler/Pumper

Bostley Sanitary Services, Colrain, MA
Greg's Wastewater, Greenfield, MA
Houghton Sanitary Service, Guilford, V

Septic System Installer

James H. Williams, Rowe, MA
Danek Excavating, Rowe, MA

TITLE 5 INSPECTIONS

Map 1-Lot 29	Pine Hill Dr (Jurentkuff)	Passed
Map 4-Lot 13	Tunnel Rd (Autio)	Passed
Map 12-Lot 90	Shippee Rd (Murdock)	Passed
Map 13-Lot 19	Tunnel Rd (Dykeman)	Passed Conditionally
Map 4-Lot 15	Tunnel Rd (Shumway)	Passed

SOIL EVALUATIONS/PERCOLATION TESTS

Map 11-Lots 17/18	Cross Rd (Williams College)	Repair	Failed
Map 8-Lot 14/32	Tunnel Rd (Trusdel/Markert)	New Construction	Passed
Map 1-Lot 11	Newell Cross Rd (McLatchy)	Repair	Passed
Map 8-Lot 3	Tunnel Rd (Gfroerer)	New Construction	Failed

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION PERMITS ISSUED

Map 6-Lot 2	Cyrus Stage Rd (Gary)	New Construction
Map 1-Lot 11	Newell Cross Rd (McLatchy)	Repair
Map 8-Lot 14/32	Tunnel Rd (Markert)	New Construction

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION EXTENSIONS FOR COMPLETION OF REPAIRS

Map 11/Lot 73	Leshure Rd (Belval)	Expired 10/10/2003
Map 6/Lot 15	Dell Rd (Corarito)	Expires 12/04/2004

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION FINAL INSPECTIONS

Map 7-Lot 24	Davenport Rd (Van Aken)	06/16/03
Map 11-Lot 83	Stone Hill Rd (Williams/Johnston)	08/30/03
Map 11-Lot 73	Leshure Rd (Belval)	10/13/03
Map 11-Lot 118	Old Cyrus Stage Rd (Cousineau)	11/11/03

SEPTIC SYSTEM CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE ISSUED

Map 7-Lot 24	Davenport Rd (Van Aken)	Repair
Map 11-Lot 83	Stone Hill Rd (Williams/Johnston)	Repair
Map 11-Lot 73	Leshure Rd (Belval)	Repair

OTHER INSPECTIONS

Map 2-Lot 20	Pond Rd (Graziano)	Determine location for new well
Map 11-Lot 115	Old Cyrus Stage Rd (Morency)	Outhouse Complaint

SEPTIC SYSTEM PUMPING RECORDS RECEIVED

Map 1-Lot 36	Hazelton Rd (Johnston)	2000 gal	Good Condition
Map 3-Lot 29	Zoar Rd (Veber)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 1-Lot 11	Newell Cross Rd (McLatchy)	2000 gal	Cond. not noted
Map 12-Lot 90	Shippee Rd (Murdock)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 1-Lot 43	Hazelton Rd (Stetson)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 4-Lot 41	Old Cyrus Stage Rd (Lowell)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 2-Lot 10	Pond Rd (Rowe School)	6500 gal	Good Condition
Map 4-Lot 4	Tunnel Rd (Roberson)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 11-Lot 89	Potter Rd (Donelson)	1500 gal	Good Condition
Map 13-Lot 26	Hazelton Rd (Besgen)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 8-Lot 7	Petrie Rd (Lively)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 11-Lot 80	Ford Hill Road (May)	1000 gal	Good Condition
Map 3-Lots (various)	Kings Highway (Rowe C&CC)	3500 gal	Good Condition
(Three septic tanks with grease traps were pumped)			

WELL LOGS RECEIVED

Map 6-Lot 2	Cyrus Stage Rd (Gary)	425 ft/4 gpm	Lynde Well Drillers, Guilford VT
Map 13-Lot 19a	Tunnel Road (Dykeman)	200 ft/7 gpm	Cushing Well Drilling, Keene NH
Map 11-Lot 75	Potter Road (Chiafalo)	425 ft/5 gpm	Lynde Well Drillers, Guilford VT
Map 2-Lot 20	Pond Road (Graziano)	345 ft/7 gpm	Lynde Well Drillers, Guilford VT

BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Building permit applications were reviewed by the Board of Health and Health Agent for Title 5 as required for applicability to Title 5 regulations.

Board of Health FRCOG Health Agent

During the period January 1 to December 31, 2003 the following activities were conducted for the Rowe Board of Health:

- Witnessed and logged one Percolation Test
- Conducted (3) housing inspections
- Conducted (3) camp for children inspections
- Conducted (1) inspection for Special Purpose Pool
- Completed the following food inspections for permitting by the Board of Health:
 - (1) Maple House Bed & Breakfast
 - (1) Rowe Elementary School
 - (1) Rowe Camp/Conf Center Rec Hall kitchen
 - (1) Rowe Camp/Conf Center Farmhouse kitchen
 - (1) Power Plant Café (New food establishment)
 - (6) Temporary Food Permits (Old Home Day)

In addition to the above, I attended Board of Health meetings as necessary, and provided information and consultation to the Board and town residents as needed.

