



www.rootschoolhouse.com
vtrootschoolhouse@mail.com

GREETINGS

Dear friends and neighbors,

From live music to insightful climate talks, 2023 was our busiest year yet at the Root Schoolhouse. Now open to the public, we remain focused on cultivating community by offering classes, hosting activities for adults and children, and showcasing the knowledge of local residents.

We opened the season last year with our annual Roots & Blooms event. Although our inaugural event took place on a rainy day, we had a nice turnout and enjoyed seeing both new and familiar faces for May Day basket-making. In addition, Lorrie Wilkes and the Red Clover Band treated locals to lively music on Sunday evenings while we dined at sunset, and Nathan Margolis and Lori Jannen hosted two well-attended open mic nights. We also hosted a climate-focused educational speaker series featuring local farmers, authors, and teachers, who shared their insight on how to help heal the planet.

In addition, our 2023 Annual Appeal raised \$5,905. Thank you for your support! Funds will go toward upgrading the schoolhouse interior to make it more tech-savvy with new additions such as public WiFi and audio/visual equipment. We also plan to install leaf guards to protect our new gutters and route water away from newly restored infrastructure that took a decade to fully restore.

This summer, we will once again host our open mic nights and a new nature-themed speaker series featuring local authors and scientists. We'd be happy to talk to you if you are interested in renting the schoolhouse for an event. Our brightly-lit space is available from the end of May to September and comes with historic charm and a beautiful view of neighboring Hogwash Farm.

We hope to see you in the spring when the snow melts!

Nancy LaRowe and Mary Layton, Presidents, Root District Game Club

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Roots & Blooms

At our inaugural event for the year, children and adults gathered at the schoolhouse to learn how to make May Day baskets, a longtime tradition marking the end of chilly weather and the start of spring. We also held a raffle for a children's gardening set and a custom-built raised garden bed.

Musical festivities

During the summer on Sunday evenings, we held community picnics overlooking the bucolic fields of Hogwash Farms, featuring lively music by Lorrie Wilkes and the Red Clover Band. We filled the schoolhouse with upbeat music during two open mic nights with the help of Nathan Margolis and Lori Jannen.

Climate talks

In the spirit of creating a climate-resilient future, we hosted an educational speaker series featuring Norah Lake of Sweetland Farm, climate author Jim Antal, Norwich Energy Committee's Linda Gray, and Dr. Morgan Peach, of Dartmouth's Environmental Studies Department. Speakers covered topics such as how to address climate change and biodiversity loss as well as Vermont's new climate legislation.

Annual meeting

At our annual meeting, environmental educators Chrissy Morley (of Marion Cross School) and Jeannie Kornfeld (of Hanover High School), talked about how our schools are teaching Earth Systems concepts and environmental stewardship. Students from the Hanover High School Environmental Club also came to talk about how they're helping make a difference. They've implemented a Climate Action Plan, the first high school to do so in the U.S., and removed various invasive species, planted red oak and silver maple seedlings at Mink Brook, started a composting and recycling program, and much more.

Our organization

We were pleased to attract two new Board Members, bringing Board membership to a robust level that affirms our relevance to the community. We continue to work on building membership, helping our supporters to understand the importance of annual dues to ongoing operations. With gratitude, we recognize the visionary contributions of past-president and longtime leader Courtney Dobyns as she steps off the board. Her dedication and hard work laid the foundation (and the new roof!) for the Schoolhouse's vibrant future.

Thank you to all our speakers, members, and volunteers who made these events so successful.

FINANCES

The Root District Game Club (RDGC) raised more than \$11,700 in contributions from generous individuals and organizations, membership dues and rental income in 2023. This revenue helped fund ongoing maintenance of the Root Schoolhouse, as well as to operate the facility and the organization. A portion of these funds will be used in 2024 for the installation of gutters for the building.

The 2023 annual operating expenses totaled about \$3,200 and included insurance, utilities, fees and fundraising costs. The revenues used to fund the operating expenses included membership dues, contributions from events, and rental fees. In 2023, the RDGC collected \$1,600 in dues; approximately \$1,300 was raised during the first annual Roots & Blooms event (spring); and the RDGC earned a total of \$350 in rental fees.

