



Rye Civic League  
P.O. Box 971  
Rye, NH 03870

## 2016 Rye Town Candidates' Bio's March 8<sup>th</sup> RES 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

RCL Candidates' Night Video: [Click Here](#)

Note from the RCL: We asked everyone for a short bio and we got different formats. This is a great example of a simple task where you could volunteer to help. One person could have worked with the different candidates so there was a consistent format for the short bio's. There are many ways you can pitch in as the Rye Civic League is all volunteer effort.

### Uncontested Races:

**Moderator:** Bob Eaton

**Library Trustee:** Victor Azzi

**Supervisor of the Checklist** Jane Holway

**Trustee of the Trust Funds** Chris Nee

**Planning Board** Phil Winslow, Bill Epperson

**Phil Winslow:** New Hampshire native, second graduating class of the Whittemore School of Business at UNH, USAF Captain during the Vietnam War, VP Sales & Marketing for several multinational businesses, lived in Europe & Asia managing companies business units.

Chair of Rye Historic District Commission, Vice Chair of Planning Board, 2015 Vice Chair of Rye CIP, Rye representative on the Rockingham Planning Commission as well as on the NH Senate Commission for Coastal Risk & Hazard.

**Bill Epperson:** none provided

**Sewer Commissioner** David Adams

**School Clerk**

Donna DeCotis

**Donna DeCotis:**

Saugus High School Class 1972

Accounting Degree Bay State College (Graduated 3.9)

State of NH Certified Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Founder and CoOwner 'Nautilus Plus Racquetball &amp; Fitness Center' (35 Years)

Salem Superior Court (MA) Clerk

Customer Service Agent Delta Airlines &amp; Air France (10 years)

VP Blue Shield of Massachusetts Secretary

Treasurer Rye PTA (2 year term)

Current Owner &amp; Founder 'DD Cleaning Business'

Volunteer Work Rye Elementary School Functions

To be appointed 3/26/2016 as 'Rye Water Clerk'

Worked for Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office 8 years and Deputy TC/TC for the past 2 ½ years

I lived in Rye for 15 years and raise my granddaughter Brianna Clarke who attends RES and currently in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I have been blessed to have Brianna with me since she was 6 months.

**School Board**

Scott Marion, write-in candidates (John Loftus and others?)

**Dr. Scott Marion** is the current chair of the Rye School Board having completed his first three year term.

He is proud of the many important things the Board has accomplished during the past three years including:

1. Helped negotiate a five-year contract with the teachers association that focused on improving educator quality and moving to more sustainable health insurance options for teachers.
2. Led the efforts to secure the Wedgewood Farm property which, along with the donated Herlihy property, provides over 2.5 acres of land adjacent to RJH for science and environmental education.
3. Led the design of the "Middle School Structure Committee" to first create a powerful vision for the education of students in Rye and then to support the administrators and teachers in designing a staffing plan to enact this vision in the face of some harsh budget realities.
4. Helped reframe the ways in which annual district goals are developed and reported to be more focused on the "Instructional Core" of rigorous knowledge and skills, improved educator quality, and increased levels of student engagement.
5. Along with fellow board members, helped to oversee district budgets with only limited increases to Rye taxpayers, generally well below annual inflation rates.

Dr. Marion brings a wealth of expertise to his role on the school board. He is the executive Director of the National Center for the Improvement in Educational Assessment, Inc., a Dover, NH non-profit consulting firm. Scott is a recognized national leader in student assessment, school accountability and educator evaluation, working in states and districts across the country, including New Hampshire. A former field biologist and high school science teacher, Scott has a deep understanding of education from the classroom to the national level. Scott has three children and lives in Rye with his wife Debra Holloway and his one daughter still at home who attends Rye Junior High School. Scott seeks your support for another term on the Rye School Board.

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**John Loftus:** Write In

**EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY:** I believe education is the foundation for children to become their better selves. In this regard, early childhood development lays the basis for not only future academics, but also a fundamental desire to learn on a broad base. Teachers need to be engaged pro actively with their students, to find their strengths and weaknesses; then a forward course can be set which encompasses both required academics and also a stimulus geared towards a particular student's abilities and interests. Success, in any endeavor, can always become a catalyst for future achievement in a different venue. The fact that every student cannot be at the top of the class should not preclude success or achievement in academics, athletics, or other extra curricular activities. I favor a well-balanced program in all areas of the school day, both academically and after school activities. Money spent in the education of children is one of the most important investments we make as citizens for the future of our country, and the well being of the next generation. The children of today are our leaders of tomorrow! It is important that we approach this endeavor with fiscal acumen so we get the best return on our investment.