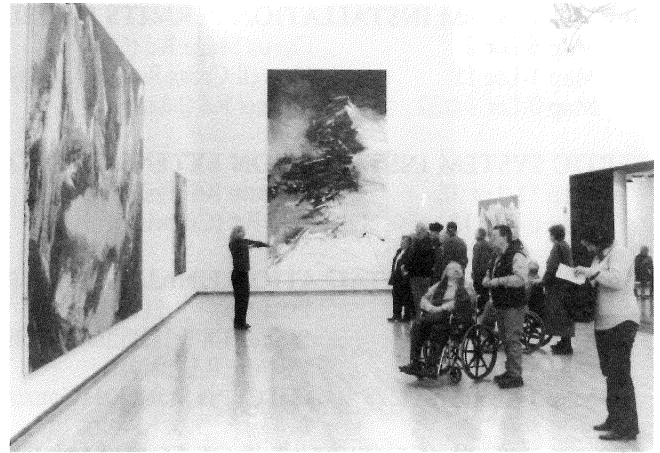
I wish to thank the Board of Health for the fine cooperation extended to me during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon White, Regional Health Agent
Franklin Regional Council of Govts

Council on Aging

The Rowe Council on Aging enjoyed a year full of fun and service to the senior citizens of the community. Co-chair persons Sandra Daviau and Ruth Loomis along with members Christine Tower, James McKee and Jodi Brown made a great team to tackle the needs of the seniors. Anyone with concerns or fresh ideas is more than welcome to join us at our monthly meetings at noon on the third Wednesday of the month.

Once again the state approved our application for Formula Grant money. We utilized these funds to provide chore services, respite for care givers, snow shoveling, minor home repairs and refuse removal for homebound seniors. Money was also contributed toward the purchase of a new treadmill for the fitness center. This has been a favorite piece of equipment along with the *Bowflex* for the active seniors improving and maintaining their health. The Council members assisted several seniors in obtaining fuel assistance and obtaining homemaker services. The Council also subsidizes weekly lunches at the school and the weekly bus rides to



Tower Photo

*Kay Shumway and friends enjoying their visit to
Mass MoCA in North Adams, MA*

Shelburne Falls and Greenfield for errands and groceries.

Of course one of our most pleasurable services to the town is the senior events. The first trip of the year was a guided tour of Mass MoCA in North Adams and lunch in the café. In March we invited our neighbors from Charlemont to a traditional St. Patty's Day luncheon followed by the delightful stories and music of John Porcino. In May, the hardy seniors were out on the town green enjoying a "chilly" barbecue. Town residents joined them after lunch for a patriotic concert by Judith Kulp and Gordon Dean. In September we headed for Tregelly's Fiber Farm in Hawley for a most unusual tour of some very exotic animals and a presentation on the farm and its adventures. Margaret Woodside packed us a bag lunch that was fit for kings with her homemade bread. Our brave and creative seniors turned out in strange attire for the "Monster Munch" in October. It was difficult to choose the prize winners for the costumes. They were great! The last event of the year was a holiday treat. We caravanned to Yankee Candle in Deerfield MA for a relaxing lunch (once we got settled) at Chandler's Tavern,



Tower Photo

*Council on Aging members with Postmaster Wendy Birch
who often helps out.*



Tower Photo

Sarah Jane Gracy and friends at the Halloween "Monster Munch"

followed by a candle-making demonstration that was full of historical anecdotes. Then we shopped for Holiday treasures.

With such great people to work for and party with, think we'll keep our jobs!

Respectfully submitted:
Sandra Daviau, Co-Chair
Ruth Loomis, Co-Chair
Christine Tower
James McKee
Jodi Brown

Health Services

It was a rewarding fifth year for Health Services in the Town of Rowe. The increased support and usage of the town medical services demonstrates the need for and success of this unusual program. I am not aware of another town in Massachusetts that offers the level of care for the residents that is provided by the Town of Rowe. I think the voters should be proud of this humanitarian service that they have helped create. There was a substantial increase in patient visits this year from 1181 in 2002 to 1455 in 2003. This is a 23% increase in use of the Health Services. In July there was a much needed increase of 4 additional hours for office visits to accommodate this response, giving residents access to Health Services 4 days a week. House calls continue to be made 2 days a week for homebound residents, new mothers and those newly discharged from the hospital. Health Services sees patients for acute care as well as monitoring and maintenance of chronic health problems.

For the second year, Rowe participated in the roster billing program for influenza and pneumococcal vaccines. The program does create a lot of extra paperwork during the influenza clinics, but residents graciously complied. Our par-

ticipation has assisted the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in continuing the distribution of much free vaccine for adults and especially children. This is a very worthwhile program. I thank you all for helping out. This year's unusual influenza season led to increase demand for vaccination. Last year 114 people were vaccinated, and this year 168.

Many hours were spent this year reviewing records clarifying the creation of Health Services in the town. The transition from a Registered Nurse to a Nurse Practitioner position that occurred 2 months after I was hired was carefully reviewed. The transition occurred under the direction of Town Counsel, Craig Barry, early in 1999. Appropriate steps were taken at that time by the Select Board after meeting with Dr. Robert Miller. During 2003 concerns were voiced regarding the establishment and guidelines set up in 1999 for Health Services. All concerns were carefully addressed with Town Counsel and the Board of Registration of Nursing. Everything was found to be in good order and our Health Services continues to provide much needed care to the residents in this geographically isolated area. We have been fortunate this year to have the input of Dr. Richard Warner, my collaborating physician, who has been a tremendous asset to the practice with his expertise in family medicine.