CONTRACTOR & SUPPLIER THANK YOUS
Bragg Carpentry Remodeling & Repair
Kyle Martino – KM Electrical Contractors, LLC
KR Portables for Portable Toilet Service

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,150	\$ 4,624
Promises to give	\$ -	\$ -
Grants receivable	\$ -	\$ -
Other receivable	\$ -	\$ -
Total Current Assets	\$ 13,150	\$ 4,624
Property and Equipment (1)	\$ 348,712	\$ 348,712
Non Current Asset	\$ -	\$ -
Total Assets	\$ 361,863	\$ 353,336
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions, gifts, grants, etc. payable	\$ -	\$ -
Total Current Liabilities	\$ -	\$ -
Long Term Debt	\$ -	\$ -
Total Liabilities	\$ -	\$ -
Net Assets without donor restrictions	\$ 361,863	\$ 353,336

FINANCES

	2023
Revenues and Support	
Membership	\$ 1,595
Contributions	\$ 7,976
Grants	\$ -
Rental Income	\$ 350
Other Revenue	\$ 1,840
Total Revenue	\$ 11,761
Expenses	
Program/Donations	\$ 344
Facilities	\$ 848
Fundraising	\$ 431
Management and General	\$ 1,611
Total Expenses	\$ 3,234
Change in Net Assets without Donor Restriction	\$ 8,526
Net Assets without Donor Restriction, Beginning of Year	\$ 353,336
Net Assets without Donor Restriction, End of Year	\$ 361,863

	2023
Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Change in Net Assets without Donor Restriction	\$ 8,526
Net Cash provided by Operating Activities	\$ 8,526
Cash Flow from Investing Activities	
Additions to Property & Equipment	\$ -
Net Cash used in Investing Activities	\$ -
Cash provided by Investing Activities	\$ -
Net Change in Cash	\$ 8,526
Cash, Beginning of Year	\$ 4,624
Cash, End of Year	\$ 13,150

MEMBERSHIP

We are grateful to our Annual Members. Membership dues support the operating costs of Root Schoolhouse, allowing us to meet our mission of providing a community gathering space with meaningful programs for friends, neighbors, and beyond.

Rev. Dr. Jim Antal & Cindy Shannon
Stefan Brown
Ann & Barry Cousins
Christine & Nathan Crandell
Nancy Cressman & Alan Berolzheimer
Cam Cross & Ellen Kitchel
Courtney Dobyms
Angela Evancie & Morgan Peach
Gunny Harboe
Edith (Brucie) Hubbell
Holly & John Kania
Nancy LaRowe & Dave Yesman
Jean Lawe
Mary Layton
Nathan Margolis & Lori Jannen
Patricia Monahan
Nancy Osgood
Pamela & Edmund Piper
Carl Sargent
David & Ann Shriver
Jeffrey Slayton
Gina Sonne
Tricia Spellman & Jim Westrich
Carla & John Vincent
Anne Sargent Walker

DONOR THANKS

Thank you to our donors, whose support enables us to maintain and improve our historic structure.

Elizabeth Aldrich
Jacqueline Allen
Cecily Anderson
Jennie Anderson
K. Sandra Anderson &
Reeve Williams
Mark & Mary Anderson
Rev. Dr. Jim Antal &
Cindy Shannon
Amanda & Will Archer
Roger Arnold & Kristin Maffei
George & Jean Astley
Liane Avery
Mary Bagnato
Brett & Sandra Bailey
Suzy Bannigan
Charlotte Barrett
Craig Barry & Emily Gay Pengelly
Donald & Christine Bartlett
Jean Bates
Annie Bauer
Wende & Tim Beck
Rob Beckett
Steven & Cynthia Bensen
David & Carole Bibeau
Marsha & Melvin Biggs
Cynthia Bittinger
Bob Blackmer
Ellen Blake
Liz Blanchfield &
Bridge McDowell
Liz Blum & Nelson Kasfir
Donald & Patricia Bond
Margaret & Dustin Boone
Judith Bowen & Gordon Andrews
Lisa Brahms & Sherlock Terry
Chris & Deborah Brien
Tim Briglin
Peter & Susan Brink
Sally Britton
Kristen Brown & Stuart Close
James & Judith Brown
Stefan Brown
Katie Bucci
Shepard Butler
Lisa & Ken Cadow
Marcia & Colin Calloway
Jack & Marty Candon
Thomas & Samantha Candon
Margery Cantor
Lani Carney
Debbie Carter
Lisa Cashdan & Peter Stein
Hal Caughlin
Richard & Cynthia Chapman
Nancy Chase

