



International Relations Committee

By Tammy Legacy, MMC, Town Clerk – Roxbury, VT

Editor's Note: This is one in a series of articles from IIMC's International Relations Committee, featuring member Tammy Legacy.



My name is Tammy Legacy. I am the Town Clerk in Roxbury, Vermont. Along with my role as Town Clerk, I am also the Selectboard Assistant and Assistant Town Treasurer. Roxbury is a very small town, only 678 citizens and 550 voters. It is located in the center of the state and the village is surrounded by hills. It was chartered in 1781.

The town was booming (if you can call it that) in the 1880s. The railroad came to Town in 1845; by the 1880s there were multiple stores, a clock factory, quarries and rail yards. But when the quarries closed and railroad no longer stopped in town, the population dropped. In early 1900s a summer camp was built. It was for young girls and was very popular. Former President Richard Nixon sent his daughter to this camp.

The camp is still here. It is now for girls and boys and has many activities but the main ones are tennis and horseback riding. The attendees come from all over the world and the counselors that work at the camp do, too. Roxbury doesn't have a lot to offer and that is why the population is so small. We have our issues, not everyone gets along or sees eye to eye but I think it is a wonderful place to live and to work.

My office is the old railroad station. It still has the original benches that riders would sit on waiting for the train, the ticket window, the unmatching walls (they used what they had) and the telegraph machine that was used by the employees. It is a unique building. I am happy my office is in the building. In 2003, the Town started a project of moving the building from railroad land and adding an addition. I now have a large vault (before it was the size of a golden retriever as she laid on the floor and took all the floor space).

So now a little history on me. I have lived in Vermont most of my life. I grew up in a town near Roxbury. My husband and I used to ride four wheelers (ATVs) and snowmobiles in Roxbury. One day we came upon this house on a hill and wondered if it was for sale. We bought the house and forty acres on Labor Day in 1985. That fall, my husband, our son and I moved into Roxbury. Our life changed that fall. The house is off the grid which means it had no electricity except for a generator, had a propane refrigerator, stove and hot water heater and gravity fed water. The heating systems were a wood stove and kerosene stove. I may have been a country girl but not that type of country girl. It wasn't easy but we managed to get through the first winter, started having more sons, dogs and a cat over the next decade. I used to joke that the neighbors were the goats, cows and pigs that came to visit. We also had the occasional moose that hung out eating the apples from our trees. Now we have more houses on our road, so more humans are in the neighborhood, but the occasional herd of cows still come by, and the moose are still hanging out in the woods. My husband and I still live in this house, our sons moved away for

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