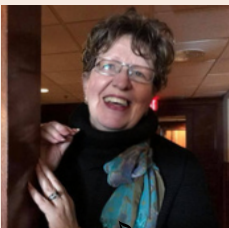




# NHJPA Newsletter

**Fall 2024**



## President's Corner

“Celebrate! 🎵 This is your celebration! Celebrate good times, come on. There’s a party going on right here. So bring your good times and your laughter, too. We’re going to celebrate your party with you. Celebrate!” This 1980’s song just makes you want to get up and dance! And I hope it makes you want to be a part of Our Celebration on November 10th! We want to celebrate YOU! The New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association is a successful growing organization because of YOU! You come to meetings, you share your stories with others so they can grow professionally, you recommend fellow members when you aren’t available for a wedding, you grow professionally so couples can have a wonderful wedding, you use our logo on your printed materials so people will know you have the highest ethics and credentials! The banquet on November 10 will be another chance to network, learn from each other and celebrate YOU!

I have recently taken some Improvisation classes. It helps me to think quickly beyond a script when the unexpected happens. We have all experienced those moments and I want to strengthen that skill to be better prepared. A 5 minute play is on the Agenda for the November 10th celebration. “Jolene” will call to plan her wedding. Is this a wedding you would take or would you recommend a colleague? So many times we answer the phone to the questions: “Are you a JP?” and “What is your fee?”

The Celebration Anniversary Banquet ticket cost for members \$50. Buy early so we know how many are coming and plan accordingly. Let’s celebrate YOU on Sunday, November 10th!

Judith Wilhelmy, NHJPA President and Founder



## Upcoming Events



## **NHJPA Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary!**

Join us on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 11:30AM at the Puritan Backroom Conference Center as we celebrate a decade of success and growth. This in-person event is a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow members, reminisce about past achievements, and look forward to the future. Don't miss out on this special occasion filled with fun, food, and festivities and a special performance by the popular and in demand The Concord Coachmen Chorus. See you there! Feel free to bring a guest!

### **RSVP today!**

Your online payment receipt is your confirmation (see below)

**Questions:** email Nancy Lavalley - [nhjpaorg@gmail.com](mailto:nhjpaorg@gmail.com)

Entertainment by:

**["The Concord Coachmen Chorus"](#)**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Sunday, November 10, 2024**

**Location: Puritan Backroom (Conference Center), Manchester**

**Time: 11:30 AM - Social gathering**

12:15 PM - Dinner Buffet

1:30 PM - Entertainment

2:15 PM - Awards

**Cost:** \$60 per ticket

\$50 per ticket (Member discount)

(Includes Puritan Favorites Buffet)

Cash Bar

**[Please click here to remit your online payment.](#)**



Please note in the Add'l info" section of the payment form:  
"10th celebration RSVP, attendee name(s) and Member or Non-Member"





## Honoring Our Member Veterans A Tribute for Their Service

As we look ahead to November, we not only look forward in anticipation of our Anniversary Banquet on Sunday, November 10, but on November 11 we recognize and honor our Members who serve and have served. Let's especially take the time to pause on this day to express our deepest gratitude and respect for the brave men and women who have served our country in the armed forces. As members of the New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association, we are fortunate to have among us individuals who have dedicated their lives to protecting our freedoms and ensuring the safety of our nation.

Our veteran members have made countless sacrifices, both physically and emotionally, to uphold the values we hold dear. They have faced challenges and endured hardships that most of us can only imagine. Their courage, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to duty are an inspiration to us all.

Whether they served in times of war or peace, our veteran members have played a vital role in shaping the world we live in today. Their experiences have enriched our lives and made us stronger as a community.

As we honor their service, let us also remember the sacrifices made by their families. Their support and unwavering love have been instrumental in the success of our veterans.

On behalf of NHJPA, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all our veteran members. Your service to our nation will never be forgotten.





## A Wedding Day Memoire

by Judith Wilhelmy, NHJPA President & Founder

### *A Golden Mc Wedding*



My most recent funny story happened 2 weeks ago. A couple (it was just the 2 of them) was supposed to get married in a hotel gazebo. But an hour before the wedding we had a torrential downpour. Sides of streets were washed out and puddles were higher than hubcaps on cars. I called the couple and the wedding location was changed to a dry place that would be open.....McDonalds! Due to road washouts it took me over half an hour to reach this destination 10 minutes from my home. On the way they stopped at Savers to buy her a gown. Fortunately she had a cardigan sweater in the car because she needed to wear it since the gown was too small and wouldn't zip up. There were no customers in the place so it was a lovely private wedding and they had Big Macs for the wedding feast.

Cheers!  
Judith





## Wine Box Ceremony (Script)

(Bride and Groom Names ) have chosen to perform a Love Letter & Wine Box ceremony. This box contains their favorite bottle of wine, two glasses, and a love letter from each other. The letters describe the good qualities they find in one another, the reasons they fell in love, and their reasons for choosing to marry. The letters are sealed in individual envelopes, and they have not seen what the other has written. (Bride and Groom Names) you have created your very own romantic time capsule to be opened on your first wedding anniversary at which time you will read the letters and drink the wine. Each year you will open the box, drink the wine, and read the letters from the previous year and replace it with new letters and wine for the following year.

