

CONNESTON CHRONICLES

VOLUME I, 2017

Canterbury Barn

By: Bill Smith

Taking down the Peverly Barn on Baptist Road in Canterbury was an eye opener for me. We spent forty hard-working days with hydraulic lifts and a crew of six to seven guys to take the 200+ year old barn down.

The mortise and tenon joints were as tight as the day it was built, with only hardwood pegs in the joints, holding the structure together over the entire barn frame. There were nine barn bents, the structural members that define the cross-section of a timber frame building, made of 10x10 and 8x8 timber which weighed approximately 6,000 pounds each. The boards on the walls and roof were hand-nailed with cut nails and that was all that was used for fasteners, except for three rods and bolts at three column bases.

In the past the building had been upgraded and/or repaired at least three times; think about that divided out over time, nearly seventy years apart. I do not believe new buildings will stand for that length of time.

The building was 120-feet long and 42-feet wide and five stories tall, measuring 48 feet to the ridge, which by the way was only two logs long. With modern technology, we in today's world would need a couple of man lifts, a snorkel lift and a crane or two, to get the frame erected. What did the craftsman of two hundred years ago have? Maybe a gin pole or a team of oxen; I don't know, but the Yankee ingenuity and a little sweat I'm sure had a lot to do with it. Pretty amazing when you really think about it; they had to build their tools or feed their equipment before they could go to work and how did they get there?



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Stay tuned to future Chronicles issues to see where and when this barn is reassembled to its historical wonder. For more information on this project, view the video at ccinh.com. 

New Hampton School Dedicates Jacobson Arena

By: Jeff Downing

New Hampton School's Board of Trustees dedicated the recently completed Jacobson Arena on November 4th. Prior to the official dedication ceremony, Jeff Downing, CCI President and project manager, toured faculty, students and alumni through the facility and was recognized by Head of School, Joe Williams, for "over twenty years of support" on various New Hampton School projects.

CCI started this project in the late fall of 2015 and phased construction continued throughout the winter, until the existing hockey rink could be demolished and removed at the end of the hockey season in March. With the existing rink gone, the balance of the building was completed two full weeks ahead of the established schedule.

The \$7.8 million dollar project, designed by Banwell Architects, consists of 34,000 square feet of new space. Aside from the ice arena, the program includes 4,000 square feet of locker room facilities and a

2,000 square foot multi-function space, which has been designed to serve as a viewing area, function room and lobby for the facility. The arena also features bleacher seating for 120 spectators, laundry facilities and a training room. A spacious, exterior covered porch provides seating and shelter for day student drop-off and pick-up.

The project included many green design features, such as a high performance building envelope, LED lighting and a building automation system to minimize energy usage. Rist-Frost Shumway (RFS) of Laconia, New Hampshire, designed the mechanical and electrical systems for the project and completed the structural engineering.

The Ice³ refrigeration system, designed and installed by Preferred Contractors, Inc., is extremely energy efficient compared to older, traditional refrigeration systems and is also used to help cool the building and heat domestic hot water.



Waste heat from the refrigeration process is also used for the melt pit.

New Hampton School began their hockey season as scheduled and the Huskies are proud of their new, state-of-the-art facility. This is the last major project in New Hampton School's "Go Beyond" Capital Campaign, which has dramatically changed the face of the campus over the past ten years. CCI values our long term relationship with New Hampton School and appreciates the opportunity to be a part of this exciting project. 

From the President's Desk



Then and Now

By: Jeff Downing

Recently, I was trying to date that President's Desk photograph of me on the left, the young, idealistic dude with all that hair. Best guess is around 1998, the year we built and moved into our office building at 132 South Main Street here in Laconia (our original location was an office condominium at Village West in Gilford).

At that time, CCI had been in business for around six years and our annual sales volume was in the \$12 - \$14 million range (about half our volume in 2016). We were doing a lot of manufacturing work in 1998, but a look back at the job number book also lists many of the same clients that we still work with today (New Hampton School, Meredith Village Savings Bank, Alex Ray of the Common Man, SAU #48 and Rusty McLear of Hampshire Hospitality Holdings).

My former partners (Rudi Lehr and Ross Currier) are now retired after a long and successful career in this industry, only to be replaced by new partners (Bryant Lehr and Laura Larson), who represent the next generation of leadership here at CCI. I'm proud to say that almost all of the key employees from that era are still with us, doing what we do best, building projects and solving problems. Along with the CCI old guard, there is a nice mix of youth that keeps us all on our toes and reminds us that construction isn't a dying industry and what we've started here will continue for a long time.