Becky Chollet
Gordon Clapp & Elizabeth Gordon
Heidi & Brendan Classon
Kris Clement
Carolyn Clinton &
Sheldon Novick
Jacey Cobb
Ed & Mary Coffey
Zach Conley &
Jacqueline Stanton-Conley
Anna Connolly
Becky Cook & Natalie Boze
Brian Cook
Caitlin Corkins, VT Division
of Historic Preservation
Country School Association
of America
Ann Cousins & Barry
Christine & Nathan Crandell
Fredrick & Sophie Crawford
Nancy Cressman &
Alan Berolzheimer
Fred Cressman &
Sharon Martenson
Cam Cross & Ellen Kitchel
Nancy Crumbine
Bridget Cushman
Alicia & Larry Dagrosa
Ford Daley
Alice & Mark Dantos
Kevin Darcy
Alfred DeVaux Jr.
Bill Dickinson
Courtney Dobyms
Brown Dobyms
Margo Doscher
Martha Drake
Lance & Lynet Dunn
Elizabeth Eccles
Angela Evancie & Morgan Peach
Anne Fayen
Chad & Susan Finer
Lesley & Nate Fisher
Jean Follett-Thompson
Mary Forcier
Leah Fosco & Shane Greene
Patrick Francis
George & Susan Fraser
Jean Fraser
Dan Fraser
Anne French
Milton & Carolyn Frye
Rocky & Cindy Fuller
Tom Fulton
Arthur Gardiner
James Gold & Penny McConnel

Jeff Goodrich
Dan & Jen Goulet
Linda Gray
Angela & Shawn Grenier
Jake & Liz Guest
Doreen & Peter Guillette
Rob Gurwitt
Bill & Jessica Hamblen
Tammy & John Hanchett
Bob & Barbara Handelman
Gunny Harboe
Doug Hardy
Debbie & Jim Harlow
Pamela Harrison
Nathalie Hebert
Leah Henderson & Eric Rothstein
Marianne Hirsch & Leo Spitzer
Ellen & David Hobson
Rebecca Holcombe &
James Bandler
Aarin & Jamie Holmes
Edith (Brucie) Hubbell
David Hunter & Gabrielle Zwain
Jamie Hutchins
Sue Jennings & Harley Clark
Thomas Johnson &
Jeannie Scheinin
Bonnie Jones & Steve Decato
Sam Kaas & Emma Nichols
Alex & Susan Kahan
Julie Kalish
Holly & John Kania
Nancy Katz
Tracey & Peter Kaweck
Thomas Kearney
Jennie Keefer
Cynthia Keith
Bruce & Jayn Keller
Rye Keller
Roberta Kellogg
Carlye & Bob Klein
Joyce Knights
Pam Knights
Jennifer Kortfelt
Maryann Kotowski &
Brian Ganley
Debra Kraemer & Bob Walker
Gail Kuhl & Wayne Gersen
Karen Kuntne-Woodward &
Mark Woodward
Alice Lacey
Linda Ladd
Norah Lake
Aaron Lamperti
Jen Lamppaa
Steven & Barbara Landau

DONOR THANKS

Deb Langner
Nancy LaRowe & Dave Yesman
Jean Lawe
Stephen Lawe
Mary Layton
Jenny Levy
Andrew Lewis
Patrick Lincoln
Pete Logan
Carol Loveland
Tony Luckino & Walter Newman
Isaac Luxon
Tom Luxon & Ivy Schweitzer
Jennifer MacCullough
Don MacDonald
Todd MacKenzie &
Amanda Granizo
Nathan Margolis & Lori Jannen
Deb Martin
Jim Masland
Angela McCanna
Susan McCaslin
Sandra & Bill McCormick
Catherine & Scott McGee
Bruce & Susan McLaughry
Tom McLoughlin
G. Blake Meike
Charlotte Metcalf
Anna Meyerrose
Lisa Milchman
Chet & Candice Miller
Robert & Willhemien Miller
Peter Mills & Jan Scheiner
Corb Moister
Patricia Monahan
John Moody
Giavanna Munafò
Judy Munger
Emily & Ethan Myers
Nancy Newbury-Andresen
Jill Niles
Norwich Lions Club
Norwich Women's Club
Miller Nuttle & Geneva Smith
Leslie Moffat O'Hara &
Dwight O'Hara
Neil Odell & Christine Medora
Rosamond Orford
Peter Orner & Katie Crouch
Abraham Ort & Bineke
Nancy Osgood
Robert Padykula
Lyssa Papazian
Linda Park
Robert Parker
Sunny & Jeremy Payson

