

# VerShare

*To enhance a spirit of community, foster economic development, and contribute to projects to benefit the residents of Vershire.*

## President's Message

Greetings!

I would like to give a heartfelt thanks to everyone who makes this community a vibrant and special place. We could not do it without your help.

For the year that just ended our special thanks go to: **David Hooke** for helping to sort out the water issues at the Church Orr House, **Helen Wilson** for taking on the daunting task of treasurer for VerShare, and **Andrea Herrington**, not only for running a stellar Summer Camp, but also for her commitment to taking over the VerShare Library after the departure of Library Lynn Roy. Thank you all very much.

I'd like to personally invite everyone in town to please consider joining us at the VerShare potluck and Annual Meeting on January 26th. It is not only a time to share a meal with friends and neighbors, it is an opportunity to show your support for this fully volunteer community organization. It is people just like you who donate their time and energy to make it all happen.

Thank you so much for your continued support. We value your participation in this wonderful community and hope that you will continue to grow with us.

Aaron Hoopes, VerShare President



## Please Join Us!!

# Vershare Potluck and Annual Meeting



*Friday January 26th, 2018*

Potluck Dinner 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Annual Meeting 7:00pm - 8:00pm



Bring your favorite dish to share with the community.

Everyone is welcome to stay for the meeting where we review the past year and looking forward to coming events.

We will also be adding new board members.

## Lunar New Year Celebration

February 18, 2018

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Town Center

Join us in celebrating the **Year of the Dog**

Every year Joyce and Marissa Mazzucco cook up a storm in the kitchen for this event.

However anyone with a favorite Asian or Lunar inspired dish is invited to share it.

There will be several dishes that will be made made in cooking classes. Dates to be announced.

Please contact Marissa if you are interested in participating:  
802-505-0008



## MADE IN VERSHIRE SHOP

**SATURDAY MORNINGS  
10am-1pm**

at the VerShare Church Orr  
House

**Coffee, Tea & Snacks**

**Friendly Neighbors**

**Free Superfast WiFi**

We've had several new additions to our vendor lists again this year. Eli and Owen Mansuer from West Fairlee brought in their delightful sheep with stories and hand forged hooks. Shire Beef has loaned the shop their freezer and now you can get your local grass fed beef at affordable prices, plus help Vershare at the same time. Cat Spaulding has some amazing embroidery pieces in the shop and is planning on creating some MIV shop tote bags for your reusable shopping needs. Syd Vessey's feathered earrings are also back in stock after a year! Plus so many wonderful new creations from our regular vendors. New things that show up every month.

## CIVICS KLATCH

Wednesday Mornings

7:30 - 9:00am

Church-Orr House



**Civics Klatch** remains a self-running group of adults that meet every Wednesday morning to share coffee, tea, and big ideas. They choose a series of films or lectures to review together and discuss. Topics include philosophy, ethics, religion, history and many more. Films are then donated to the Library collection.

Come for coffee, a thought-provoking DVD lecture and a free-wheeling discussion.

Come join us!

## STAGECOACH STOP HOSTEL

The Stagecoach Stop Hostel is located in the Church Orr House and provides convenient and economical lodging for people visiting Vershire.

If you have any out-of-town visitors who need a place to stay...please come stay with us.

Hostel Rates:

\$35 per room/per night (single)

\$10 per extra person

Children under 12 FREE!

to reserve your space email:  
information@vershare.org

## VerShare Van Trips

**Van Trips** are a newer 'tradition' that have become an instant classic, so to speak. These enrichment field trips take children and adults from Vershire to places they may not otherwise have a chance to explore. Some are local, like perennial favorites, Old City Falls and Treasure Island, while others are further afield, such as ECHO and Fairbanks Museum. 33 children took advantage of these trips over the February and April and summer vacations. In addition, 9 children and 4 adults took a van trip to The Christmas Revels in mid-December.





# VerShare Summer Camp

This year's Camp saw the return of the Otter Adventure Camp with an offsite trip to Groton State Forest during the week prior to the onsite day camp. This 3 day/2 night trip empowered 8 Otter Campers (ages 11 & 12) and 4 Counselors-In-Training (CITs) (ages 13-15) to challenge themselves and expand their skills, physically, mentally and socially. The new hybrid model of weaving large group activities with times to break off into adventure sessions for Otter Campers and leadership training sessions for CITs was embedded in the fun and beauty of a kayaking/camping trip at Kettle Pond's group campground. The 4 adults who guided this trip and these teens will meet to debrief and discuss ideas for next year.



In addition to the 8 Otter Campers, VerShare Community Camp served a total of 48 youth from 10 towns this year (51% of campers from Vershire), with ages ranging from 2.5y to 12.5y. The Camp mission is to provide a free high-quality camp experience to both the campers and the youth who volunteer their time as CITs and Counselors. Our CITs (7 total) receive documentation for 40hrs of Community Service. Our Counselors (7 total), ages 16-22, receive a small stipend for their time as this supports local economic success in a rural area with limited opportunities for summer employment for this age group. However, it is still truly community service, for which they receive documentation, as they share their energy and passions with the Campers they greet with a smile each day.

Camp has always had funding to support paying Environmental Educators to be Activity Leaders at Camp. This year, the Board voted to share a stipend of gratitude with all Activity Leaders. While these adults have been volunteering their time for years with no expectation of compensation, it was nice to be able to recognize their contributions with a small financial return, as well as the return of many smiles and new interests from grateful campers.



Save the date!