Health Services promotes healthy lifestyle choices through education, advocacy, resource materials and referrals. I am very pleased to see the growth in the use of the Town Fitness Center under the direction of personal trainer, Marie Phillips. Everyone in town can benefit from exercise, and this is another wonderful health offering for this small town. If you haven't already familiarized yourself with what is available to you upstairs in the Town Hall, please do so. There is a wealth of help and information to be had at no charge. Health Services continues its loaner program for medical assistive devices and furnishings made available through the generosity of our neighbors. Through our continued concern and support for each other as neighbors we will always be happy and proud to call Rowe our home town.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Loomis, NP
Town Nurse Practitioner



*Ruth Loomis
Town Nurse Practitioner*

Veterans' Agent

All veterans' graves were flagged and marked in time for Memorial Day. If anyone knows of an unmarked grave of a veteran, please let me know so we can get it marked and flagged.

This past year saw the passing of another one of our veterans. **Ellsworth "Junior" Veber** passed away in December. The veterans of Rowe wish to extend our sympathy to his wife **Shirley**, his son's **Todd and Terry**, and their families. We will miss seeing junior in uniform driving his army jeep in our Old Home Day parades and in the parades of our surrounding towns. Junior was a proud veteran, having served in Korea while in the Army.



Donelson Photo

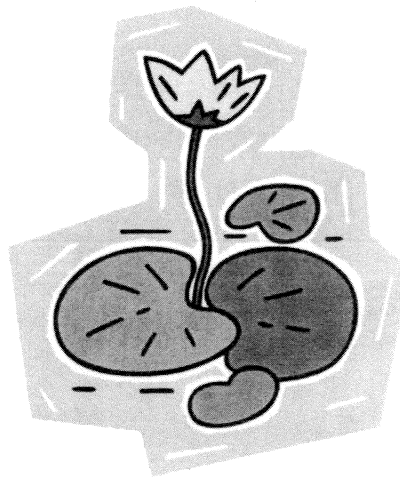
*Ellsworth "Junior" Veber in his pride and joy
on Old Home Day*

Each year veterans are seeing more and more of our benefits being reduced or being taken away all together, and I urge all of our veterans to take a minute to either write or call your representatives in Congress to urge them to vote against any bills which take benefits away from our men and women that have served in uniform. It takes each of us to protect the benefits which we have earned while in uniform. Your voice can and should be heard.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Scrivens
Veterans' Agent



PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT



Conservation Commission

The Rowe Conservation Commission consists of five members appointed by the Board of Selectman. The Conservation Commission meets on an as needed basis to conduct necessary business. Members **Bob Clancy**, **Bob Rice** and **John Williams** have served on the commission for several years. **Lisa Danek Burke** and **Ellen Babcock** are new to the commission this year.

The Commission received several Forest Cutting Plans throughout the year. The Forest Cutting Plans are required to be submitted to Conservation Commissions for review and comment only. The Forest Cutting Plans are ultimately approved or disapproved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Parks and Recreation (formerly the Department of Environmental Management). The following cutting plans (some with multiple revisions) were received and reviewed.

1. W. D. Cows, Inc., Davenport /Tatro Rd.
(Owners: Dennis & Sandra Lively)
2. Roberts Bros. Lumber Co., Tunnel Road
(Owner: Leonard Roberts)
3. Bay State Forestry Service, Dell Road
(Owners: Philip Buker & Louise York)
4. Chris Brown, County Road
(Owner: June Brown)
5. Roberts Bros. Lumber Co., Zoar Road
(Owners: George & Florence Veber)
6. Roberts Bros. Lumber Co., Zoar Road
(Owners: George & Florence Veber)

The Conservation Commission issued one **Determination of Applicability** in 2003.

1. Yankee Nuclear Power Station - Phase 1
of remaining demolition activities

Two public hearings were held in 2003 regarding filed Notices of Intent.

1. New England Power Company - Replacement of
structure on transmission line near Cross Road
2. University of Massachusetts Geosciences
Department - Installation of monitoring
wells near Davis Mine.

The Conservation Commission issued two Certificates of Compliance in 2003.

1. Yankee Atomic Electric Company -Replication of
wetlands disturbed during construction of a
storage pad (DEP File No. 274,21)
2. USGen New England, Inc. - Deerfield River No. 5
Dam Whitewater Put-In (DEP File No. 247-19)

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Danek Burke, Chairman
Ellen L. Babcock
Robert J. Clancy
Robert R. Rice
John H. Williams

Planning Board

David Scrivens joined the Planning Board following the town elections replacing **Mary Jo Phelps** who did not run for re-election. The Board extends its thanks to Mary Jo for her service.

The Board applied and received a grant from the Highlands Communities Initiative (HCI) that is being used to develop an open space plan for Rowe. The plan is being developed for the Board by Bill Labich of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). A survey was sent to all town residents in January 2004 and the results have been compiled and will be incorporated into the plan.

The Board has also been reviewing Rowe's zoning by-laws, and with the help of Peggy Sloan, Planning Director of FRCOG, has drafted updates to the zoning by-laws. These updates will be incorporated into the work of the By-law Review Committee. The zoning updates are intended to:

- Align Rowe's By-laws with Massachusetts General Laws
- Improve readability
- Clarify procedures for special permits
- Close gaps in our current Zoning By-laws.

Copies of the proposed changes are available from Planning Board or By-law Review Committee members. Two Board members are also serving on the By-law Review Committee. Public information sessions and public hearings are planned before any recommended changes will be included on a Town Meeting warrant.

