

Donna Jordan, Publisher

Donna Jordan's interest in history began as a teenager when she worked for the museum of the Middleboro Historical Society in Middleboro, Massachusetts, where she worked in "the general store" selling penny candy to visitors. The museum is most noted for its extensive Tom Thumb displays. Tom Thumb's wife, Lavinia Warren, was a native of Middleboro, and the couple lived there during their married years. As a young girl, Donna greatly enjoyed weekend outings to old cemeteries, flea markets, auctions and "bottle digging" with her parents, who had the antique bug for as long as she can remember. Today, she and her husband stop and visit most every old cemetery they happen to pass by.

She began her publishing career in 1981 when she and her husband, Charlie, moved from the New Hampshire-Canadian border to southern New Hampshire to work for Yankee Publishing, producing **Collectibles Illustrated** magazine—a start-up. In 1985, she worked for Cobblestone Publishing, a children's magazine company which published at that time **Cobblestone Magazine** (a history magazine for ages 8-14), **FACES** (a geography magazine for ages 8-14) and **Classical Calliope**, a magazine for young teens about the seven muses. In the summer of 1985, she and Charlie returned to their home in northern New Hampshire and began their advertising agency, Jordan Associates. Their clients included local hospitals, small and heavy equipment distributors, restaurants, and more. In 1986, she also joined the weekly newspaper, **The News and Sentinel**, in Colebrook, as a writer/photographer. Her duties at the **Sentinel** also included paste-up and layout—the type of work once done by hand that is now done by computer.

In June 1989, Donna became publisher of **Coös Magazine**, the predecessor to **Northern New Hampshire Magazine**. Publishing duties included handling the distribution and circulation of the magazine, advertising sales and marketing. Donna has written numerous feature articles for the magazine, and in 1999 she won a Writer Of The Year award from the New Hampshire Press Association. In July 2000, she and her husband launched the weekly **Colebrook Chronicle**, followed one year later by the **Lancaster Herald**. Donna has served as publisher of all three Jordan Associates publications. In August 2005, Donna and Charles discontinued publishing **Northern New Hampshire Magazine** to focus their efforts on the two weekly newspapers. Then, in February 2008, they discontinued the **Lancaster Herald**, merging a portion of its coverage territory with the **Chronicle**, increasing the **Chronicle's** circulation and distribution area.

From 1985 to 2001, Donna served as ballot clerk for the town of Clarksville. She also served as selectman from 1989 to 1994 and from 1994 to 2001 as Trustee of Trust Funds. She is a founding member of the Northern New Hampshire Press Association, serving as treasurer since 1997. Her community service projects began in the early 1980s when she was a member of the Colebrook, New Hampshire, Jaycee Women, winning several awards, including project of the quarter, Jaycette of the month and Jaycette of the quarter. Currently, she is the president of the Board of Overseers for the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, a community group dedicated to bringing news of the hospital to residents. Donna recently joined the hospital's Executive Board of Trustees. In their spare time, Donna and Charles oversee a committee which prepares local displays for the Interpretive Center in the State of New Hampshire's Welcome Center/Rest Area in Colebrook. Her first display featured women's clothing from the mid-1860s which belonged to a woman in North Stratford, New Hampshire.

Donna and Charles are also founding members of the Great North Woods Center for the Arts committee, a group of residents dedicated to bringing the arts—visual, performing and musical—to North Country venues. Donna and Charles and their son, Thomas, are founding members of the folk singing group, The Folk Tree. In the spring of 2005, after spending a year recuperating from breast cancer treatments, Donna decided it was time to learn how to play a musical instrument and taught herself to play guitar. A few months later she picked up the bodhran (Celtic drum), the folk guitar and the Djembe. Donna also has been involved with the North Country Celtic group, Isley Mist Ceili.

In June 2004, Donna received the annual Pollyanna of Littleton "Signature Award," in recognition of her "outstanding optimism and courageous determination for living on the bright side." Since being diagnosed in August 2003 with invasive breast cancer, Donna has become an outspoken advocate of early detection and encouragement that women can survive breast cancer and its treatments. She was a Casting for Recovery participant in the summer of 2004 at Stowe, Vermont, and joined Casting for Recovery Alumni for a one-day retreat in Rangeley, Maine, on June 3, 2006. She has become an active volunteer with the program, helping to raise funds for the New Hampshire retreat, held every June in Pittsburg, New Hampshire.

Donna and Charles have one son, Thomas, a 2008 graduate of Pittsburg High School.

Charles J. Jordan, Editor

Charles J. Jordan has had a lifelong interest in New England news and history. At the age of 12 he began submitting old Vermont postcards he had collected with brief historical descriptions to the **Burlington Free Press**. He began his writing career at the age of 17 by selling two stories to **Yankee Magazine**. His first **Yankee story** was published in May 1971. In subsequent years, he wrote over 20 stories for **Yankee** on topics of antiques and collectibles and New England history.

Other magazines he has written for range from **New Hampshire Echoes** and the **Old Farmers Almanac** to **TV Guide**. In October 1978, he joined the **Coös County Democrat** in Lancaster, New Hampshire, as a reporter/photographer. During this period he developed his photographic abilities. In later years, he would do photo assignment work for **The Boston Globe**. Two of his photos appeared in **People Magazine**.

In 1980, the publication of his first book, **A Treasury of Nostalgic Collectibles** (Yankee Books), resulted in Charlie being chosen as a guest speaker at the Boston Globe Book Festival. Early in 1981 he left the **Coös County Democrat** and joined Yankee Publishing in Dublin, New Hampshire, where he became the founding editor of a national periodical for collectors, **Collectibles Illustrated** (1982-1985). During his tenure with Yankee Publishing, he did many radio and television appearances around the country promoting the new magazine.

In 1985, he and his wife, Donna, returned to northern New Hampshire and Charlie re-joined the **Coös County Democrat**, where

he worked as Regional Editor. The Jordans worked for Random House during this period as consulting editors for a line of collecting books. They also formed an advertising agency, Jordan Associates. Charlie's second book, **What To Save From The '80s** (Ballantine Books, 1986), was published during this period. In 1989, he left the **Democrat** to found with his wife this monthly magazine, based in Colebrook, New Hampshire--with our offices in nearby Clarksville. At first called **Coös Magazine**, it debuted in June 1989. Its name was changed to **Northern New Hampshire Magazine** in 1994 when the magazine expanded its coverage area to take in the entire top half of the Granite State. It was published for over 15 years and ceased production in 2005. From October 1997 until July 1999, Charlie also served as editor for the **News and Sentinel** in Colebrook.

In 1998, he won a Writer Of The Year award from the New Hampshire Press Association for his stories in his magazine. Today, he remains active in his other writing activities and is often consulted on subjects pertaining to the history of his region. In July 2000, he and his wife founded the **Colebrook Chronicle**, the weekly newspaper covering the towns of the Upper Connecticut River Valley. Charlie serves as editor. The following summer, the Jordans launched their second weekly newspaper, the **Lancaster Herald**. Charlie serves as Editor of the **Herald**. Charlie's third book, **Tales Told In The Shadows of the White Mountains**, was published by University Press of New England in 2004.