Non-Partisan Activity in New Hampshire

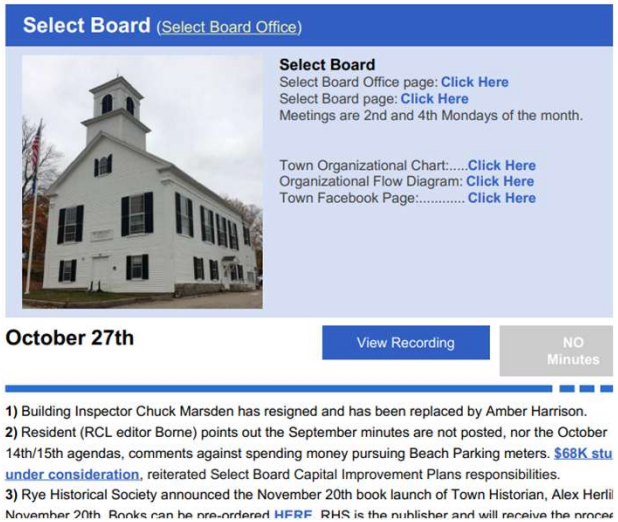
November 2025



Presentation created by Steven Borne
NH Common Denominator Newsletter Editor
Contact: steven@consumegov.com

The Rye Civic League

Rye Civic News – Monthly E-mail



< 1600 People on distribution
60% to 70% of people open it each month
20% to 25% Click on at least 1 link
200+ Links to more information

What we do:

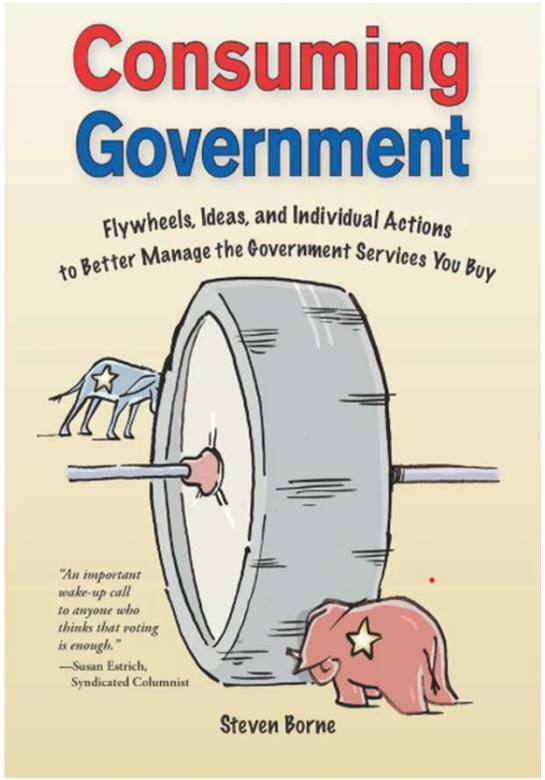
- **Monthly Civic News**
- **Annual Citizens Handbook**
- **Civic Fest**
- **Budget Analysis**
- **Warrant Article Tools**
- **Town Candidates Night**
- **State Candidates Night**
- **Serving in Rye**
- **Topical Presentations**



Updated Annually
- How does Rye Operate

President – involved since 20009 when it was restarted

Consuming Government - 2019

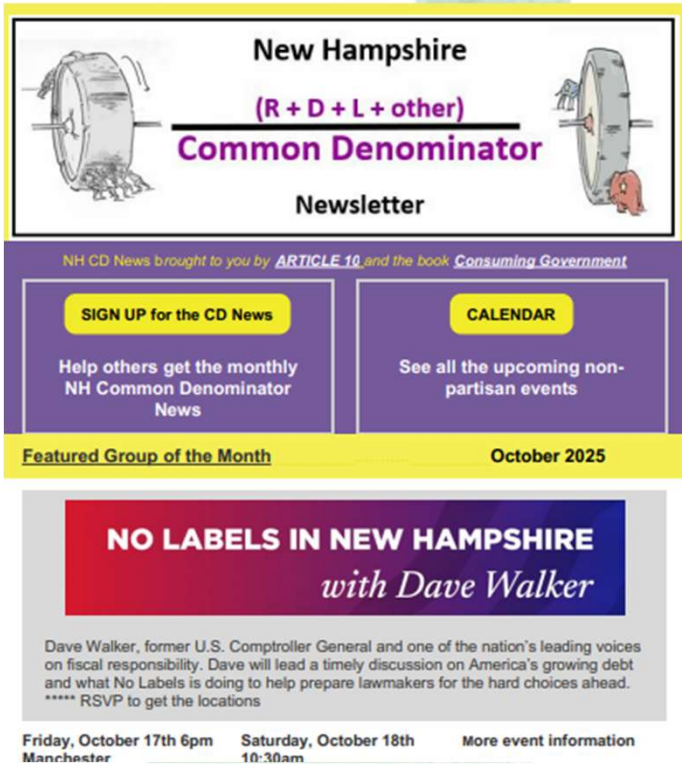


[National Civic Legue Review Story]

Don't Launch a new Book and plan on speaking tours right before COVID

The Common Denominator Tour was the marketing plan to speak at NH High Schools and travel around the State talking about the Rye Civic League and getting communities to work together on shared Civic activities.

