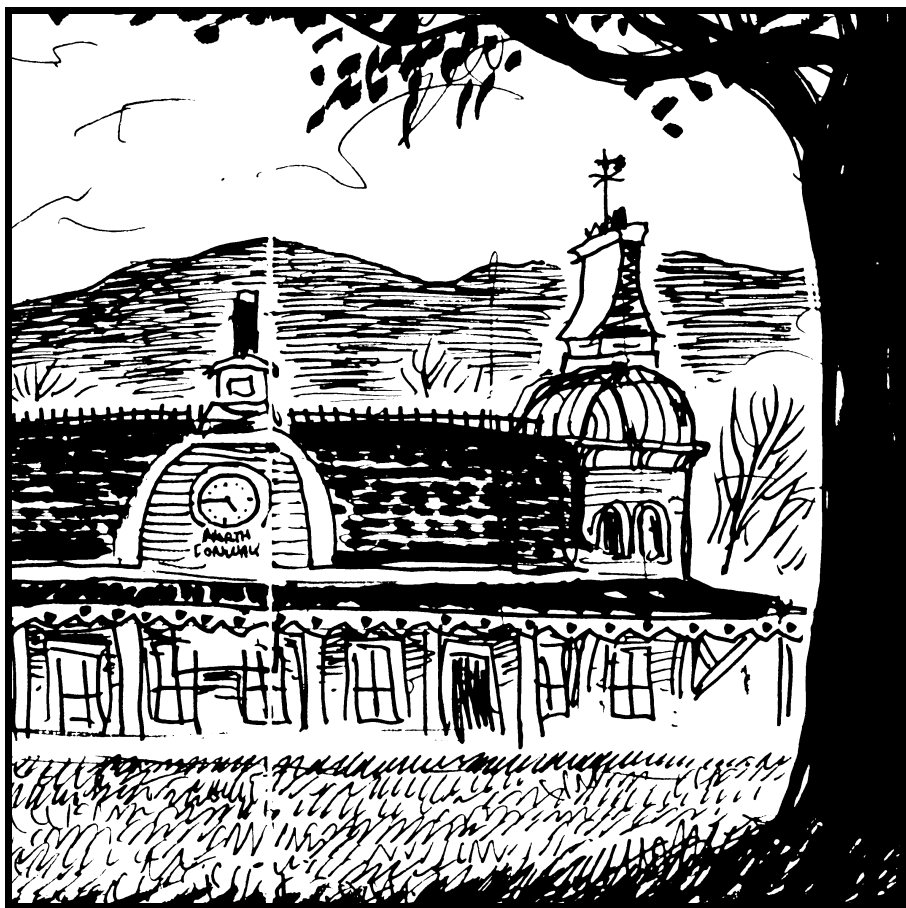


COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS:
NORTH CONWAY
SKETCHBOOK