In the course of the past year, the Board has been asked to review several subdivision plans for properties in town. All of the plans reviewed have met applicable requirements.

The Board has also been notified that Special Permits are required by town residents and property owners who are operating tourist homes. The Board will be holding hearings on these matters.

The Board also wishes to thank **Margaret Woodside** for her editorial stewardship of the *Goal Post*. She continues to produce an informative and professional organ for communicating about activities in Rowe.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Posever, Chairman
Rebecca Bradley
Ann Foshay
Dennis Lively
David Scrivens

The Rowe *Goal Post* Editor

Once again, the editor and the *Goal Post* staff have come through a year of changing seasons, town wide events and the unfortunate loss of friends and townspeople. **Dick Tower** continues to take amazing pictures of town events and natural scenes of interest. **Chris Tower** makes the monthly trip to Adams to retrieve the finished publication and then **Willian “Billie” Brown** and **Barbara Stickney** assist her in labeling and bundling the mail.

We have also featured lovely photographs taken by **Norma Donelson**, and there are school photos every month that are taken by the staff. In the months when the finished publication has few, if any, errors, we can thank **Carol Lively** who wields a mean red pencil.

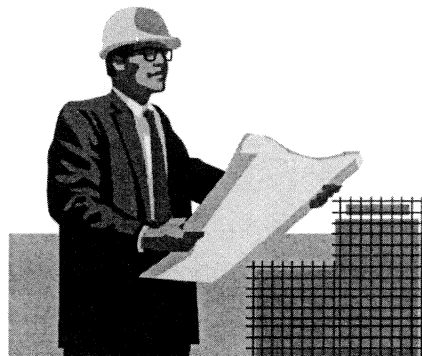
Thanks to everyone who contributes to the *Goal Post* with articles and photos and news. The *Goal Post* is meant to facilitate communication. Thanks, too, to local groups who send updates on events that are of interest to townspeople. **Virginia Taylor** of the Charlemont Senior Center is particularly faithful.

We all look forward to serving you for another great year.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Woodside, Editor



PUBLIC SAFETY



Dog Officer

Number of stray dogs found in Rowe	0
Number of lost dogs	2
Number of complaints	8
Number of stray cats	0
Number of lost cats	1
Number of goat complaints	1

Please make sure your pets are vaccinated and up to date on all their shots due to increased diseases in wildlife.

Again, townspeople are reminded to purchase their 2004 dog licenses from the Town Clerk. The 2003 licenses expired on March 31, 2004.

Thanks to the townspeople for their cooperation throughout the year. If you have any questions or need assistance, you can contact me at **339-5345**.

Respectfully submitted,
Albert Williams, Dog Officer

Police Department

Accidents	
1 Car	3
2 Car	1
Medical Assistance	5
Domestic Disturbances	2
Breaking & Entering	2
Vandalism	3
911 Hang Ups	3
Animal Complaints	4
Bear	2
Mutual Aid	2
Permits Issued	46
Reported Incidents	41
Unfounded Incidents	11

I am pleased to inform you that we had a new police officer join the department this year. His name is **Chris Hyytinen** and he will be finishing his training shortly. Please welcome Officer Hyytinen when you see him, and introduce yourself so that he becomes more familiar with our great community.

The number of reported crimes decreased in the year 2003. The seriousness of the crimes also decreased this year. I would like to thank the police officers of Rowe for accomplishing this with such professionalism.

Respectfully submitted,
Henry J. Dandeneau
Chief of Police

Fire Department

During the last report period the Fire Department responded to fifty-nine calls:

3	Motor Vehicle Accidents
33	Medical Emergencies
10	Mutual Aid Calls
2	Hazardous Material Response
4	Vehicle Accidents
1	Electrical Problem Residence
2	Trees/Wires Down on Road
3	Brush Fires
1	Fire Drill at Yankee

As a result of the Department's chimney cleaning program, twelve homes' chimneys were inspected and/or cleaned this year. In the coming year, as in the past, we will clean the chimneys of the elderly and assist able-bodied residents. We will attempt to conduct the cleaning in August and September, before the heating season, so names should be submitted early.

Enhanced 9-1-1 became operational in December of 1995. You have to dial only three digits, 9-1-1, to notify the Rowe Fire Department, Police Department and Emergency Medical Services of emergency situations. When you make a 9-1-1 call the dispatcher has the telephone number, the name listed for that number and the address of the originating phone location on a computer screen in front of him/her. When assistance is needed, **call 9-1-1 immediately** do not waste precious time trying to contact a friend, neighbor or member of the Department for assistance. If you have a special need please contact me and I will provide the necessary information to the Dispatch Center.

The Fire Department applied for and received a \$15,000 grant from the State to purchase additional self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The grant money was made available by the Firefighter Safety

Equipment Program

The equipment purchased under this grant was approved by the five member Firefighter Safety Equipment Advisory Board. This equipment will allow town firefighters to enter hazardous atmospheres that exist in many fire fighting, hazardous material responses, and confined space rescue situations. Personal Alarm Safety System (PASS) devices were purchased with each of the SCBAs which can be used to locate firefighters more quickly who may become lost, disorientated or incapacitated.

The specifications for a new tanker/pumper were written, approved by the Select Board and sent out for bid this year. The low bid was submitted by KME Fire Apparatus, located in Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania, and was accepted by the Select Board. Two visits were conducted to review the specifications and inspect the progress of construction. The final inspection is expected in the not too distant future. Delivery is expected in March or April of 2004.

