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To non-subscribers copied, ... thought this might give you a chuckle.

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Friday, August 31, 2007 c:/wklylt7.7wc09

2007 NHN&WR letter/story #10

**Historical Sites Seats.**

Vermont *‘Clean Up Day’* has come and gone. Vermont is pretty clean to begin with and overall it went well. However, on our Pelots Point Road, problems remain. The road itself dead ends at the North Hero Marina. Town maintenance of the road ends some 1000 feet before the marina. The last maintained part of the Town Road is a straight-away about a third of a mile long. The road then turns to dirt with a sharp ‘S’ curve, has maybe five houses and then goes right into the North Hero Marina. This last paved straight-away has deep drop-off shoulders. From a vehicle it is difficult to see the terrain at the bottom of the shoulder. From a dogwalker’s viewpoint it is very easy. Two situations have survived ‘Clean Up Day’ for years, probably helped by the fact that on *‘Clean Up Day’* resident litter lies in several feet of water.

Situation #1.

The raised straight-away seems to draw an inordinate amount of beer cans. We would hazard a guess that a majority of boat owners at the North Hero Marina are Canadians, ... and it would seem Canadians like to drink beer, ... (Gerry, Frank, Keith, Marc, Norm, ...comment?) . One of the perks for neatniks is turning in their beer can haul for the deposit involved. We would not be adverse to sliding down the shoulders of Pelots Point Road and retrieving the cans which have accumulated over the years. Hey, much better than looking at them every time we go walking, but then we run into the U.S./Can. container problem, ... no VT on the can, ... no refund. For goodness sakes, .... why don’t Canadians wait to buy their beer till they are in the USA? We believe it is less expensive and we could reap the refund, but then, maybe Canadians prefer Canadian beer. Interesting side thought here, Quebec brewskis come in can. cans which is certainly apt for French-speaking quaffers. After a year or so in the swampy bog it is almost impossible to discern the VT so the cans survive another clean-up day.

Situation #2.

Now the really intriguing situation. Pretty much out of sight from a vehicle is a *‘North Hero Historical Seat’*, (not site). We first became aware of this in 1977. It is sunk part way into the ground, tilted at a 45 degree angle, under water till mid June and still has it’s original seat (not site).

A dog walker with slightly devious mind, strolling by this gem for 30 years, is bound to have malicious thoughts. The gem in question, which has survived at least 30 Vermont *‘Clean Up Days’,* is a toilet in case you hadn’t guessed.

Malicious thought number one:

Clean a ten foot circle of brush from around *‘The Gem’*.

Excavate *‘The Gem’* from it’s current canted semi-bog position*.*

Re-install it erect on a raised, throne-like mound.

On a slow day with nothing much going on, slowly saunter up and down the road in the vicinity of *‘The Gem’*.

When a car rounds the curve into the straightway, be sure they see you and then run down shoulder.

Assume a comfortable position upon *‘The Gem’*.

As the car passes by, smile, and doff your cap.

Priceless! Hey, ... maybe a car or two would end up down the shoulder, but not our problem.

To the legendary Mooner, Flasher, & Streaker we would have added *"The Pelot Point Pooper"*! This plan, when first passed by Lucile, drew a three word response. *"You are sick".*

Malicious thought number two:

Enshrine the seat. Ooops, ... site not seat.

Here is an item which has survived over thirty Vermont *Clean Up Days’.*

Give credit where credit is due.

Re-install as above with discreet signage;

*"North Hero Historical Seat. Authentic American Standard Commode, circa 1950, retired from active service circa 1970."*

Send a set of close-up photos to the local paper. (Jane, ... hopefully they will spell commode right.)

Sell tickets in a lottery. "What month/year will the Town of North Hero clean-up the Pelots Point Historical Seat? Tickets would be sold only to those turning in a rusty Can. can.

Amazing how the mind can wander while walking a dog.

From North Hero, Lucile, Ken & Bailey.