

Hi Everyone!

I hope everyone's year has gone well, despite all the craziness of 2020.

At last year's meeting I told Donna that if someone else couldn't be found to organize our get together for 2020, I would take it on, so here I am!

I was in the process of hunting down a meeting place in late February/early March when....well everyone knows what hit the fan in March so I won't go into that. Needless to say, as everyone and everything was shut down for the better part of 3 months, plans were put on hold. Once things started to open back up, I contacted Donna and Diane to see if we would still be on for September. The consensus was: If I could still find a place we would indeed give everyone the option of attending if they so choose.

Having researched things back in the winter, I found this great place in Conway, NH that suits our needs. Problem is, with Covid causing everyone to be short staffed, I played phone and email tag with the GM for the better part of 6 weeks. At any rate, I managed to get a block of rooms for us at the Merrill Farm Inn in Conway for our annual gathering which will take place on Sept 11 - 13, 2020. Attached is a copy of the pertinent information, given to me by the Inn. The prices quoted are a package deal which includes: 2 nights lodging, Dinner on Friday and Saturday nights, and Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning. There is a meeting room reserved for us on Saturday morning as well for no extra charge. The "double" package price is for 2 people per room. If you will have more than 2 people per room, please let them know at the time you book. Just remember to tell them you are with NEASM.

For those of you planning to attend one or both dinners, but not planning to stay at the Inn, just call ahead to let them know you will be eating with the group so their kitchen can plan for the extra meals.

If you are familiar with the Conway/North Conway area, you know there are many things to see and do. For those who aren't familiar, I've included links to a few attractions.

<https://mt-washington.com/> If the weather is fine, a trip to the top of Mt Washington via the Auto Road is a must. The base of the mountain is about a half hour drive from the Inn. You can take the shuttle or drive yourself to the top. The shuttle is highly recommended as that gives you the chance to see the view and hear the history of the road from your very knowledgeable driver. Another great way to the Mt Washington is the Cog Railway. <https://www.thecog.com/> It is a bit of a longer drive from North Conway, so time may be a factor, but it is something to consider. Purchasing your tickets in advance for either route is highly recommended though.

If you want to shop, Settlers Green Outlet Village is the place to go! <https://www.settlersgreen.com/> Recently expanded with Settlers Green Streetside, you'll be able to find what you need.

Downtown North Conway offers even more shopping opportunities, including world famous Zebs Country Store (among other great places!) There is also historic Schouler Park and the

Conway Scenic Railroad <https://www.conwayscenic.com/> If you don't feel you have the time to make it to Mt Washington, the Conway Scenic is a great option. For a full list of attractions go to: <https://northconwaynh.com/>

Another place that is a must-see and a personal favorite is The Christmas Loft and their new Annex Tricks & Treats. The Loft is all things Christmas, <https://christmasloft.com/north-conway-store/> and Tricks & Treats is about half Halloween and the rest is candy, toys, novelties & Ice Cream. <https://tricks-and-treats.business.site/> For those of us over the age of (eh hem) 40, you will find lots of throw-backs and nostalgia. It is a must-stop for anyone visiting the area!

If anyone is bringing kids, Storyland in Glen, NH will still be open (weekends only after Labor Day). <https://www.storylandnh.com/> They are operating at limited capacity and require tickets to be pre-purchased.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to email or call and I'll be happy to help! I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone!

Linn

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Linn Tripp

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