Three new firefighters (Sean Loomis, Brandon Sprague and Paul May) participated at the Barnstable County Fire Academy in August. The hands-on training provided the participants with experience in various interior fire fighting situations under controlled conditions. Additional interior fire fighting training will be conducted in April for all Fire Department personnel utilizing the town-owned Soule House on Sibley Road. This training opportunity provides invaluable experience for Department firefighters, allowing them to practice their skills and gain confidence in their equipment.

The Fire Department is made up completely of volunteers from town. The effectiveness of this organization is determined by the number of individuals it can train and maintain in a state of readiness, and by the condition of its equipment. We welcome anyone who is interested in protecting his/her own and his neighbors' lives and property from the potentially devastating effects of fire. Not all of the activities required to prepare for and combat a fire involve hands-on fire fighting. There is plenty of other work with which we could use help. Our program of regular monthly training/meetings is announced in the *Goal Post* for each upcoming month. These sessions are approximately one to two hours in length—a small investment of your time when weighed against the potential benefit that may be derived from your membership. The officers of the department would like to thank all members who participate in our activities regularly, and ask other members of the town to become involved.

The specification for the emergency generator that is to be installed at the Rowe Elementary School has been completed. It will be sent out for the bid process later this year. Installation and testing will be completed this summer during the school vacation period. The project will include the construction of a building with a sump capable of holding the complete contents of the fuel tank in the event of a leak.

A \$900 State grant was received for the purchase of a computer for Emergency Management. The laptop will be used to input, process and update the Town's Emergency Plan information.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwin L. May, Fire Chief

Emergency Medical Services [EMS]

I would like to thank our EMS personnel and their families for their support throughout the year. I appreciate all you do and the time you take out of your personal lives for training and responding to calls. In order to meet the requirements of First Responder certification, one must complete an 80 hour course, and pass a written and practical



Tower Photo
Gail May, EMS Director and
Special Police Officer

exam. Recertification is required every three years. EMT certification requires one to complete a 110 hour course. Upon completion of the course a state exam is required which includes a written as well as practical exam. Rectification is required every two years. This consists of a 24-hour refresher course and an additional 28 hours of continuing education classes.

During 2003 our EMTs and First Responders responded to 35 emergencies. This is up from 2002's total of 29 emergency calls. Rowe EMS responded to 32 medical emergencies and 3 motor vehicle accidents. Our EMTs and First Responders continue to respond in a timely manner to any situation, and deliver the highest quality of care. We currently have 2 certified EMTs and 11 First Responders, and will hopefully have 2 additional certified EMTs by the end of 2004. We are thankful for their dedication to the Town of Rowe.

Rowe EMS personnel will respond to your emergency with both the knowledge and equipment necessary to help stabilize a patient before and during transport to the hospital by ambulance. Because of the rural location of Rowe, our First Responders play a critical role in the outcome of your emergency, and thus are an important part of the chain of survival. Rowe EMS works closely with Rowe Fire Department personnel. Most of our members are crossed-trained as medical, fire and/or police personnel. We respond to both fire and police scenes to aid and support those departments.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail May, EMS Coordinator

Building Inspector

During the year 2003, 41 building permits were issued as follows:

Remodeling	5
New Building/additions	14
New siding	1
Replacement windows	3
Demolitions	7
New roofs	8
Wood stoves	2
New decks	1

In addition, 80 Certificates of Inspection were issued.

Respectfully submitted,
William Foster
Inspector of Buildings

Wiring Inspector

It is required by Massachusetts General Law that anyone performing electrical work must obtain a permit. The work performed shall comply with the 2002 Massachusetts Electrical Code.

There were 31 permits issued in 2003 with 24 completed inspections and 7 active.

Contact information for inspections:

John F. Rossi, Wiring Inspector
413-339-5541
54 Brittingham Hill
Rowe MA 01367

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Rossi, Wiring Inspector

Plumbing Inspector

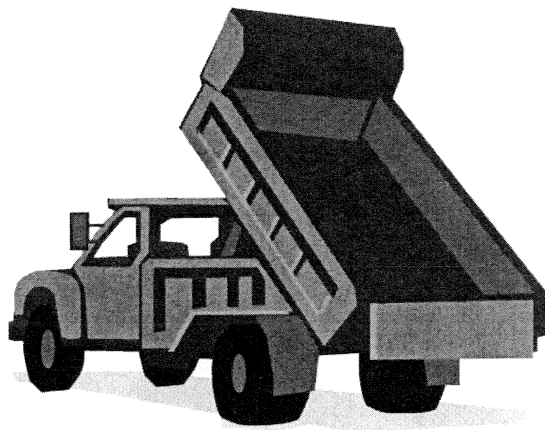
Report for the Town of Rowe for 2003:

I have made 5 Plumbing and 7 Gas Inspections. I have attended all necessary continuing education training seminars and classes for 2003.

Gerald "Jerry" W. Jubinville
Plumbing Inspector
413-625-6376
120 State Street
Shelburne Falls MA 01370



PUBLIC WORKS



Beautification Committee

The Beautification Committee was able to accomplish two goals while attending to maintenance on previously installed plantings. The new fencing at the Mill Pond Dam, installed by the Highway Department, was spruced up with a combination of ornamental shrubs, a **Blue Spruce**, **Hardy Rogosa Roses**, and **Hybred Yellow Azaleas** which should add interest throughout the season. With the aid of Jim Lively, a highly visible garden area was developed at the Town Hall. The area in front of the Handicap Ramp was emptied of its foundation plantings and an ongoing seasonal display will be installed. Over 200 **red and yellow tulips** were planted for a May 2004 display. This will be followed by **summer annuals** and an Autumn **chrysanthemum** show.