So the wise, seasoned veteran in the photograph on the right may need glasses to work on his computer or read the messages that come over his "i-thing" (we didn't have e-mail or text messaging back then), but basically I'm still the same person running the same business.

In my thirty plus year career in this industry, I've survived two recessions, changed the New Hampshire landscape with millions of dollars of great construction projects, met many exceptional people, made many friends and experienced the joy and responsibility of leading a great group of construction professionals.

Looking forward to the future, with a bow of respect to the past and still love sitting at "the President's desk". Does a job really get any better than this?



Client Profile

Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains

By: April Guilmet, Community Relations Specialist, Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains

Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains is one of 112 councils chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA, the world's leading organization dedicated solely to girls. As part of a worldwide organization of 10 million girls and adults in 145 countries, this council serves over 13,500 registered members in more than 900 troops and is overseen by their dedicated adult volunteers throughout New Hampshire and Vermont.

The council's movement began over a century ago with one woman, Girl Scouts' founder Juliette Gordon "Daisy" Low, who believed in the power of every girl. She organized the first Girl Scout troop on March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Georgia, and every year since, they've made her vision a reality, helping girls discover their strengths,

passions, and talents.

The Girl Scouts' mission is building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Their volunteer-driven program serves girls in kindergarten through grade 12 and centers on what they call the Girl Scout Leadership Experience: a collection of activities and experiences girls have as they earn badges, sell cookies, go on exciting trips, explore the outdoors, do Take Action projects that make a difference, and more.

Community service is a vital part of their mission to "make the world a better place."



Through short-term community service projects and longer-term service learning opportunities, Girl Scouts work individually, in groups, and as part of council-wide initiatives to make a lasting impact on their communities and the world.

Their Highest Awards program provides Girl Scouts with an exceptional opportunity to address an issue they care deeply about—and take steps to positively impact their world. By earning the Girl Scout Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards, Girl Scouts join the ranks of generations of young women who have made significant, lasting change.

CCI is proud to be a part of the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains' newest project at Camp Farnsworth in Thetford, VT. This exciting project includes renovations to the camp dining hall and construction of a new bunkhouse. 



Employee Profile



Gerard Rhude

By: James Robinson

Gerard Rhude is one of the "young guns" here at CCI. He has been around construction

since he can remember helping his father, a local contractor. As Gerard was growing up he learned more about construction and carpentry from his father and other tradesmen, developing a passion for the industry. Starting at CCI in January 2014, Gerard

brought an excellent work ethic, motivation, carpentry skills and a sense of humor. He is and has been an exceptional addition to the CCI team. He stays upbeat throughout the work day as a boxer would through every round. He has the get it done attitude that everybody enjoys.

Gerard has always appreciated physical activity, like lifting weights and wrestling. In 2006, Gerard's senior year at Newfound High School, he won the wrestling state championship in the 145-pound weight class. Later converting his interest into boxing, Gerard won the 2014 Golden Glove boxing championship.

Nonetheless, Gerard's biggest win, was when he married his high school sweet-

heart, Francesca, in 2012. They had a beautiful wedding at Church Landing in Meredith, NH. Gerard and Francesca Rhude are currently starting the process of building their own house, planning to break ground this upcoming spring.

Mr. Rhude's other hobbies include, working, watching the Patriots, and spending time with his wife and dogs. His favorite saying is "E.L.E." Everybody Love Everybody. He always brings a positive attitude to work and makes a productive impact on the jobsite. I am sure he will make you smile or laugh when you find yourself at a CCI jobsite or event. 

Middleton Elementary School Dedication

By: Jeff Downing

On a sunny and warm Saturday in late August, a ceremony was held by the Middleton School District to dedicate their new, \$5.6 million, 30,000 square foot elementary school. Kathleen Cuddy-Egbert, Superintendent of Schools for the Governor Wentworth Regional School District, led the ceremony, which was well attended by hundreds of Middleton residents, faculty and students.

The vote to build the new school was passed by a wide margin and constructed without state aid. Since this was Middleton's first school, the School Board not only faced the



Professional's Corner

Tom Samyn's Retirement/ Farewell

By: Ross Currier

Thirty-six years ago, Tom Samyn put out his architect's shingle when he and co-principal, Ward D'Elia, started the architectural firm of Samyn-D'Elia Architects, PA (SDA) located in the sleepy town of Ashland, NH. On October 31, 2016, Tom took down his shingle to begin his well-deserved retirement.