The wine box will have a “special place” and be prominently displayed in your home as a constant reminder of your commitment to each other. (Bride and Groom Names), you may now place your personal letters to each other and seal the wine box.

For more Ceremony inclusions visit [NHJPA.org/news-resource](http://NHJPA.org/news-resource)





## Notary Corner

Our Summer publication included the introduction of the *Notary Corner*. Since that time, we have decided to continue this section outside of the Justice of the Peace newsletter, and I am willing to take that on! If you wish to be part of this group to receive and/or send any notarial experiences, concerns, questions, etc. that may be beneficial to all of us as Notaries Public and Justices of the Peace, please send me your email address and your comments to Patricia Berger at: [seacoastnotary@gmail.com](mailto:seacoastnotary@gmail.com)

I look forward to hearing from you about your unusual experiences and requests to notarize. As a J.P. officiating a document, I like to call it "**justicize!**"

Patricia Berger  
Ambassador, National Notary Association  
NHJPA Treasurer, Bylaws & Nominations/Elections Chair  
[seacoastnotary@gmail.com](mailto:seacoastnotary@gmail.com)



## Member News

# Welcome

A warm welcome to our new NHJPA Members

Merrimack – Stephen Dunhom

Nashua – Susan Miele

[Click here for the online NHJPA Listing](#)

Join the New Hampshire Justice of the Peace  
FB group. [Click here to submit your request.](#)



Hey there! Just a friendly reminder that the annual \$60 membership renewal invoices were sent out in July. If you haven't paid your membership yet, you can easily remit online by clicking on this link: [Pay My Membership](#). Thanks so much!



We want to hear from you! NHJPA, established in 2014, aims to educate and network with New Hampshire Justices of the Peace. Please participate in our survey so we can better serve our members. For membership inquiries, visit [nhjpa.org](http://nhjpa.org). [Click here](#) to take a brief survey!



At the NHJPA meetings, we have a raffle with participants donating what they can. The cash donations are then sent to the New Hampshire Food Bank. Food Banks prefer a cash donation over food donations. For each \$2 donated they can purchase \$10 of food items. [Click here](#) to read more about the NH Food Bank.



NHJPA member Lisa Law recently met with members of SCORE Granite Region on her Facebook podcast, the Lisa Law Show. Missed it? Visit [WSMN.Live/Lisa-Law](https://www.facebook.com/WSMN.Live/Lisa-Law) or the [Lisa Law Radio Show Facebook](#) page. SCORE offers free expert guidance to grow your business, with workshops and webinars on small business topics. Take advantage of your own personal small business mentor. Check out [SCORE Granite Region](#).



## Suggestions for Officiants

- Always look at the Marriage License before signing. Make sure that it does not have a watermark that indicates "This is not a valid Marriage License". If possible bring this to the couple's attention when they receive it from the City/Town Clerk.
- Always make a copy of the marriage license before submitting to the City/Town Clerk.
- Take a picture of the couple for your records.
- Make sure you have tissue or a hankie readily available for tearful brides...and grooms!
- If the wedding is to be held in the same room as the reception, strongly urge the couple to keep the bar totally closed until after the ceremony. If the bar is available, people will cluster around the bar. If a guest has a choice between ordering one more drink or sitting down for the ceremony, for many guests, the bar wins. It is not an easy task to get everyone to leave the bar and to sit down in a timely manner for the ceremony to begin.

## What Makes a Great Officiant?

Good Public Speaking, Good Listening, Organization, Resourcefulness, Reliability, Patience, Humor and Flexibility. A good knowledge of wedding styles, choices and laws are necessary, too. NHJPA provides information in these areas. How can we help You? Join us at one of our upcoming meetings and network with other JPs.

## Member Benefits

- Support and Encouragement from fellow members
- Listing and Referrals on our website
- Referrals from other members
- Use of NHJPA Logo for website and professional use
- Current Information and Changes in the Law
- Subscription to NHJPA Times Newsletter
- The opportunity to have legal papers signed and/or notarized at our meetings
- Social events and tours

For more on NHJPA Member Benefits and Membership [click here](#)



### **NHJPA Mission Statement**

The New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association promotes Professionalism and Integrity by requiring members to comply with a Code of Ethics and provides Education through meetings, workshops and networking.

New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association

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## Meet your Board of Directors

### **President and Founder**

Judith Wilhelmy, Nashua

[watersideweddings@gmail.com](mailto:watersideweddings@gmail.com)

### **Chairperson of Membership**

Nancy Lavallee, Danville

[nhjpaorg@gmail.com](mailto:nhjpaorg@gmail.com)

### **Vice President and Co-founder**

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### **Chairperson of Education and Partnerships**

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### **Secretary**

Lisa Law, Nashua

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### **Chairperson of By-Laws, Nominations and Elections**

Patricia Berger, Raymond

[seacoastnotary@gmail.com](mailto:seacoastnotary@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Patricia Berger, Raymond

[seacoastnotary@gmail.com](mailto:seacoastnotary@gmail.com)

