

NHJPA

New Hampshire
Justice of the Peace
Association

www.nhjpa.org

www.findajp.net

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NHJPA Events

We have two meetings
a year that provide
information about the
association.

- 2016 -

Board Meeting
Sunday, September 18
Valentino's Restaurant
Hudson, NH
Time: Noon

Educational Seminar
Sunday, November 6
Valentino's Restaurant
Hudson, NH
Time: Noon

NHJPA



Times

Summer 2016

Educational Seminar

Sunday, November 6

"How to get noticed on Twitter and Facebook"

Keynote Speaker: Wendy Thomas, Author and Educator

Join us at our upcoming Educational Seminar, Sunday, November 6. Meet our Guest Speaker, Wendy Thomas. Know someone who may be interested in this Seminar, bring them along. Guests are always welcome.



Wendy has taught courses on getting noticed on the Internet at New Hampshire Community Collage and Merrimack Adult Education. Wendy is an award-winning journalist, columnist, and blogger who believes that taking challenges in life will always lead to goodness.

She is the mother of six funny and creative kids and it is her goal to teach them through stories and lessons. Wendy's current project involves writing about her family's experiences and lessons learned living with chickens (yes, chickens).

Visit her blog at www.SimpleThrift.Wordpress.com

To Register email: John Scuto: blueskyweddings@comcast.net

Date: Sunday, November 6

Time: Noon

Location: Valentino's Restaurant
142 Lowell Road, Hudson, NH
(603-889-9900)

(Click on [here](#) for directions)

Check our website for updates—www.nhjpa.org



NHJPA Officers (elected March 2016)



President: Judith Wilhelmy, Nashua
watersideweddings@gmail.com

Vice President: Nancy Lavalley, Danville
nalavalley@comcast.net

Secretary: Robert Bates, Nashua
RNBates001@comcast.net

Treasurer: Irwin Bluestein, Nashua
ibluestein@aim.com

Chairperson of Membership:
Kristen Lochhead, Milford
jpkristen@yahoo.com

Chairperson of Education and Partnerships:
John Scuto, Brentwood
blueskyweddings@comcast.net

Chairperson of By-Laws, Nominations and Elections
Susan Miele, Nashua
nhweddingsbysusan@gmail.com

Welcome

A hearty welcome to NHJPA's newest member Susan Miele of Nashua. Give Susan a shout nhweddingsbysusan@gmail.com and visit her website www.nhweddingsbysusan.org

Join Us!

Membership Renewal

Annual membership dues/renewals is still only \$50.00. Please make checks Payable to NHOA. Contact Membership Chairperson Kristen Lochhead pkristen@yahoo.com for Membership mailing address. If you anyone who may be interested in joining NHJPA please have them contact Kristen.



Check it out NHJPA added new Website.
Find a New Hampshire JP—www.findajp.net

NHJPA Mission Statement

The New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association promotes professionalism and integrity by requiring members to comply with a Code of Ethics and to promote education through meetings workshops and networking.

Member Benefits

The New Hampshire Justice of the Peace Association (NHJPA) was established in October 2014. It is registered in Concord as the New Hampshire Officiants Association (NHOA). It was established to support and educate Justices of the Peace in New Hampshire. All Justices of the Peace are welcome.

Members have the following benefits:

- Listing on 2 Websites www.nhjpa.org and www.findajp.net
- Referrals from other Members
- Professional Support from other Members
- The opportunity to help the organization become stronger by serving on the Board
- Information such as presented in this newsletter
- Information regarding changes in the law
- *Annual Meeting is held in the Spring. This meeting provides you networking opportunities, Guest Speaker, Ceremony Presentation and NHJPA organization updates.
- *Educational Seminar with Guest Speaker is held annually.
- Facebook & LinkedIn

* Meetings, Seminars and Workshops are free—attendees responsible for the cost of Lunch



My Favorite Weddings

Excerpts from “My ‘Career’ as a Justice of the Peace”
A work-in Progress by Bob Bates

One memorable wedding took place beside the Swift River along the Kancamagus Highway in the New Hampshire White Mountains. The couple had wanted to be married in June, and they had a particular location already in mind. I reminded them that June is black fly season in the New Hampshire forests, and was able to steer them to the last Saturday in June.

I wasn't wholly clear as to where this place was, but they assured me I'd know it when I saw it. The last Saturday in June dawned hot and humid, the first real hot day of the summer. I cruised up the Kanc from Lincoln, over its summit and down the east side, searching for “the thing” by which I'd know the location. Before long I spied two balloons, green and yellow, tied to the highway railing – in front of a mass of parked cars.