The front of the Library was adorned with **Hardy Holly, Azaleas, and Rhododendron** as per Jodi Brown's request. This was carried out with Tim Bradley's enthusiastic help in the spring. The Committee also discussed installing a section of split rail fence beside the new parking lot at the Library. The plan is to accent the fence with various berry laden bushes. These will include **Native Winterberry, High Bush Cranberry, and Bitter Sweet Vine**. Once established, we hope to utilize the trimmings of these shrubs to add interest to the various window boxes throughout the fall and holiday seasons.

As with the past two years, we were able to help out with the purchase of flowers for the Elementary School sign and for the Park Department. Front window boxes at the Town Hall and Library, along with the Town Commons War Memorial, were planted with traditional **Red Geraniums**. Memorial Day weekend signals the arrival of **Cascading Pink Geranium** Pots in the Gazebo.

Want to have some input on this years plans? Please don't hesitate to contact any of the current Committee members. We'd love to hear from you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Jo Phelps, Chair
Ellen Babcock
Dick Tower
Jodi Brown
Jack Williams

Cemetery Commission

The Cemetery Commission would like to thank **Steve** and **Debbie Crowningshield** for letting us remove the stone foundation from the barn they razed. These native stones will help us to continue rebuilding various walls in the cemeteries. The Commission would like to thank **Levin Hardison** for his outstanding work on this project.

The Cemetery Commission would like to thank the **Vebers** and **Al Morse** for a great job maintaining the cemetery grounds.

Cemetery lots are available in all three (3) cemeteries in town (East Cemetery, West Cemetery & North Cemetery). Please contact Chairman James Williams at 339-4731 for additional information on purchasing a lot(s).

Anyone with questions or comments, please contact any Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,
James Williams, Chairman
James Taylor
Richard Tower

Summer Youth Employment

The "**Grasshopper**" program, again under the direction of SYE Superintendent **Jim Lively** of Stone Hill Road, did another great job trimming and cleaning our roadsides this past summer. Each and every teen in this program should be very proud. This is very hard work under hot and humid conditions. Please know that you are all appreciated very much.

Thanks go to Jim Lively for taking the time to work with these young people, helping them to develop good work habits. You're a great example to these teens, Jim. Thanks also go to the Supervisors **Joe Lively and Abby Lively**, Assistant Supervisor **Seth May**, and the Grasshoppers themselves...

Amanda Brown	Abigail Phelps
Purnima Booth	Brittani Sprague
Timothy Johnston	Samantha Wessman
Andrew Lively	Maggie White
John Paige	

There are 43.5 miles of roads in Rowe. When you double that for each side of the road that needs trimming ...that adds up to 90.6 miles that needs mowing, trimming and cleaning in 7 short (usually very hot) weeks! At the same time the crew also pays particular attention to saving certain ferns and flowers. Great job everyone!

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen L. Babcock, Administrator

Highway Department

Routine maintenance during the year included: cleaning and repair of shoulders, ditches and catch basins, street sweeping, line painting, roadside water-way repaving, roadside mowing, brush clearing, tree maintenance and maintenance of the Town Common and other traffic islands, brush clearing and tree maintenance.

As always equipment maintenance is a priority for the department, which greatly prolongs equipment life and productivity. Most towns turn over their trucks in 7-10 years. Historically our long-range planning calls for truck replacement every 15 years. We hope to continue with that schedule. Besides routine scheduled maintenance, the following major work was done:

- Brake job on Truck #1
- Spring replacement on Truck #3
- Replaced pins and bushings and rebuilt the plow for Truck #5

In late spring a significant rainstorm caused damage to sections of both Tatro and Steele Brook Roads, which have been repaired.

New items purchased include the John Deere backhoe which was delivered in October 2003 and a new Ingersoll-Rand air compressor.



JH Williams Photo
Rick Hamilton and the new John Deere backhoe

The December 6th snowstorm that hit the Northeast was declared a Snow Emergency by FEMA. Paperwork has been filed to recoup extraordinary costs associated with snow and ice removal during this storm.

Special projects undertaken during 2003 were:

- Cracksealing of Monroe Hill Road, Cross Road, Pond Road, and a small portion of Cyrus Stage Road.
- Paving of Middletown Hill, Steele Brook Road, and King's Highway.
- Excavation and preparation work for the new Library parking lot.



Tower Photo
Jim Carse sees an old friend for the last time.

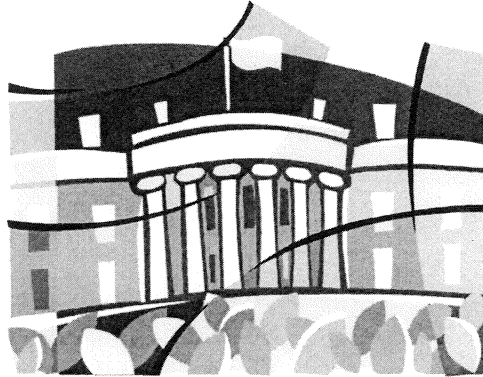
I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Melissa Quinn** for her assistance throughout the years. She was always incredibly helpful and supportive. I would also like to give thanks to the Selectmen for their support during the year.