**BIO:** I am a graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, with degrees in Engineering and Transportation. I have commanded ships around the world, and have visited over 100 countries. I have also run my own design and build residential company, for 25 years, and have been published both nationally and internationally. I am now retired, and have the time available to dedicate towards the civic arena.

I have been married to my wife Nancy for 35 years. Nancy is a graduate of Boston College with a degree in Elementary Education; she also holds a Master's Degree in Learning Disabilities. She is currently a Kindergarten Teacher at Berwick Academy. We have 4 children.

I have employed both public and private schools for my children at different points in their academic careers. We have had success in both venues. My 2 older children started in private school until 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> grade respectively, and then went to public school through 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and then on to boarding schools. My 2 younger children started in public school. One switched to private school in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, in preparation for high school abroad, the other spent one year in public high school and then went to boarding school. They are graduates of: Loomis Chafee School, CT; Green Mountain Valley School, VT; Kimball Union Academy, NH; Harrow, UK. Two are graduates of private university (St. Lawrence), and two will graduate from public university, UNH. Throughout this process, both public and private, I have become aware of a wide variety of approaches in education, the broader concepts of learning, and the richness of non-academic endeavors, which support the whole person through, athletics, music, arts, drama, clubs, and other enhancing endeavors.

## **Contested Races**

### **Board of Selectmen**

Richard Moynahan, Priscilla Jenness

**Richard Moynahan** Born and raised in Rye, now retired and have moved back to Rye to be with family and friends.

**Priscilla Jenness:** I am a candidate for selectman and seek your vote on March 8th. I am a senior citizen and a lifelong resident of Rye. I have been a Rye selectman since 2000.

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My background includes the following:

- **Selectman**, Town of Rye, since 2000
- **Selectmen's representative** to Planning Board since 2002; Heritage Comm., since its inception; Historic District Comm. & Mosquito Control Comm, several years each; currently: Recreation Facilities Space Needs Comm.
- **Design, production, editing Town of Rye Annual Report, since 1999**
- Member: **Rye Sewer Committee** 1980
- Director, **Parsons Park Corporation**, 1977-1980
- Our Town 1996: Architectural Trolley Tour, Rye Junior High co-leader
- **Rye Junior High Building Committee** including **Public Information re: Needs Assessment**
- Our Town 2000: Time Line of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, co-leader of this Rye Junior High School whole school activity
- Member, Community Committee: Rye Junior High School Recertification by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 1998-99
- Member Rye Driftwood Garden Club

Art Teacher Portsmouth School Department, 35 years

Art Department Head K-12, Portsmouth School System, 14 years, responsible for

- Curriculum development, scheduling, teacher evaluation
- Hiring/Candidate selection
- Budget Preparation and Management

University of New Hampshire:

- Cooperating teacher/more than 80 student teachers, 1966-1980
- Instructor/ Arts 692
- Faculty Appointment to instruct Art Education 791, 1986

Other:

- Member: State of New Hampshire Art Curriculum Committee
- Member Advisory Board Channel 11, 1966-1969
- Member: Visiting Committee of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges: Skowhegan, Maine and Somersworth, N.H. High Schools

University of New Hampshire, Bachelor of Science Degree in Art Education (K-12)

History/Government Minor

University of New Hampshire Graduate School

Supervision and Administration

### **Cemetery Trustee**

Richard Moynahan, Frank Drake

**Richard Moynahan** Born and raised in Rye, now retired and have moved back to Rye to be with family and friends.

Frank Drake: Not provided

### **Budget Committee**

Shawn Crapo, Peggy Balboni, Mae Bradshaw

**Mae C. Bradshaw** is a 1962 graduate of Andover Phillips Academy and graduated from Connecticut College with honors in 1966. She received her Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, in 1976 from Suffolk University Law School where she was a member of the Law Review. She is admitted to practice in New

Hampshire (1976), Massachusetts Bar (1977), Florida (1992) and Maine Bar (1996). Mae founded Bradshaw & Associates, P.C. in 1982 with offices in Newburyport and Exeter. In July 2015 she joined the firm of sklawyers, pllc, as of counsel, where she concentrates her practice in estate planning, real estate law and general business.