Recently, I had lunch with Tom to find out more about his plans for the future and to reflect on his professional journey.

Tom and Ward D'Elia met in 1975 when Ward began working for Tom's then-employer, Bill Mead at WM Design Group in Center Harbor, NH. Four years later, a deteriorating economy brought WM Design's workload to a standstill leaving both men in search of a job. Neither of

them knew where they could find work, so on January 1, 1980, they decided to start their own architectural firm.

When I met Tom in 1986, I had just started working for a now-defunct general contractor, Mooney Corporation. Mooney was constructing the new Weirs Beach train station which is a focal point for one of the Lakes Region's premier tourist attractions. Tom was the architect for that building, which is a wonderful example of his trademark New England architectural design flair.

Since that time, he has had a hand in designing countless other New England landmarks. When I asked which ones were his favorites, he listed over two dozen projects, including a mix of bank facilities, churches, restaurants, resorts, residences and libraries. CCI was the contractor on many of these projects. Needless to say, the 30-plus year relationship that CCI has enjoyed with SDA couldn't have been possible without

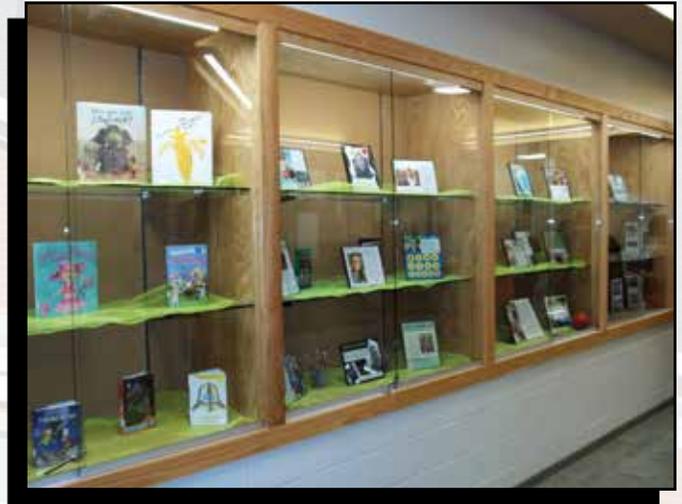
Tom's friendly personality and remarkable design talents. Tom's perspective on the reasons for the success of the SDA-CCI relationship comes from his feeling that the two have always worked as a team. He feels that the skills and attitudes of CCI's staff and their subs always yields a successful outcome and a happy customer.

The design world has changed dramatically since Tom started in the business over 40 years ago. Technology, building codes, materials and techniques have all evolved at a rapid pace. I asked Tom to comment on those changes. "The [most] significant change has been determined by the advent of computers. When I began in the design profession, everything was hand-drawn with pencil or ink on velum or Mylar. The best and most talented people who provided these services were talented designers. Now, anything can be drawn by anyone who becomes associated with a computer. This may or may not be the proper tool for a talented designer. Witness some of the buildings that are

usual challenges associated with construction, they also had to form a new school district from scratch. This involved hiring faculty and staff, along with a list of countless tasks and details.

In his dedication speech, Ken Garry, Chair of the Middleton School Board, recognized Marinace Architects and CCI, thanking them not only for a great facility that we all can be proud of, but a great construction experience as well. Ken called CCI a “true builder who delivered on time and on budget performance.”

For more details regarding the Middleton Elementary School dedication ceremony, check out the video of the event on the CCI website at ccinh.com. 



produced today. Some will be artistic and pleasing to the eye no matter what computer was used to produce the drawings and specifications. However, I must say that some building designs do not seem to be produced by talented designers. This is my opinion, but things have changed and there is not the same guarantee that all buildings and objects will be pleasing to one's preferences.”

As if Tom wasn't busy enough carrying out his professional duties, he somehow found time to give back to the community. His primary contributions were for the town of Plymouth, NH providing architectural expertise for their Centennial Amphitheater, Pemi Youth Center, roundabout studies, gazebo renovations and a covered pedestrian walkway. Tom also served as a member of the Plymouth Main Street initiative, the Ashland Chamber of Commerce and as mentor to several college interns over the years.

A rewarding byproduct of his talents are

the numerous design awards he and the firm have received. They include several featured articles in nationally published trade magazines and awards from groups such as the American Institute of Architects, New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, Plan New Hampshire and the Home Builders and Remodelers of New Hampshire.