The couple was nearby with a half dozen family and friends, the groom in a smartly tailored formal suit and tie, and his bride in a three quarter length fancy dress. The place they had pointed to at the river bank was strewn with huge rocks, and not too far upstream, hundreds of shouting and squealing bathers were whooping and splashing in the stream. Interesting, I thought.



Filipino Veil, Cord & Coin Ceremony

(Spain, Mexico, the Philippines)

- written by Rev Bob Schneider (Online Resource)

A [traditional Filipino wedding ceremony](#) involves several smaller ceremonies within in it, each with very deep spiritual meaning. Couples often include one or more of the following: a special veil, a cord (or lasso) and *arras* (coins). In addition, the bride and groom will select close friends or family members to act as sponsors for each of these ceremonies. Additionally, the [unity candle](#) and the assistance of the mothers of the couple plays an important role in the ceremony as well. The following is a brief description of each of the ceremony components:

The Veil It's a special square veil designed to go over the groom's shoulders and the bride's head. This veil represents everything and everyone who will protect them, their home and their families.

Back at my car, a youngster in bathing trunks stared wide-eyed as I started to put on my robe. “My bathing suit,” I announced with a wink, and he ran excitedly, hollering, “Mom! Mom! Mom! Y'gotta see this...”

As I got back to the wedding party, I heard it thunder, so I hurried the group along. We must have made an interesting sight, as the suit, the gown and the robe clambered over the boulders to the water's edge, not far from the bathers. The couple seemed undaunted by the noise and confusion, so I convinced myself this was what they wanted, and who was I to deny them!

About half way through the ceremony, I became aware that all the bathers had left the water and had formed a semicircle around us, and when I pronounced the couple husband and wife the entire group cheered and whooped! It was so cool!

We didn't have long to savor the moment, as a clap of nearby thunder drove us back to a roofed picnic table, just before it started to rain torrents!



*Thank you Bob for sharing this great story with us.
Look forward to more in future issues.*

The Cord (Lasso) It's a long cord in the shape of a figure 8 (infinity), often with a rosary attached, that goes around the wedding couple's shoulders. It is a symbol of their intimate union and a sign of their bond to each other, and their inseparable unity.

The Arras (Coins) Exactly 13 coins in a pouch or box is brought to the altar by a small child like the ring bearer or the sponsors. The coins are given from the groom to the bride as a pledge and promise to financially support their new family. The bride accepts the gift of these coins along with the responsibility of building a loving home. (These can be imitation coins, actual currency, or collected coins from the couple's travels, etc.)

How Planning Behaviors are Shifting to Digital Focus

- [Wedinsights](#), Volume 10

ONLINE AND MOBILE SEARCH IS BECOMING A STAPLE IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

- Nearly 60% of couples start planning their wedding within a month of getting engaged, and 6% of eager planners get started prior to engagement. Although the majority of pros may be “busiest” executing weddings between May-October, it’s important to address questions from customers year-round in order to secure the next group of customers (for the following year).
- The average couple spends approximately 2 hours a day planning their wedding and 80% of their time is spent planning online. This number shows just how important it is for vendors to have a strong brand presence on desktop and mobile devices.
- More than ever couples are using mobile devices to plan their wedding at all hours of the day. Couples are spending approximately 30% of their time planning from a smartphone or tablet.
- About half of engaged couples use their mobile devices specifically to search for wedding vendors; an 11% increase over the last year.



COUPLES ARE UTILIZING ONLINE RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION COLLECTION & SHARING

- After saying “Yes”, couples are now turning to social media to announce their engagement. In fact, 2 out of 3 couples announce their “#justsaidyes” moment on social media for friends and family to see.
- Social media might help kick-off the wedding planning excitement, but it certainly doesn’t stop there. Over 50% of couples setup a wedding hashtag for all events associated with the wedding, as this not only helps the couple capture special moments throughout the process but gives friends and family (and even vendors) an easy way to follow along.
- In 2015, approximately 60% of couples created a wedding website to provide their guests with details for the big day. Plus, it’s a great place for couples to link to their venue, include information about their registry and collect RSVPs.

This article is only part of an informative piece—For more information go to www.wedinsights.com

We are always looking for your stories, news and information you may want to share in our Newsletter. Feel free to contact Nancy Lavalley nalavalley@comcast.net



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