

President's Message

"Hi all -- Can hardly believe we're at the start of the holidays already! Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are looking forward to enjoying at least some part of Christmas Prelude. It's amazing all the fun things we have happening in our three towns over the next month. Among my favorites are the lobster trap tree in Cape Porpoise and, of course, the Pooch Parade on the last day of Prelude. And I am really looking forward to the Holiday Gala that the Social Committee has created for us on December 7th at The Nonantum! There's still time to buy tickets - hope to see many of you there!

One other important aspect of our three towns this time of year is the many ways we can reach out and help one another, especially those in need. I am going to give a plug for a new event to benefit all the homeless animals at Animal Welfare Society. This is the Fur Tree - a tree that is already in place in front of Kennebunkport Inn which will be decorated with red bows with names of pets, past and present, inscribed on them. There are over 300 bows which have been made by Alice Ferran, Lynn Fraser, Pat Georges, Cindy Sayers, Audrey Lakin and Carol Sherman (huge thank you, ladies!). These bows are waiting for pets' names (up to three pets can be placed on each bow). We already have almost 100 of them subscribed for - so hurry to animalwelfaresociety.org/give/fur-tree/ - to honor your pets' or a friend's, and to help AWS.

And as we watched the temperature plummet from the 70s to the 30s two weeks ago, it's time to give a round of applause for that great Maine inventor Chester Greenwood who gave us earmuffs (my favorite winter head gear)!!

More seriously, I hope you all have peaceful, safe, and magical holidays with family, friends, and neighbors this month. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year!

Kate

GALA HOLIDAY PARTY!! Wednesday, December 7th Drinks at 5, buffet dinner at 6
Nonantum Hotel, Kennebunkport Cost \$75 per member, \$100 for nonmember guests

Please plan to come celebrate the season with old and new friends at the beautiful Nonantum Hotel. There will be a delicious buffet dinner, and cash bar. Price includes room rent, bartender, taxes and gratuities.

Ladies Lunch December 7, Wednesday 12 noon at Merriland Farm Café, 557 Coles Hill Road, Wells

Please RSVP by December 5 Hope to see many of you there !

Leaders: Roseanne Withycombe and Marilyn Smith

The Beachside Bookenders have set a new schedule for meetings. Our meetings on the first Thursday were in conflict with the N&N meetings, so we have moved to the second Thursday of the month. The December meeting will be held on December 8 at 3:30 p.m. Note the change in time, as well. For December, we're reading *The Land of Cockaigne* by Jeffrey Lewis.

January's meeting will be on the January 12 at 3:30 pm. We've chosen *The Tale of Desperaux* by Kate DiCamillo.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Beachside Bookenders, send an email to Susan Gilbey.

Breakfast Group will not meet in December. Watch for January announcement.

Leader: Marie Ali Hassan

Bridge at Duffy's – on Wednesdays, Lunch at 12:30 pm, Bridge 1:30-3:30 pm.

Leader: Tom Boak

Knitting and Crafts group will not meet in December, but will resume in January.

Leaders: Marie Ali Hassan & Linda Gaumond

Men's Lunch Bunch: After a long break, the once-per month trivia lunch at Duffy's is scheduled to resume at noon on Tuesday, 13 December 2022. For those planning to participate, before noon on 12 December please respond so I can request Duffy's to set the proper number of place settings for us.

There's still time to remember all of that useless information which you learned since kindergarten. See you soon !!

Leader: Larry Simmons



Twenty people enjoyed TGFun on November 13 at the Kennebunkport Inn! We will get together again in February.

Hosts—Kris and John Salo

The Outdoor Activity Group: Here are a few photos from our guided walk in Butler Preserve on November 5. If we did not see you, we look forward to another adventure.



Leaders: Joyce and Keith Schnaars

Photos below are from our October 13 meeting featuring Betsy Hooper with her hurdy-gurdy. She described the instrument as the love child of a bagpipes and violin. It was a delightful and informative evening. Elaine and Bob are admiring the custom-made wooden instrument which is hand cranked, bowed and frequently tuned.



Recipe of the month from our President who shared these chocolate gluten-free treats with our group at a recent meeting.

BEACON HILL COOKIES

1 C chocolate chips
2 egg whites
dash of salt

½ C sugar
½ tsp vanilla
½ tsp white vinegar

Melt choc chips over hot water. Beat the egg whites with the salt until foamy. Gradually add the sugar and keep beating until stiff peaks form. Beat in vanilla and vinegar. Fold in the melted chocolate until well blended. Drop by teaspoon on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 10 mins. Yield: @ 36 cookies

Kate's hints: I always make the cookies with the Ghiradelli Bittersweet chocolate chips - I find the Ghirardelli chips melt more smoothly - and I actually melt them in the microwave at 50% power - way faster and easier than using a double-boiler melt (and the Ghirardelli chips melt beautifully in the microwave). The hardest thing about this recipe is remembering to take the eggs out of the refrigerator far enough in advance so the egg whites will be at room temp when you want to work with them. I usually just take them out the night before.

One of these days I'm going to try making them with almond extract - bet it would be yummy but don't want to take a chance if I'm making for a crowd that someone might have a nut allergy.

Check our website for calendar and activities or to refer potential new members
<http://www.kptanewcomers.org/>