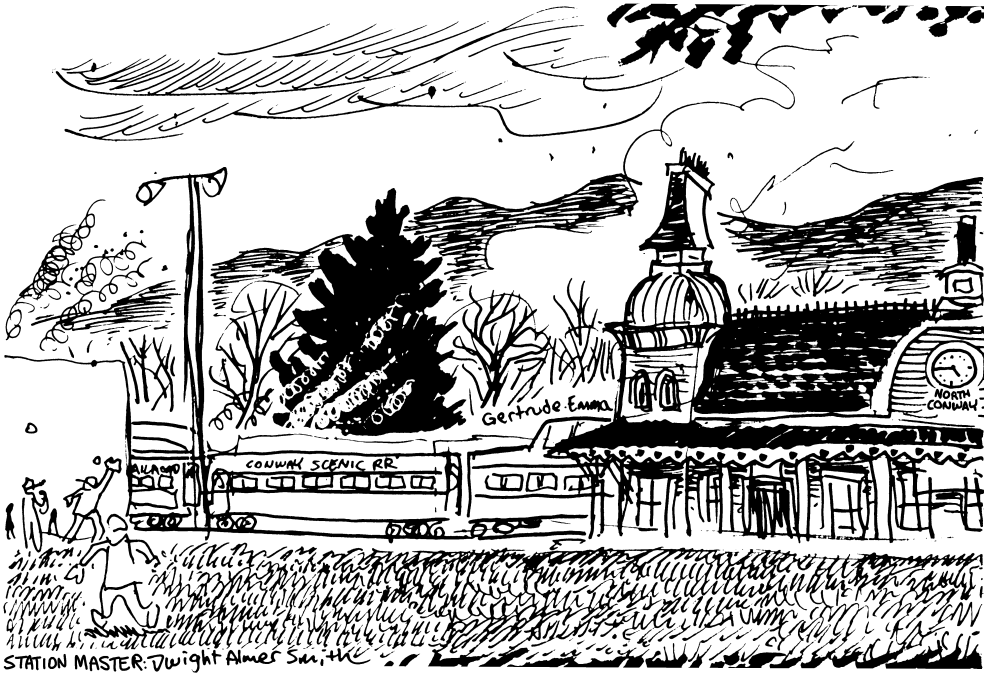


North Conway, NH / 7 MAY 2025

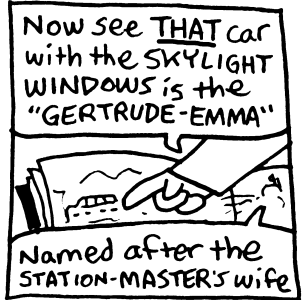
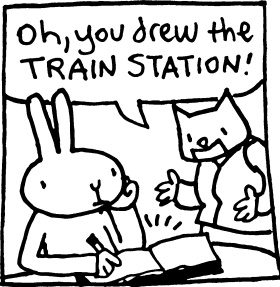
Marek Bennett

ARTWORK © www.MarekBennett.com

READ AS: 2-PAGE VIEW // PRINT AS: BOOKLET



THIS SKETCH IN HISTORY





LIVING SPACE+TIME

WHEN WE GAZE
INTO DEEP SPACE



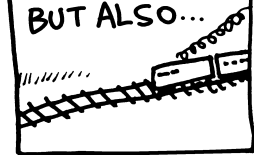
WE'RE SEEING
STARLIGHT FROM
THOUSANDS —
EVEN MILLIONS
OF YEARS AGO



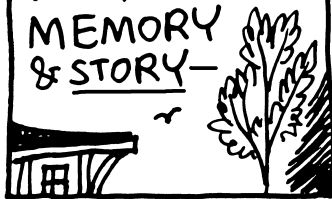
WHEN WE GAZE
AT LOCAL SPACE,
WE SEE ...



NOT ONLY
THE "STUFF"
AROUND US,
BUT ALSO...



ALL THESE ENDLESS
LAYERS OF
MEMORY
& STORY—



IF WE LISTEN
CLOSELY TO EACH
OTHER.