I would also like to thank the Highway Department employees **Al Williams, Lance Larned, and Rick Hamilton** for their dedication and cooperation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
James Taylor, Superintendent



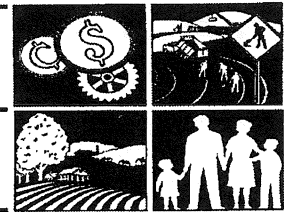
Tower Photo
Highway Department Crew: Lance Larned, Rick Hamilton, Al Williams and Supt. Jim Taylor



REGIONAL REPORTS

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

425 Main Street, Suite 40, Greenfield, MA 01301-3313
Telephone 413-774-3167 • Fax 413-774-3169 • www.frcog.org
Executive Director • Linda Dunlavy



The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) is pleased to offer this submission to the 2003 Annual Report. The FRCOG is proud to report on its accomplishments of the past year, which have been numerous.

All towns pay a membership assessment to the FRCOG. In recognition of the severe impact of the Massachusetts budget crisis towns are contending with, the FRCOG through staff reductions and use of free cash, level funded its regional services assessment in fiscal year 2003, reduced it by 10% in fiscal year 2004 and the Council has now approved the fiscal year 2005 budget with an additional 4% cut. In part because of these cuts, the FRCOG assessment to towns is still lower than the involuntary cherry sheet assessment of the last year of county government in 1996.

The FRCOG continues to offer a breadth of services to our member towns. Current programs include the regional planning services of economic development, land use, natural resources and transportation planning as well as computerized mapping services to support our planning efforts, engineering, cooperative bidding and purchasing, regional health inspection services, teen advocacy, and our core services that allow us to work on special projects and advocacy. Significant accomplishments in the past year include:

- Secured funding for the Franklin County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), which is an effort to plan for and coordinate regional response to chemical, natural or other emergencies. Current funding is being used to create a regional natural hazards mitigation plan; to provide emergency response training for all paid and volunteer emergency personnel; and to create a critical facilities database, associated mapping products, and a regional all-hazards response plan.
- Submitted an Executive Order 418 regional certification proposal. Executive Order 418 is a

gubernatorial mandate to increase the stock of housing for low and moderate-income citizens of Massachusetts. Each year towns must receive certification that efforts are being made to increase housing development opportunities in order to be eligible for or to receive bonus points for a variety of discretionary grants. This regional submission certifies all Franklin County towns for fiscal year 2004.

- Offered workshops that, with municipal attendance, results in a 5-7% decrease in fiscal year 2005 municipal official liability insurance premiums, which 20 Franklin County towns received.
- Secured \$30,000 of community development funding for each of our 20 communities and are now completing all other aspects of the plans that provide municipalities with natural resource, open space, transportation, housing analysis and planning.
- With a federal environmental grant, assessed whether former industrial sites in Greenfield, Montague, Erving and Monroe contained hazardous materials as a first step toward redevelopment and revitalization of these parcels. Continued funding is expected to expand the assessment to other properties throughout Franklin County.
- Conducted a teen health survey of 1,400 students in 5 Franklin County school districts to establish risk factors and use patterns of tobacco, alcohol and other drug use. The aggregated survey results will be used to create a regional teen support system and drug use prevention plan to be adopted by parents, teen support systems, schools and the community at large.

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments is committed to providing the best possible service to its member towns and to the region. For additional details about FRCOG programs, projects, and services, please contact us for our 2003 Annual Report at 413-774-3167, extension 100.

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste - recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge and trash. We continue to provide assistance to the twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings and outreach to residents and businesses. Our assistance can be general in nature - filling out paperwork required by the state - or specific - helping a town solve a particular problem.

In addition to the above services, the district continues to oversee the operation of three permanent collection sites for common household hazardous wastes such as oil-based paint and paint-related products, used motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, fluorescent lights, ballasts, and rechargeable batteries. These sites are open year-round to all district residents. There is a small disposal fee. The sites are located in Bernardston, Colrain and Conway. Contact the office for details about hours for each site.

In 2003, district towns recycled approximately 2900 tons of paper and 1300 tons of mixed containers. By diverting a total of 4200 tons of recyclables from landfills and incineration, district towns collectively saved over \$275,000 in disposal costs.

The district held its annual household hazardous waste collection in September. On-line registration was a big hit and went smoothly. Almost 425 residents participated, delivering 18 tons of hazardous waste! The participation

in 2003 increased slightly but the quantity of waste increased by 6 tons! The new collection site in Charlemont served residents in towns west of the Buckland Highway Department site.

The district also held its third annual "Clean Sweep" bulky waste collection. We added a collection site in Heath. We collected over 75 tons of appliances, scrap metal, bulky items, electronics, tires and propane tanks. This collection fills a big need for proper disposal of these items.

A new sharps collection program is being put in place. Residents who use hypodermic needles will be able to receive a free sharps disposal box at ten different sites. When the box is full, they can return it to any one of the ten drop-off sites. This program keeps needles out of the trash and recycling and protects worker health.

If you have questions about the District and its programs, call us at 413-772-2438; visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield, or at our website franklincountywastedistrict.org.