NH Common Denominator News Since 2020 (going on 6 years)



Editor of the CD News – Brought to you by **Article 10**

Article 10 of the NH Bill of Rights

[Art.] 10. [Right of Revolution.] back to top

Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security, of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men; therefore, whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

June 2, 1784

New Hampshire

(R + D + L + other)

Common Denominator

Newsletter

Click Here for the November 2025 NH Common Denominator News

Active NH Groups

NH RCV

NO LABELS

Open Democracy
AN EQUAL VOICE FOR ALL

Braver Angels

New Hampshire Together

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

NH Information & Education

Citizens Count
Inspiring NH Citizens to Make a Difference

NH CIVICS

civics 101 nhpr

SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE
NEW HAMPSHIRE INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

THE PURPLE PRINCIPLE

University of New Hampshire
Carsey School of Public Policy
New Hampshire Listens

stayworkplay
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Granny D- (Dorris Haddock) → NH Rebellion Walks → Open Democracy & Actions

What they do:

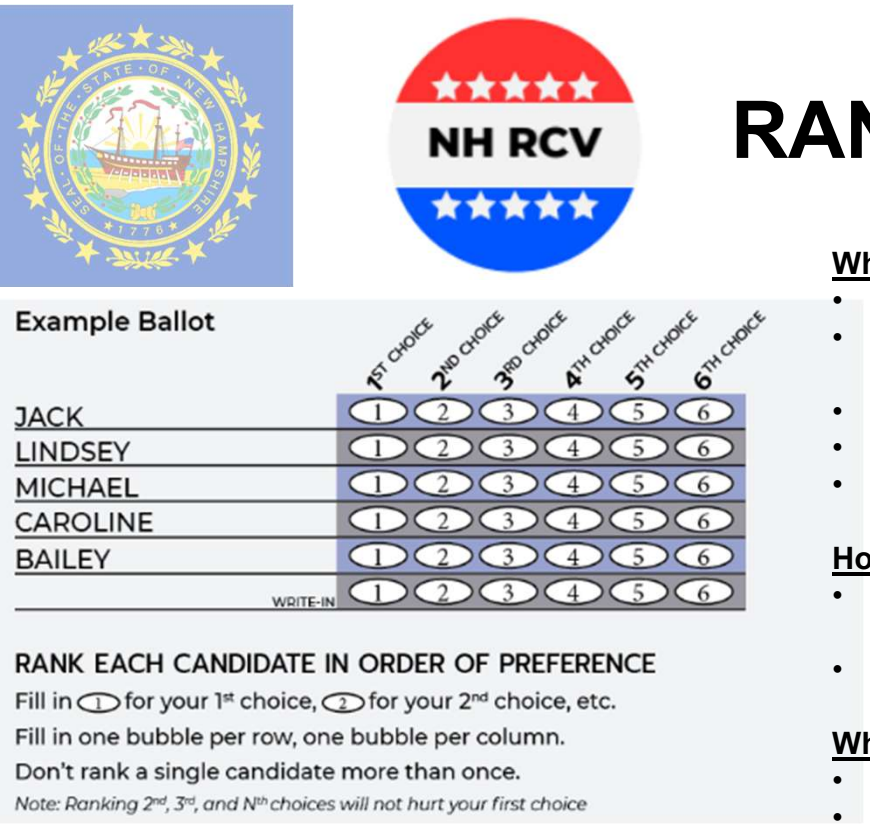
NH Citizens working to help keep our democracy working

- Track NH Election Law Activity – there were over 100 bills the last session
- Coordinate support and opposition; Members participate in the process, testify, write letters, muster NH residents to Act
- Weekly "action" meetings Tuesday at 4pm and Thursday at 2pm (what you did last week, actions and updates)
- High School Voter Registration – part time position – funded with NH contributions and grants
- New Elderly participation position – working with elder NH communities to help them participate
- Recruit and train poll workers
- Create education material on frequent Election Law changes
- Book Club with Authors participating
- Walks, Talks, and annual events
- Auction – Now, Annual Dinners for funds raising



Started in the NH Rebellion days – participate in a weekly call

RANKED CHOICE VOTING



Why is it better:

- More than two, candidates 70% of voters can be against the person who wins
- Winner is the person that a majority prefers over the other choices. May not be the person with the most votes after round 1
- No more "spoiler effect"
- Changes the demeanor of campaigns – 2nd choices can matter
- Encourages more people to run – just not the extremes of a party

How does it work:

- Candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, the 2nd choices now become 1st choices
- Ends when one candidate has 50% of the 1st place votes

Who is using it:

- Maine and Alaska
- NYC and fourteen other cities/counties used RCV on November 4, 2025

WHY NOT IN NH?