I jokingly commented to Tom that the stereotypical image of a retired person is one that conjures up visions of 55+ communities, Velcro sneakers, wide brimmed hats, high waisted pants, loud shirts and never-ending naps. None of these descriptions were used when I asked him what his retirement plans were. But, because he is still adjusting to the concept of retirement, Tom doesn't have any specific plans, except to say that he is looking forward to spending his time on 'wanna do' versus 'gotta do' things. Tom feels that a little 'lounging about' is OK, but he really wants to spend time doing things that are productive and meaningful to himself and others.

After working with Tom for so many years, it is almost impossible for us to properly send him along on his retirement path. So we will simply say this: As you move into the next chapter of your life, know that you will be missed and that our very best wishes and thoughts go with you. Don't hesitate to pop in and say 'Hi!' Enjoy time with your wife, kids and cats and be sure to pick up the fiddle as often as you can!

Good Luck and Farewell, Tom! 



Holderness Free Library Groundbreaking

By: Jeff Downing

In early September, members of the Holderness Free Library's Board of Trustees joined staff, community leaders, the design team and CCI to break ground for the construction of a new addition.

After almost fifteen years of planning, the 2,800 square foot addition, designed by Samyn-D'Elia Architects, PA of Ashland, New Hampshire finally got underway thanks to an amazing public/private partnership. At last March's Town Meeting, \$195,000 was approved by



the Town of Holderness to make the current building code compliant. The balance of the \$850,000 construction project was raised by the Board of Trustees through private donations.

Library Trustee, Ted Vansant, noted that the project is only made possible by some "really generous donors who stepped forward to bring the project to fruition." This community effort will add a new

Children's Library, media center, community meeting room, along with staffing and computer space. Wi-Fi access will be provided to new outdoor seating facilities and about 1,300 square feet of existing space will also be renovated and modernized.

Scheduled for completion in early 2017, look for future construction updates on this project in the next issue of the Conneston Chronicles. Ron Downes is serving as CCI superintendent and Mark Bolstridge is CCI project manager!



Safety Update

By: Jon Healey

The CCI 2016 Safety Committee has been active over the past quarter promoting a "See Something, Say Something" message to all CCI staff and subcontractors. This message was passed along with the hopes that all our employees and subcontractors would be more proactive in looking out for one another. The committee reports that this

message is being heard, and more importantly, being used to benefit all.

A third quarter company-wide safety meeting was held this past September. The main focus of this meeting was discussion regarding OSHA Inspection procedures and a short checklist of important points to remember was distributed to all employees. This checklist detailed what all employees should expect prior to, during and after an OSHA inspection and the proper procedures to follow.

This meeting was an open meeting with all staff, management and Rowley Insurance asking questions, giving feedback and discussing previous inspections with staff that have experienced the process. The Safety Committee feels that this meeting was invaluable to all.

For 2016 CCI experienced no lost time injuries or OSHA fines and all CCI staff received their year-end safety bonuses in December!

Farewell to Chris's Drywall

By: Ray Breton

In the spring of 2017 Chris Cadorette will be finishing up a few projects he has in process, and after thirty-three years in the drywall business, will start a new chapter in his life, retirement.

Chris Cadorette started his career in 1972 working as a drywall tapper. In 1984 Chris ventured out and started Chris's Drywall, and with much hard work and dedication soon became a major drywall contractor in the state. Chris was one of

the first drywall contractors CCI used on a regular basis and became one of our "go to" contractors. It was not uncommon to see Chris's crews on several CCI jobs at the same time, and over the years he has worked on dozens and dozens of CCI projects.

In retirement, Chris, along with his wife Edith, plan on spending some time with family in North Carolina. They are also excited to hit the road in their 30-foot motor home and see where the road takes

them. Chris also mentioned he will be spending some relaxing time on his boat in the future.

Whatever adventure Chris and Edith embark on, we hope it brings them the joy and happiness they so much deserve after years of dedication to their business.

From all of us here at CCI we would like to thank you for the many years of quality services provided to us. We wish you well as you start this new chapter.

Framing Material – Not So Simple Anymore!!

By: Dean Bennett, Lavalley-Middleton Building Supply

Buying lumber was always looked at as being very simple. You order the size and length of what you need for the particular purpose. Well, times are a little different now with more attention being paid to the structural building as a whole.