GIBSON CENTER

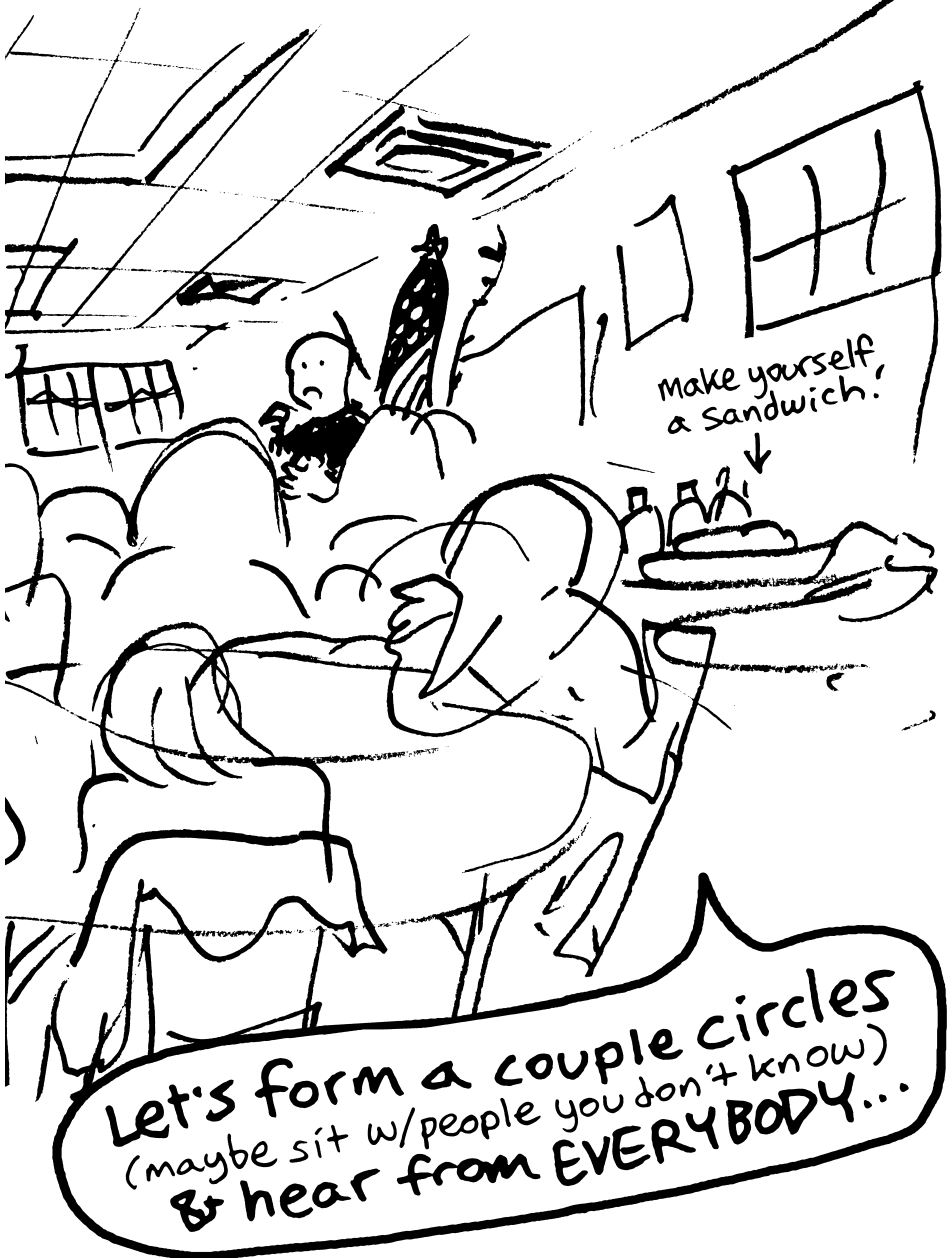
WELCOME to our
**COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION**
...



What does **COMMUNITY**
mean to you?

How can this center
CONTRIBUTE
to our community?

NORTH CONWAY 7 MAY 2025



WHAT DOES "COMMUNITY"
MEAN TO YOU?...

INTERACTION

☹️☹️ When we were young,
everybody here all
KNEW EACH OTHER...
NOW we've gotten
SO BIG, SO TRANSIENT... 🚗

KNOWING YOUR
NEIGHBOR.

That's the strongest
starting point.



COMMON
GROUND

A SENSE OF
BELONGING!

✱ NO DEFINED BORDERS
✱ A WEB, a NETWORK...

NOT

I'm from this
or that town

BUT:

I'm from THE
VALLEY

Natural Area

SHARED
EXPERIENCE

(sometimes unintentional)

INTERACTIONS with
PEOPLE...

PERSEVERANCE...



SAFETY

COMFORT

PEOPLE WE CAN
TRUST

TOLERANCE
OF DIVERSITY

! CURIOSITY !