- NH is not a Referendum State – the people can't demand it.
- Parties see it as a threat
- Republican Election Law member "I won't support anything that puts my party at a disadvantage"

On the Board when the non-profit formed, currently the Vice President

Braver Angels



Focused on getting Red people speaking with Blue people. Promote that we still have more in common than separates us.

National group – but has a good New Hampshire – and/or New England – Northern New England Group
Portsmouth resident recently hosted the 2017 Braver Angels Documentary at the Portsmouth Library

Monthly New Hampshire Discussion – Zoom

NH House Bi-Partisan Training Sessions – Teaching NH House members how to listen

Sessions led to the Granite Bridge Alliance – NH House members who work together (need more conservatives)

NH Braver Angels House members – took their “How to Listen” program to NH districts of their colleagues.
My wife attended one in Stratham this summer and it was Great!

Braver Angels new CEO Muaray Giles was in New London on 10/29 and he meet with Braver Angels members/supporters from across the State.

No official role – just an active NH member/participant

New Hampshire Together

the People

The People – was started by Katie Fahey- Michigan Grassroots effort that ended Michigan Gerrymandering and Andrew Shu (some soap thing..)

Role is to be a “force multiplier” for groups who are looking to make democracy reform. Testing software/platforms, Vote-O-pedia, Voting Resource Guide, Facilitator Training, National Assemblies of The People

How do you make democracy reform happen in a NON-Referendum State? → **New Hamshire Together Project**

Funded Staff – Project Director, Program Manager and support people in New Hampshire
June 2024 – 1st NH Citizen’s Assembly: 100 or so NH Residents spent a weekend developing consensus on what the reforms should be. Great video:

- 4 Initiatives got over 75% of approval to move forward.

Single Ballot Primary – the only group that is still moving forward with the actions.
Come September 1 Ballot with all of the candidates



House of Delegates for The People – 2 terms, Single Ballot Primary team

NO LABELS



National No Labels:

- Problem Solvers Caucus
- Bicameral Meetings
- Center point of key legislation moving forward
- Forced US House Rules (removed by current House)

Unfiltered Washington Insights: US House Republican and Democrat get on a Zoom call and explain what is happening with bashing the other side – the are respectful to each other.

Prominent National people – providing updates and insights.

New Hampshire No Labels Group

- Group attended a 2017 National No Labels Assembly in DC
- NH is one of the more focused and established State No Label groups
- Play a role when No Labels comes to NH for the Presidential Primaries
- National No Labels – makes announcements in NH
- Hold education sessions – October 2025: Dave Walker speaking on the National Debt

At the 2010 NYC starting event. Continue on the National Leaders Group

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



Promotes an Active Democracy

- Candidates Events
- Candidate Information
- Election and Voting Information

LWV/Open Democracy Project: Scored town websites on having Voting information accessible

Seacoast is recruiting to build out more Seacoast Members

Contact: Sue Natasi: ctcoastmetro@gmail.com

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Kindred Spirit

Started by Paul Matrone in 2009 as the Live Free or Die Alliance. Hampton offices

Rebranded as “Citizens Count”

Election Officials and Elections – down to the local level – for State and Federal

2025 Legislator Report Card

Like Open Democracy – updates and information on bills

Topic Discussions

Education with NH Humanities



NH CIVICS



K to 12 Civic Education

Content, education and tools to Teach Civics
Many schools don't have Social Studies teachers so others need to pick up the gaps

Most Widely Known Programs
Kid Governor
Treat Talk Lecture Series
Civics 603
Mikva Challenge

Other NH Groups



Award winning basic information on Civics. Produced at NHPR (not nationally funded).

New Hampshire Institute of Politics (NHIOP)
Speakers, Programs and gracious with its facilities

Like the Portsmouth Listens – NH Listens helps communities across the state answer tough questions

Non-Profit to help keep youth in New Hampshire
DRED, NH Tech Alliance, and others got this group started

June 2025 Started the 603 Discussion

None of the groups are crushing it. How can we help each other succeed.
- CD News now has a Calendar
- Once a month – where can you use help?

Rye Civic League	CD News
Braver Angels	Citizens Count
NH Listens	Lily Wo – NH Secretary of State
NH LWV	NH Ranked Choice Voting
NH Independents	NHPR
NH No Labels Problem Solvers	Open Democracy
Open Democracy	NH Civics



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QR CODE PAGE

Rye Civic News Sign Up

Common Denominator Newsletter Sign Up

NH Ranked Choice Voting Sign Up

NH Together & Single Ballot Primary

Non-Partisan Activity in New Hampshire

November 2025



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