Engineered wood, hangers, nails, and even lumber are all looked at for specific buildings. In particular, this comes into play on projects where an Architect/Engineer calls for a specific material and the design properties associated with that material.

Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF) is the most common material that we are familiar with in our local lumber yards. This material is bought from many mills and sources, both domestic and Canadian, to keep pricing and supply at reasonable levels. The National Design Specification 2012 (NDS) has different design properties for SPF depending on where it comes from. When called out as SPF No.1/No.2 it is Northern or Canadian material, which carries a Fiber Bending (Fb) rating of 875. Domestic material which is noted as SPF's (south) has separate values for No.1 875 psi, and No.2 775 psi, but buying only No.1 material is not really available. It would be simple if the project designers would base all of the specifications on the No.2 SPF's (south) so all the typical material would work, but that is unlikely to happen. So, we need to be aware of what is required for a particular job, and if only Northern SPF is called out, the supplier and jobsite need to keep an eye out for what is being shipped and received. It has to meet the design properties that the designers had intended.

Finally, with the global economy we now live in, there is the presence of imported lumber from various countries. This material typically looks very nice and will do the common spans and typical framing needs, but again if the job requires a particular material with specific design properties, we might need to confirm that the material meets those requirements before it is used. In the end, it comes down to being aware of what is required for the job, and everyone paying attention that the correct material is used in the end. Even lumber is not that simple anymore!

CCI Fall Party

On Friday, October 14th, CCI employees headed south to Concord for our annual fall party. This year's party was held at the Red Blazer. With multiple job sites operating throughout the year at locations throughout the state, these functions are our opportunity to come together as a company and visit with our peers. So, on a chilly fall night in October, that's exactly what the employees of CCI did; we came together to celebrate, to visit, to share and to socialize.



CCI Holiday Party

CCI employees packed up their cars and headed towards the lake for our 2016 Holiday Party. This year's event was held at the Wolfboro Inn on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee.

Once dressed in attire that didn't resemble the traditional jeans and work boots, the CCI employees and spouses filed into the function room for an evening of dining, dancing, socializing, and a little imbibing.

Always one of the best company functions of the year, everyone enjoyed the time together and celebrating the start of the holiday season and the end of another successful year for the company.



CCI's Family Continues to Grow



CCI welcomed two new additions to its family in August.

Wyatt Gregory Boucher was born August 23, 2016 to Christian and Alicia Boucher. Wyatt weighed in at 7 pounds 4 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

Amelia Sadie Patten arrived early on August 30th at 6:48 pm weighing 5 lbs. 8 oz. and 19" long. Mommy worked for a couple days and didn't know she was in labor until she made a doctor's appointment. A Dartmouth medical student then drove Mommy from the doctor's office to the Concord Hospital. Daddy was driving home from work at the time, so he rushed



to get there. Big brother Caleb thinks that Amelia is cute and loves to touch her hair and kiss her!



Pink Fairies

The Tortuga Trail Trot 5K was held on November 6, 2016 to raise money for the Betty J. Borry Breast Cancer Retreat hosted by Holderness School.

Team CCI (Jeff & Emily) won the costume contest as Pink Fairies and finished 24th & 25th overall out of 150 +/- runners. Emily was 1st in her division (girls 11-15) & Jeff was 1st in his division (old bald men 50-59).

Real men & girls LOVE PINK in support of Breast Cancer!



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PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

Project	Client	Superintendent	Completion Date
New Bank Branch	Meredith Village Savings Bank	Mark L'Heureux	Spring 2017
New Bank Branch	Merrimack County Savings Bank	John McAuliffe	Spring 2017
Camp Dining Hall Renovations	Girl Scouts of the Green & White Mountains	Dan Baggaley	Spring 2017
Convenience Store Expansion	Granite State Hospitality, LLC	Bill Smith	Spring 2017
Pickering House Additions and Renovations	Peter and Patty Cooke	Mark Marceau	Fall 2017
Brewery Expansion	Schillings Brewery	TBD	Winter 2017
Bathhouse Renovations	Paugus Bay Campground	TBD	Spring 2017
East Gable Expansion	Pats Peak Ski Area	Mike Bridges	Spring 2017
Office and Clinical Renovations	Genesis Behavioral Health	TBD	Fall 2017
New Elevator, Stair Tower and Renovations	Mt. View Grand Resort	Ron Downes	Summer 2017
Peverly Barn Restoration	Alex Ray	Bill Smith	Fall 2017