

Fire House, and Concord Police provided security services, the radar baseball toss and the K-9 police dog demonstration. Rebecca Purcell, Aileen Kussin and Melissa Saalfeld organized the Field Games, and Fritz Kussin was the Master of Ceremonies for the entertainment and raffle.

Several volunteers provided the assistance on the 4th that is essential in running the event. These tasks include selling tickets, supervising the Moon Walk, conducting the raffle, and holding the Balloon tether ropes. Tina Brown, Bob Abraham and Carol Harney were among the group of volunteers.



The RE/MAX Hot Air Balloon was able to fly after two years of unsuitable weather. Many of this year's Picnic attendees were able to get a ride in the Balloon.

The following corporate donors and private sponsors provide funds for the entertainment: Cambridge Trust Company, Middlesex Savings Bank, Dunkin Donuts of Concord, Gloria and Chuck Clough and Elmer and Rebecca Purcell.

We again had a fund-raising raffle with 20 wonderful prizes provided by local merchants. The following businesses also provided in-kind support: the Concord Bookshop, the Concord Funeral Home, Crosby's

Marketplace, Emerson Umbrella for the Arts, and RE/MAX Walden Country. In general, private citizen donor contributions to the event were reduced this year. Additional financial contributions to make up the difference in expenses came from the corporate donors. These contributions went to supporting the event and funding the entertainment. After all expenses had been paid, a donation was made to the Concord Recreation Department Summer Scholarship Fund. The Picnic Committee encourages the citizens of Concord to support this event in terms of financial contributions and volunteer effort.



Concord CAN Water station at July 4 Picnic

PUBLIC CEREMONIES AND CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE



Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee from left: Michael Benn, Joel Bohy, Chair; Staci Bowen, Mary Fasano, Claudia Curran, Keith Nelms, and Kevin Paulsen

This Committee has the responsibility of organizing, coordinating and managing the celebrations

sponsored by the Town of Concord. Celebrations for 2011 included: Honored Citizen Ceremony, March 20; Meriam's Corner Exercise, April 9; Patriots' Day Parade, April 18; Dawn Salute, April 19; Memorial Day Ceremonies, May 30; Veteran's Day Flag Retirement, November 11. The observances are recorded in the photographs in this Annual Report.

HONORED CITIZEN

Each year since 1962, Concord has acknowledged the outstanding efforts of some very dedicated citizens at the Honored Citizen Celebration. The award to the Honoree is intangible --for the year of the honor, the citizen shall be the steward of the *Boston Post* Cane, and is invited to lead the Patriots Day Parade. When not in ceremonial use, the Cane is on display in the Concord Free Public Library for all to enjoy.



Steve and Joan Verrill were selected as 2011 Honored Citizens in recognition of their many years of service to the community.

MERIAM CORNER

This commemoration marks the assembly and actions of militia and Minuteman units that arrived at Meriam's Corner during the British retreat from Concord, April 19th, 1775. After the Regulars' withdrawal from the North Bridge, they began a retreat back to Boston. By the time the Regulars arrived at this spot at half past noon, there were reported to be about 1,100 Minutemen in the area from more than a dozen towns.

PATRIOTS' DAY



Ceremonial events recognizing Patriots' Day are led by the Bedford Cornet, which was carried by Minutemen at the Concord Fight.

The Patriots' Day Parade covers a route of approximately 2.5 miles. Participants include musicians, Minuteman companies, color guards, cultural and youth groups and dignitaries from neighboring towns, the State, the nation and several foreign countries with ties to Concord. At the North Bridge there is a ceremony to commemorate the engagement between the Minuteman companies and British troops with a wreath laying ceremony. The parade, in which the Honored Citizen has a place of honor, continues across the North Bridge and returns to Concord Center.



Veterans' Services Officer Dick Krug served as the Patriots' Day Parade Marshall with his family acting as his staff.



Middlesex County Volunteers Fife and Drum Corps are frequent participants in events celebrating Patriots' Day. MCV explores the traditional music that was used to signal troop movements during combat and camp activities during the American War for Independence,

DAWN SALUTE

Church bells at First Parish toll at 5:45AM to sound the alarm. "Dr. Prescott" arrives at the North Bridge after riding across the fields calling out the warning to towns and villages that the Regulars were on the march and their destination was Concord. The Concord Minutemen fire salutes and the Concord Independent Battery fires several volleys from the field at the Old Manse.

MEMORIAL DAY



Joe Lenox was one of the veterans provided transport during the Memorial Day parade.

For some, beginning in 1775 and continuing today, responding to the challenge of citizenship has meant a period of service in the Armed Forces. More than 1,400 men and women from Concord went to fight in WWII and just about 300 each to Korea and to Viet Nam. Today, almost 1,000 veterans live in Concord.

Memorial Day is Concord's opportunity to honor the men and women who served our community and our nation in these wars.

FLAG RETIREMENT

The Flag Retirement Ceremony is traditionally held each year on Veterans' Day and gives Concordians the opportunity to retire their American Flags in a respectful and appropriate manner.



Fire Department Burn Team at Flag Retirement Ceremony

The Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee is grateful to the many who helped make the celebrations of 2011 so successful—Town officials, the staff of various Town departments, CCHS Music, the VFW, the American Legion, the Concord Minutemen, the Concord Independent Battery, Middlesex County 4H Fife & Drum Corps and all participants. Once again, many thanks to the supportive people of Concord, Massachusetts.