Jan Ameen, *Executive Director*
Bob Dean, Buckland - *Chair*
Scott McKusick, Bernardston - *Vice-Chair*
Becky Jurek, Heath, *Treasurer*

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

United States of America - Commonwealth of Massachusetts Federal, State and Local Officials

President of the United States The Honorable George W. Bush - R

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20510
Switchboard 202/456/1414
Comments 202/456-1111
FAX 202/456-2461
E-mail President@whitehouse.gov

Governor of Massachusetts The Honorable Mitt Romney - R

The State House
Office of the Governor, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
1-617-727-6250
E-mail GOFFice@state.ma.us

United States Senators from Massachusetts

Edward M. Kennedy - D

315 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
1-202-224-4543 (DC)
1-617/565-3170 (Boston)
E-mail senator@kennedy.senate.gov

Members of the Massachusetts General Court Senator Andrea Nuciforo - D

Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire & Franklin
District
74 North Street, Room 604
Pittsfield, MA 01201
1-413-442-6810
E-mail senator@vgernet.net

John F. Kerry - D

304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
1-202-224-2742 (DC)
1-508-644-0522 (Springfield)
Web form:
kerry.senate.gov/bandwidth/contact/email.html

Representative Daniel E. Bosley - D

1st Berkshire District
State House, Room 472
Boston, MA 02133
1-617-722-2120 (Boston)
1-413-663-7486 (North Adams)
E-mail dbosley@bcn.net

Massachusetts Representative In Congress

John D. Olver - D

1st District, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
1027 Longworth House HOB
Washington, DC 20515
1-202-225-5335 (DC)
1-202-226-1224 (DC Fax)
1-413-532-7010 (Holyoke)
1-413-532-6543 (Holyoke Fax)
Web mail: www.house.gov/writerep

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

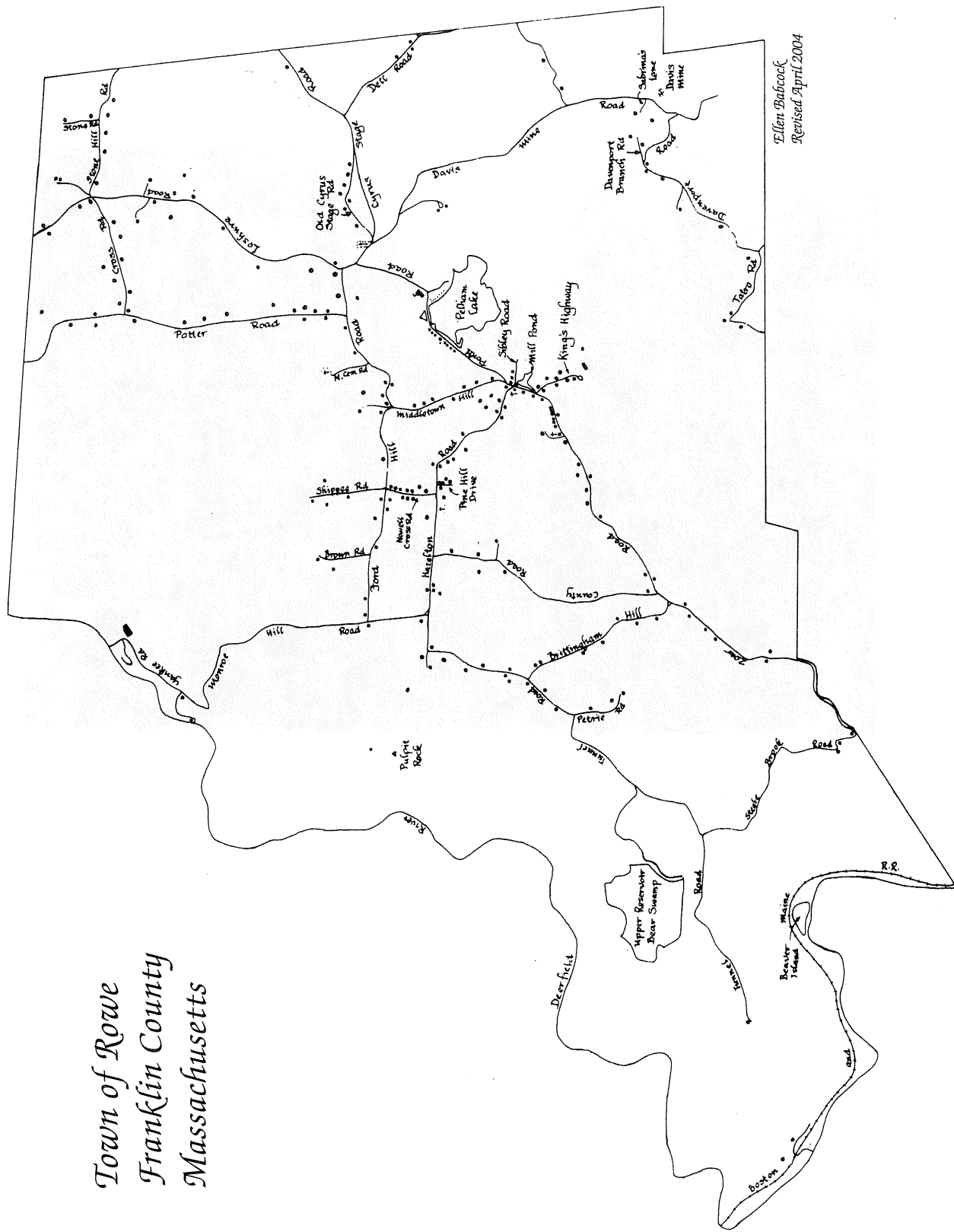
Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director

425 Main Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
1-413-774-3167
E-mail muniserv@frcog.org

NOTES



Town of Rowe Franklin County Massachusetts



Ellen Babcock
Revised April 2004