Beth Perry
Patty Piotrowski
Pamela & Edmund Piper
Sue & Bob Pitiger
Chris Polashenski
Charles Poltenson & Pam Crane
Tom & Misty Porter
Cathy & ITF Christopher Pratt
Penelope Prendergast
Lindsay Putnam & Brian Kunz
Stephanie & Philip Raymond
Ned & Cathie Redpath
Molly & Brian Riordan
Elizabeth & Peter Robbie
Eric Robinson
Matt Rojansky
Leah Romero
Sarah Rooker
Eva Rosenbloom
Jamie Rosenfeld & Nicholas Wood
Arline & Barry Rotman
Heather Salon & Adam Weinstein
Carrie Sandin & James Anderson
Frank & Brinna Sands
Carl Sargent
David & Ann Shriver Sargent
Charlotte Sargent
Dwight Sargent
Thomas Sargent & Allison Ijams
Edythe Scheier
Andy & Emily Scherer
Sam Scheu & Taylor Faccio
Sue Schiller
Joseph & Nannette Schwartzman
Ann & Dean Seibert
Jennifer & Finch Shepherd
Kathleen & John Shepherd
Anne Shivas & Sidney Klaus
Peter & Anne Silberfarb
Karen Sargent & Joel Sirkin
Jeffrey Slayton
Fred Smith, Jr.
Rose & John Smith
Sydney Smith & Peter Griggs
Tracy Smith
Heather Smith
Jonathan & Jessica Smolin
Demo & Georgia Sofronas
Gina Sonne
James & Margaret Southworth
Sue Spademan
Tricia Spellman & Jim Westrich
Blake Spencer & Jennifer Brown
Dwight & Marieke Sperry
Leo Spitzer & Marianne Hirsch
Dean Stanley

Jesse Stanley, Jr.
Peter Stanzel & Cheryl Herrmann
Jane Watson & Bill Stetson
Jonathan Streeter
Judith & Kris Strobehn
Richard & Melinda Stucker
Brie & Jeff Swenson
Sonia Swierczynski
David Taplin
Danielle Taylor
Stan Teeter
Nancy Tehan
The Jack & Dorothy
Byrne Foundation
Irv & Hetty Thomae
Wendy Thompson
John & Anne Trautlein
Laura Trieschmann
Folger & Liz Tuggle
Linda Turi
Ken Turino
Jo-Anne Unruh
Jay & Deborah Van Arman
Kate Van Arman
Jillian Van Ellis & Brad Wible
Candace Vandouris
John Vansant
Kate & Chris Verges
Carla & John Vincent
Ross Virginia &
Sandra Virginia-Chase
Susan Voake
Laurie Wadsworth
Anne Sargent Walker
John Wallace
Suzie & Graham Wallis
Ann Waterfall & Pete Kaufman
Elaine Waterman
Graham Webster &
Jane LaMasurier
Heidi Webster
Jack & Elizabeth Weingarten
Jack Weingarten
Philip & Donna Wheeler
Meg & Jonathan White
Stuart & Matilda White
Jay Whitehair &
Beth Phillips-Whitehair
Lorrie Wilkes
William G Pomeroy Foundation
Andrew Winter & Betsy Vereckey
JoAnne Wirthington
Leah Wolk-Derksen &
Paul Derksen
Erica Wygonik
Phil Zea

ABOUT US

Root Schoolhouse is a community gathering space, operating as the 501.C.3 "Root District Game Club." Our facility is an historic one room schoolhouse, one of just two remaining such buildings that once served the schoolchildren of Norwich, VT.

Our vision is to provide a unique venue for our community to enjoy educational, social and cultural gatherings, in a building that has a special place in the history of Norwich, Vermont.

Our Board

Nancy LaRowe, Co-President
Mary Layton, Co-President
Nancy Cressman, Vice President
Christine Crandell, Treasurer
Holly Kania, Secretary
Cam Cross
Edith (Brucie) Hubbell
Barbara Landau
David Sargent
Betsy Vereckey



To learn more about us, please visit our website at www.rootschoolhouse.org:

[Rent the Schoolhouse](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Our History](#)

[Photo Galleries](#)