***Summer Camp 2018***  
***July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.***

**Volunteers Needed!!!**

**There are many ways to be involved, so please let us know if you'd like to help.**

**Contact: Andrea Herrington 802-793-4376**

# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual VerShare SNOWSHOE-A-THON



**Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018!**

**REGISTRATION 9:45 - 10:45** (Everyone on the trail by 11:00am)

*Volunteers Needed for:*  
*Registration, Parking*  
*Starting Gate,*  
*Midway Station*  
*Snacks & Refreshments*  
*Please call Karl Vitols:*  
802-356-2576



*Not a snowshoer?*  
  
*Please consider a  
pledge to help us  
reach our goal*

**START LINE AT VERSHIRE TOWN CENTER BUILDING**  
**(One mile or Two mile options)**

*Snowshoes available to borrow*

**Winter Carnival & Lunch at The Mountain School (finish line)**

***Everyone Welcome! Shuttle Van for Non-Snowshoers***

This amazing event celebrates intergenerational support for the children of Vershire & neighboring towns by contributing to the Children's Activity Fund. This fund is one of the major funding sources for the VerShare Community Camp.

Each summer about 75 children & teens from Vershire & neighboring towns benefit from the experience of this enriching summer camp which we are committed to keeping **FREE FOR ALL KIDS!**

The VerShare Children's Activity Fund also offers enrichment opportunities year round through the Vershire Community Library's "Van Trips"

Our local kids have been able to travel to many fun & educational sites that they may never have experienced otherwise.

Funds also help support winter programs at RISD schools!

**PLEDGE FORMS AVAILABLE ONLINE at [vershare.org](http://vershare.org) or at the door**

MANY THANKS TO OUR SNOW ANGEL DONORS, who pledge for every child; every kid that participates can help raise money just by snowshoeing!





# LIBRARY NEWS



This year saw the biggest change in a long time for our little library; the retirement of our Librarian, Lynn Roy. After 15 years serving the children and other residents of Vershire, Lynn stepped down September 1<sup>st</sup>. The town turned out to thank her on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Town Center and many people helped create a scrapbook of memories and gratitude for her at the event and by sending in thoughts and well wishes from around the world. Andrea Herrington, a long time Library Committee member, stepped up to fill this volunteer Librarian position. Peggy Darrow has become the Saturday volunteer coordinator. Many thanks to her and all our Saturday volunteers for the hours they dedicate to serving our town and keeping the Library open, organized, and such a friendly, welcoming place.

The Library continues to see the heaviest use on Thursday afternoons during the **Afterschool Program**. Each week about a dozen (+/-) kids ages 4-13 gather on their early release day to share snacks, stories, games, arts & crafts, pretend play, legos, and outdoor adventures. In addition, Visiting Artists are continuing to be scheduled for mini-series when possible throughout the school year.

**Storytime** is in transition as it has become defunct due to low attendance. The parents of young children, birth to six, are working with the Librarian to shape the best ways for them to use the Library and keep this next cohort of kids involved and feeling like it is their space. Scheduling changes have been discussed and the most likely possibility, for now, is weekend events for young children, as many of the parents are working and unavailable during the week. This would also possibly facilitate the return on Saturday Children's Activities.



## Time to Become a Member of the Community

VerShare is a non-profit, tax-empt community organization incorporated in 1998. Thanks to the hard work and support of many Vershire residents, VerShare has been able to make contributions to the town of Vershire that have enriched our way of life for nearly 20 years.

Member support, dedicated volunteers, and generous contributions are essential for VerShare to keep doing what it does. No town taxpayer money goes to VerShare.

I'm not going to list of all the expenses we have, nor am I going to list of all the wonderful things we have done. I am simply going to say that, if you are reading this newsletter, you are a member of this community. We want you involved. We want you to come to our events, gatherings and programs. Please join us in making Vershire a special place.

Annual Membership Levels:

Individual \$10  Family \$15  Friend \$25  Associate \$60  Sponsor \$150  Sustainer \$500

(All members receive special discounts at the Made-in-Vershire Shop / Sponsor or Sustainer members receive a \$5/night discount at the Hostel.)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To:** P.O.Box 112, Vershire, VT 05079 *Please Make Checks payable to VerShare.*

Donations above individual/family membership are tax-deductible. VerShare FIN: 03-0356227

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## VerShare Board of Directors

**Aaron Hoopes — President**  
**Helen Wilson — Treasurer**  
**Marissa Mazzucco — Secretary**  
**Shirley Collins — Hostel Manager**  
**Kareen Obydol-Alexandre — Facebook**

### Other Volunteers:

Andrea Herrington - Summer Camp & Library  
 Karl Vitols - Snowshoe-a-thon  
 Debra Kingsbury - Cabaret  
 Jean MacDonald - Civics Clatch

and many more!

VISIT VERSHARE ONLINE

[www.vershare.org](http://www.vershare.org)

[www.facebook.com/madeinvershireshop](https://www.facebook.com/madeinvershireshop)

[email: information@vershare.org](mailto:information@vershare.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

***January 26th - 5:30pm - 8pm*** Town Center PotLuck Party and VerShare Annual Meeting

***February 18th - 3:00pm - 5:00pm*** Lunar New Year Celebration @ Vershire Town Center

***March 3rd -All-Day Event*** 12th Annual Snowshoe-A-Thon From the Vershire Town Center to the Mountain School (Lunch Provided)

***April 14th - 6:00pm - 8:00pm*** Vershire Cabaret - Town Center , Dessert provided.

# ONGOING EVENTS

***1st Wednesday Every Month*** - Community Lunch/Senior Lunch at Town Center

***Saturday Mornings 10:00am - 1:00pm*** - Made in Vershire Shop

***Wednesday Mornings 7:30am*** - Civics Clatch at Church Orr House

***Fourth Friday Every Month*** - Potluck/Soup Night at Town



VerShare  
P.O.Box 112  
Vershire, VT 05079

Nonprofit  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Vershire, VT 05079  
Permit #2

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