



## CELEBRATE STODDARD 250 NEWSLETTER

[www.celebratestoddard250.org](http://www.celebratestoddard250.org)

January 18, 2024

### UPCOMING EVENTS

It's finally, really winter. Get outside and celebrate it at the Island Pond beach for our Stoddard Snow Shindig on Saturday, February 17 with ice fishing, skating, hot dogs and s'mores around a bonfire.

The Fishing Derby (with prizes) begins at 7am and food will be available from 11a to 1p. See the attached flyer for more details.



### BEHIND THE SCENES

If you're wondering how the anniversary celebration came about, and who is in charge of what? A group of volunteers started meeting in October, 2022, then organized themselves into a committee of the town, under the structure of the Stoddard Historical Society (so we could be an official not-for-profit organization).

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, minutes are published on the town website, and all are welcome to attend.

Elected officers are Carol Clark, Chair; Joyce Healy, Secretary (which is why you hear from me so much) and Ruth Medlock, Treasurer. The most important committee members are the Activity Leaders, your neighbors, who have stepped forward to organize each event and do the actual work of making all the elements of our year-long celebration happen.



Attending the Jan 11 meeting (from left): Terri LaRoche, (Concerts); Don Healy (Pig Roast); Dave Ferner (Kickoff), Jim and Ruth Medlock (Treasurer); Geri Bailey (Hikes); Randy Emerson (Banners and Old Home Days); Alan Rumrill (History Everything); Kim Rumrill (Merchandise); Linda Stevenson (Merchandise Fulfilment); and in the center, Carol Clark, presiding

Thanks to Dave Ferner, who enthusiastically researched historical recipes and garb and produced a very successful kickoff.

Dave has lived all over the US in his career as an Episcopal minister before choosing Stoddard as his retirement home. He has served the town with many other organizations, including the Davis Library and the Historical Society.



## GET INVOLVED

Our year long celebration has been created by the enthusiasm of many volunteers with great ideas. Two current areas where still need help are hikes and Old Home Days.

### Volunteers Still Needed for Hikes

During the year, we hope to offer many outdoor activities that get the community together. We are fortunate to have so much land in conservation with existing trails. The Committee has planned six hikes from May to October. They still can use help checking trails for suitability (seasonal constraints, available parking, terrain, difficulty, loop or in and out, etc.), and identifying mapping resources to encourage more trail use.

Those who are familiar with Stoddard trails and points of interest, GIS mapping and local history are especially encouraged to sign up. Please email Geri Bailey ([geribailey103@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geribailey103@sbcglobal.net)) if you are interested.

### Be part of the best Old Home Days Parade (July 13) ever

Create a float! Put a themed group together! Don't just watch the parade-be in it. The Old Home Days committee would love to have many more people participate. Start planning and imagining during these long winter days. Randy Emerson [randyeme@aol.com](mailto:randyeme@aol.com) is developing a simple sign up form that will be available soon.

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