



JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022

# LEEDS LETTER

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LEEDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 114, Leeds, MA 01053 | LeedsCivicAssoc@gmail.com | LeedsCivic.org



## New Leeds Business: MVVM - Matt Verson Vegetation Management

Matt Verson has been volunteering and helping the LCA with trail, garden and tree projects for several years. When he is part of an LCA work party everyone goes away knowing more about New England flora and trees.

Matt is skilled in the removal of invasive plants like Bittersweet, Burning Bush, Knotweed, Norway Maple, Black Locust, Norway Maple, Garlic Mustard, Russian Thistle, and others. He also can identify and protect any native species, and offers native grass and wild-flower meadow installations. Matt gets a real joy seeing a landscape restored to its Native New England form. He says, "Sometimes there are valuable native plants hidden under the overgrown invasive plants and I love to expose those so they can flourish. Often, all that is necessary is to identify and flag the native species so they don't get chopped down when people are "cutting brush" in their backyards." Matt uses organic techniques when ever possible. He explains, sometimes, however, the better choice is a carefully applied herbicide at precisely the right time in the life cycle of the plant to ensure using the absolute minimum amount of active ingredient. This is called Integrated Vegetation Management.

Matt has a degree in ecology, a graduate certificate in soil science from UMass, and has worked in agriculture and horticulture for over 25 years. He's been focusing on invasive plant management to help address invasive plants impacting native habitats. He has worked on projects for the City of Northampton, private homeowners, home owner associations, and local conservation groups. Matt Verson can be reached at 413-320-8890 or mattverson@gmail.com.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

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## Upcoming Event - Celebrating the Village of Leeds

The LCA is in the process of designing an outdoor party to be held on the Main Street village green in mid-May. There will be games, music, a food truck serving delicious pannini and pizza, and more! As details get worked out more information on how to purchase tickets, volunteer, etc. will be posted on the LCA website and in the LCA newsletters.

## The Leeds Civic Association: An All-Volunteer Organization

The LCA works to enhance the quality of life for village residents by: hosting community parties, book readings, candidate forums, summer movie nights, history walks; organizing spring and summer litter clean-ups, village tag sales, trail maintenance on Leeds conservation lands and much more! The LCA also publishes newsletters to keep members informed on what's happening in Leeds. We appreciate your financial and volunteer support!

Please, renew or become a new member for 2022! There are several opportunities throughout the year to volunteer on LCA projects. If you like hiking, being outdoors, care about the conservation lands, consider volunteering for the LCA Trails Committee. If you like creating something from scratch, or doing one specific task, consider volunteering for the Event Planning Committee and shop for an event, decorate, set up or break it down. If you have design and/or writing skills, consider volunteering for the Design/Communications Committee. Different assignments might include: writing an article for the newsletter; research, designing a poster, invitation or survey; putting up posters in the neighborhoods. We would also like to find someone interested in being the LCA volunteer coordinator. Outreach is so important to help us all stay connected! Wishing all of Leeds a happy and safe 2022!



## IT'S TIME TO BECOME A NEW LCA MEMBER OR RENEW FOR 2022!

### 3 WAYS TO BECOME A NEW MEMBER OR RENEW FOR 2022:

- Take a cell photo of the QR code, which will link you to the online LCA membership form.
- Visit leedscivic.org. and click "Become a Member."
- Fill out the form below and mail with a check to the address on the form.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Renew

☐☐

\$10 Family Yearly Membership

☐☐

\$25 Business Yearly Membership

(1 year LCA website advertising, please enclose business card)

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to receive my newsletter electronically.

☐ I would like my newsletter hand delivered.

☐ I would like my newsletter mailed.  
(Include additional \$5.00 for postage.)

I am interested in helping the LCA with the following:

☐ Trail maintenance projects

☐ Party and event planning

☐ Design / communications



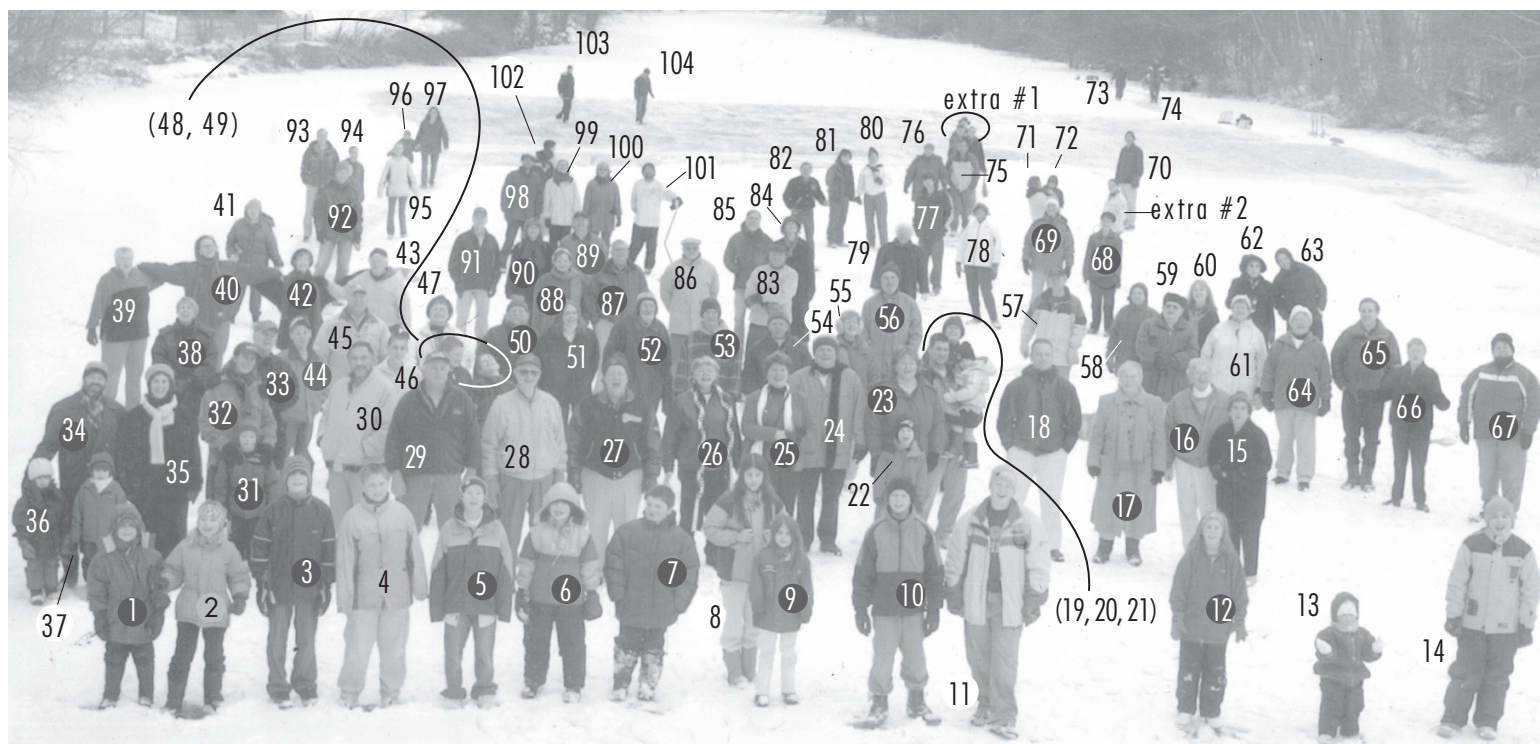
Make checks payable to: LCA

Mail to: P.O. Box 114, Leeds, MA 01053

## Different Centuries on Mill River Ice

In 2004, the LCA gathered over 100 Leeds residents to recreate the ice skating scene depicted in the photo on the right, which was taken on Thanksgiving day, 1905 from the Hotel Bridge. Local historian, Jim Parsons said anybody from Leeds, or anyone who is a Leeds devotee, was welcome to be at the photo shoot. After all, he said, "Leeds is not a place, it's a state of mind!"

The 2004 scene was organized by then LCA board members, Sue Carbin, George Kohout and Jim Mias. The day and time was set and word spread. Jim and George spent several hours on that morning shoveling the rink area and making paths. Jim Parsons spoke through a bullhorn from the bridge to get people in position for the photo and Jerry Roberts from the Gazette snapped the photo below. Thank you to Jim Mias for identifying almost every person in the 2004 photo. Just a few remain unidentified (in bold). If you know their names, contact the LCA at LeedsCivic.org. Wouldn't it be great to have a complete list to leave for folks 100 years from now! Check the list of names and see if someone you know was there!



1. Ben O'Connor
2. Catherine Lamond
3. Nick O'Connor
4. Justin Ruyffelaert
5. Justin Gero
6. Jonathon Blair
7. Adam Bouley
8. Erika Morris
9. Rachel Morris
10. Will Daniel
11. Ryan Slingerland
12. Emily Rogers
13. Alycia Driscoll
14. Daniel Blair
15. Rosina O'Brien
16. Don O'Brien
17. Carolyn O'Brien
18. Jason Greene

19. Tim Sena
20. Julia Sena
- 21. Child's name?**
22. Matthew Sena
23. Heather Sena
24. Red Greene
25. Edna Greene
26. Maureen Heon
27. Ed Heon
28. Art Rollands
29. Earl Rollands
30. Mike Lamond
31. Sam Daniel
32. Julie Akeret
33. John Daniel
34. Rabbi Kevin Hale
35. Ruth Ever-Hale
36. Luna Hale

37. Simon Hale
38. Sue Lamond
39. Sue Carbin
40. Amy Girard (?)
41. Arlene Hines
42. Rusty Childs
43. Bill Childs
44. Bobby Berniche
45. Anton Mott
46. Tony Ezbecki
47. Janet Mott
48. Greg Evans
49. Danny Berniche
50. Jim Doppman
51. Pat Doppman
52. Don Collins
53. Dana Collins
54. Earl Meunier

55. Carol Meunier
56. Paul Cherulnik
57. Brad Levay
58. Beverly Cherulnik
59. Ralph McDonald
60. Deb Jacobs
61. Jeannie Parsons-McDonald
62. Rose Pippin
63. Rich Schmit
64. Marilyn Parsons
65. Friend of Parsons (?)
66. Dodo Ryan
67. Martha Blair
- 68. ?**
69. Don Judge
70. George Kohout
71. Cindy Bouley
- 72. ?**

73. Deb Kohout
74. Pat Kohout
75. Don Long
76. M.J. Long
77. Montana St. John
78. Karen Judge
79. Martha Hayes
80. Kathy Harris
81. Karen Kelly
82. Tiger Bouley
83. Lenny Rogers
84. Linda Butler
85. Jim Montgomery
86. Billy Seney
87. Ed Duggan
88. Betty Duggan
89. Jon Dietrich
90. Deb Dietrich

91. Ed Jazab
92. Bob (Main St.)?
93. Bob Jeffway
94. Nick Jeffway
95. Alex Jeffway
96. Mary Jeffway
97. Celeste Jeffway
98. Justin O'Connor
99. Heidi Stevens
100. Robin Forsyth-Mias
101. Jim Mias
102. Jake Ruyeffelaert
103. John Ruyeffelaert
104. Moe Lacasse
- extra #1 - ?**
- extra #2 - ?**