♥ ↓ FOSTERS ↓ ♥

! CARING !

♥ It used to be, ♥
"WHAT CAN I DO
FOR THE COMMUNITY?"

NOW it's "WHAT
CAN MY COMMUNITY
DO FOR ME?"

CONTRIBUTION.

Trying to
HELP



MAKING
DECISIONS
in service
to the
community

LEADERSHIP.

(Individuals = COMPELLED TO GIVE.)

A SENSE OF
TIME.

* Now we have
SO many things
meant to make
life "EASIER"



→ We're addicted to
ISOLATIONISM!

You gotta go to town,
Say, "Hey how ya doin?"



Like we're doin' RIGHT NOW
with this CONVERSATION!

WHAT CAN WE CONTRIBUTE
TO OUR COMMUNITY?

VOLUNTEERISM

We have
older
neighbors...



we take
BAKED GOODS
over to 'em

check
on 'em

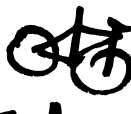
"Can we
do anything
to help?"



RAMP UP
OUTREACH
+ VOLUNTEER
NETWORKS



TRASH
PICKUP



BIKES



ARTS

56,000
MEALS



TRANSPORTATION



HOLIDAYS



VETS PROGRAMS



CRAFTS
FAIRS

HOW DO WE ADDRESS...

UNCERTAINTY

FEAR

CHAOS

PANIC

IN OUR COMMUNITY?

The "senior center"
is considered to be
"FOR OLD PEOPLE"

(And "OLD"
is always
just **20 YEARS**
OLDER than
whatever
you are...)

★ Where can seniors go?

★ How do they find the CENTER?

→ **BRANDING/MARKETING**

CREATE COMMUNITY?

→ span generations?

KIDS
TOO!

...CIRCLES
of community
...
NO

A PLACE WHERE
YOU CAN COME IN
& CONNECT...

We're doing
it RIGHT NOW



I'm going to report on what our group talked about....

But first, by way of introduction, I'll just say —

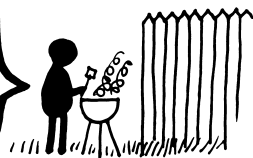
I was BORN HERE—

My MOTHER was a **SNOW** of SNOWVILLE,
& my FATHER came here to string up the first **ELECTRICAL LINES**...



We used to sit out on the **FRONT PORCH** & say HI to everybody on the **STREET**...

Now everybody's in their own **BACK YARD**...



COMMUNITY means **ASKING** if you **NEED** SOMETHING.



Are the **MOST VIBRANT** communities the ones that **ASK THE MOST OF YOU?**



You don't really **KNOW SOMEONE** 'til you stand beside 'em & see 'em **HIT THEIR THUMB** with a **HAMMER!**



WHAT CAN GIBSON CENTER DO TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS?



HOST THESE CONVERSATIONS!

INCREASE MARKETING



MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



COLLABORATE W/other ORGANIZATIONS

- * Stretched to capacity?
- * WORK TOGETHER!



"TEAM OF THE DAY"

- * Rep. from each agency...
- * RAPID RESPONSE to specific cases...



DIGITAL LITERACY



BAKED GOODS



- * CHECK IN & offer ASSISTANCE?

PHOTOS



INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Bring YOUTH & SENIORS together.



GREAT PROGRAMS



THRIFT SHOP



GIBSON CENTER already does SO MUCH!

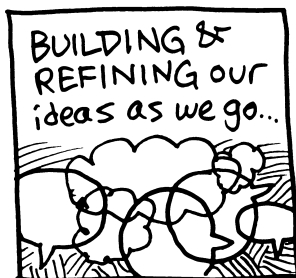
WE'RE GRATEFUL!



I've had MORE GRATIFICATION in THIS DISCUSSION than I've had in 4 YEARS on the JOB...



FACILITATING "COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS"



ANCIENT ARTS

