



## SIGNATURE AWARD HONOREE



### Dick Hamilton

2009

*With admiration & gladness Pollyanna of Littleton—New Hampshire's Most Welcoming Attraction—positively gives welcome and recognition to the person who has attracted, greeted and welcomed to our beautiful state, the most people, from more places, in more ways, at more times than we know.*

Dick Hamilton began his career at age 13 as a bellhop at the Eastern Slope Inn in his home town of North Conway. He graduated from Kennett High School 1954 and served in the USAF. Next stop was Michigan, where he was PR director for a ski area. A Mount Cranmore kid, Dick had the North Country in his blood. He and his wife, Sandy, returned to the White Mountains in 1965. Dick discussed a management position with Sherm Adams at Loon Mountain, but the chemistry wasn't right.

At the same time, Ski 93, a promotional organization for the six ski areas along the interstate, wanted an executive director. Dick took the job. His promotional stunts, involving a friendly rivalry with Florida tourism officials (both states vied for winter visitors), included hauling snow to the first Miami Invitational Slalom Race.

His next position would engage him for 35 years, beginning in 1970—Executive Director of White

Mountains Attractions. It was a volunteer operation until they hired Dick. WMA reflected Dick's ethic of cooperation and "a rising tide floats all boats". The association grew to 17 attractions, all complementing each other. Recessions, fuel crises and shifting patterns of recreational tourism—Dick steered them through.

He has always wished people would "get out of their cars" and enjoy the splendor and culture of this region. He urges people to visit Littleton, which he describes as "a classic New England town..."

In his "retirement" he has taken on a volume of philanthropic and volunteer causes that would exhaust a person half his age.

Words are inadequate to describe his sincere demeanor and his belief in the treasures that await visitors to our region. Dick will tell you that this is the best place on earth. As long as Dick and Sandy are nearby, this IS the best place on earth.

*Jim McIntosh*

### THE SIGNATURE AWARD

*honors individuals who exhibit the character and spirit exemplified in the personality of Pollyanna—living positively and inspiring gladness in an outstanding way.*



2008 Emile Birch



2007 Jim McIntosh



2006 Jason Hoch



2005 Jack & Ruth Colby



2004 Donna Jordan



2003 Miss Fran Heald