She has served as president of the Newburyport Bar Association, president of the Rockingham County Bar Association, member of the Executive Committee of the Essex County Bar Association, chairperson of the Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as president of the Old Newbury Historical Society and Opportunity Workshop.

Mae has been president of the Exeter Rotary Club and Assistant Governor of Rotary District 7780, a trustee of Salem State College, a trustee of the Anna Jaques Hospital Foundation, and chairperson of the Scholarship Committee for the Seacoast Regional Hospital. She served on the board of the New Hampshire SPCA for 15 years and is now a trustee of the NHSPCA Foundation.

She was the recipient of the YWCA Vanguard Outstanding Woman Leader Award in 1988. She is the recipient of the Phillips Academy Distinguished Service Award for 2015.

Mae has been a resident of Rye, New Hampshire, for 40 years. She is a charter member and chair of the Rye Heritage Commission, as well as a member of the Rye Historic District Commission. She serves as a member and clerk of the Capital Improvement Plan Committee for the Town of Rye.

**Peggy Balboni:** Background and Education:

- Rye resident since 1994. Four children ages 16,18,21 & 25; all attended Rye Public Schools from Kindergarten through grade 8
- BA in Psychology, Georgetown University
- MA in Special Education, Teachers College Columbia University
- Early Childhood Special Educator and Administrator

Experience:

- Rye Budget Committee, school board representative 2009-15
- Rye School Board Member 2006-15; Chairperson 2011-12, 2014-15
- SAU 50 School Board Member 2006-15; Vice-Chairperson 2012-15
- Rye Education Foundation, Grants Committee Chairperson 2001-04

Additional Committee work:

- Wage and benefits for SAU 50
  - Secondary Advisory Committee for PHS
  - Professional Learning Advisory Committee
  - Hiring committees for school and district administrators
  - Communications-publications released by the school board (newsletters; annual report; statements
  - PTA and REF liaison
  - Georgetown University Alumni interviewer
  - Phillips Exeter Academy Parent Group leader
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**Specific Budget Committee Qualifications:**

- Produced nine annual fiscally conservative school district budgets (10 yr. avg. increase of 3%; 3 yr. avg. increase of 1.8%)
- Assisted in school district contract negotiations that led to substantial savings in health care costs to the district
- Improved communication and budget process review between the school board and the budget committee
- Full voting member of the Rye Budget Committee for 6 years; extensive knowledge of the budget committee review process and the historical priorities and specifics of the Rye Town Budget
- Personal strengths: collaborator; consensus builder; belief that respectful discourse produces long lasting effective changes

**Shawn Crapo:** None provided

**Zoning Board of Adjustment** Robert Lincoln, Patrick Driscoll

**Patrick Driscoll:** Candidate for the Rye Zoning Board of Appeals - I have been an active alternate on the Rye Zoning Board since June 2013. Before moving to Rye I was a sitting member of the Exeter Zoning Board for three years. Over the past three years, I have learned a lot as an alternate member and feel that combined with my expertise as a contractor, I would be an asset in making educated decisions for the board. I have participated in several state zoning and planning conferences and have a first hand understanding of the town zoning ordinances which would make me a highly valuable member. I enjoy contributing to the town and with my building background, the Zoning Board is where my knowledge and experience is best leveraged. In addition, I have only been a Rye resident for three years so I would be bringing a fresh perspective to the role. Thank you for your consideration.

**RJ Lincoln** (to read at Candidates night) Hi My name is RJ Lincoln, thank you for your time and the opportunity to give you a little information on myself and my background.

I have lived in Rye my whole life, over 50 years, my parents, grandparents and great grandparents have been/were, permanent residents of Rye for over 100 years. I have seen a lot of change in Rye over the years.

I currently live on Locke Rd with my wife and two daughters and work with a small, 15 person company based in Rye.

The reason I ask for your vote is to give back to the town I love and help, along with the rest of the board, to make sure development is done in a sustainable, common sense manner, where everyone adheres to the same set of guidelines.

I have served in the past, on the Rye budget committee and would appreciate your vote, I'd be honored to serve you, if I'm fortunate enough to be elected.

Thank you again for your time and consideration!

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