

# Ebb and Flow

Reversing Falls News Letter

October 2017



Happy WindowDresser, 2016

Today, September 29, the third WindowDressers build finishes another successful venture. A thank you to the organizers and workers will appear from Tom Adamo in the next e-newsletter with photos from 2017.

Thank you to the visioning team, the hosts, and the participants in a series of fruitful small listening circles which concluded yesterday. Word about what we have learned and where the visioning process goes from here will appear in the next newsletter as well.

An excerpt from the following article will be published soon in a special edition of the Brooksville Breeze.

*“There is no greater power than a community*

*discovering what it cares about.”*

Margaret Wheatley

This is the work that Reversing Falls Sanctuary is about — discovering what we care about and how to respond to that. We are blessed to have access to a beautiful sacred building (thanks to the United Methodist Church) that holds the stories of Brooksville families going back more than one hundred years. Honoring the faith and hard work of those neighbors is something we care deeply about. For that reason, in the past year we have become a 501(c)3 non-profit. Thanks to a grant from the Maine Steeple Foundation, we learned from Ames and Associates that this building is an important historic resource for Brooksville and the state of Maine. The building dates to the late Victorian period, has a square tower on the Northeast corner, and is done in Stick-Eastlake architectural style. One suggestion from the architects and engineers who did the study was that we install interior storm windows to both reduce infiltration and improve thermal values. Thanks to our WindowDresser project, we will have these insulated window inserts available for this winter. Many other projects are in the works.

The programs we offer and the projects we undertake reflect our mission  
which is to build strong community bonds,  
support local artists and musicians,  
care for our earth,  
and welcome people on diverse spiritual paths.

Given the aging population of our county and town, we are studying ways to respond to the specific needs of elders who are facing the inevitable losses of this stage of life. How do we stay as healthy as possible, how do we have advanced care planning conversations, how do we companion one another through difficult times?

Thanks to our *Gallery Within*, made possible by a Maine Community Foundation grant, we are able to host several art exhibits each year, giving local artists the opportunity to show and sell their remarkable creations. Musicians all rave about the amazing acoustics in the building, and we are thrilled to be a venue for these uplifting and celebratory events.

2

Given the effects of Climate Change already being felt by local farmers, fishermen, health care providers and others, we will continue to bring world-renowned climate scientists to educate us on the current data and challenge us to make the necessary changes in our personal and communal lives. Learning from those who lived here before us, both the indigenous peoples and the early settlers, we can move with resilience into a future that is sustainable and life-giving — if we work together.

Of utmost importance to us is the respect and dignity we want to offer all people who walk through our doors. All spiritual and wisdom traditions believe love is more powerful than hate, that non-violence is more fruitful than violence, and that the meaningful questions in life can best be pondered in community, rather than in isolation. And so we welcome all who would like to share this journey with us in any way that works for them. All our programs are on the events calendar of our website: [www.reversingfalls.org](http://www.reversingfalls.org)



WindowDressers at work, 2016

## Coming Events

Wed, Oct. 11, 4 p.m. **Program Team**

Thu. Oct 12, 5 p.m. **Peace Making Circle on Economic and Social Justice**

*Join Circle Facilitator, Fred Van Liew, in an exploration of economic and social justice issues in our country, state and town at Reversing Falls Sanctuary. The evening begins at 5 with a pot-luck supper, circle from 6 to 8:30 pm +.*

*Limited to 20 persons. Please register with Kim Coit at [kcoit207@gmail.com](mailto:kcoit207@gmail.com) or 207-671-6136.*

*Fred Van Liew, who facilitated a circle at RFS in 2016, was a career prosecutor (of juveniles) who introduced restorative justice practices to his department. He is director of the Portland Center for Restorative Justice, author of "Justice Diary" and is currently writing a book on life after retirement.*

*Please join us for this special conversation.*

Kim Coit

Sun. Oct 15, 12 noon to 8 p.m. **Fund Raising Harvest Festival at Nibezun**

There will be music, food and fun with drumming and dancing. Musical groups include the Soul Benders and Timbered Lake. There will be artisan booths and a silent auction. Admission is \$25 for those over 12 years of age. The purpose of the fund raiser is to enable this Native American Sacred Site to be secured for indigenous people and as a place for "Healing the Wounds of Turtle Island." Nibezun is at 18 Nepisikwit Drive in Passadumkeag Info: [healingturtleisland@gmail.com](mailto:healingturtleisland@gmail.com)

Wed. Oct 18, 4 p.m. **RFS Board meeting**

Sun. Oct 22, 4 p.m.: **Leonard Cohen Tribute Concert with Paul Weiss and Timbered Lake**

This return engagement will offer opportunity for discussion of the impact Cohen has had on our lives and thinking and conversation about the meaning of particular pieces. If you missed the first Cohen concert, don't miss this one.

Sun. Nov. 12, 4 p.m. **The Radical Love of Ordinary Food: Celebrating Avis**

Sat. Nov. 18, **Healing Workshop with Sherri Mitchell** – save the date

Watch for an announcement of a time when **Chris Farrow-Noble** will be here for an author's talk as she launches her new book.

The fascinating **conversation we had with Dr. Mona Hannah-Attisha** last month was taped by Carolyn Coe and will soon be available at the WERU archives.

Annie Poole has created a **beautiful logo** for Reversing Falls communications and signage. It will appear in the next newsletter. Thank you, Annie.



The entrance to Nibezun

Nibezun photo by Amy Thompson. WindowDresser photos credits uncertain

Information: [www.reversingfalls.org](http://www.reversingfalls.org)

[Reversing Falls on Facebook](#)

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