

## **Pam Bliss' Bio**

I was born in Bridgton, Maine to Ervin and Jeannette Lord, joining my sister, Martha, and brother, Bill, and raised in North Lovell. I attended the Annie Heald School, the Sadie F. Adams School and Fryeburg Academy. The one room schoolhouse in North Lovell closed the year I was supposed to start kindergarten. I had to wait one more year before I could attend Annie Heald.

North Lovell was a wonderful place to grow up! Almost every house had 3-8 kids of all ages to play with. There were always baseball games in our field, sliding in the winter, skating on the little frog ponds that were in neighbors' yards, and playing tag until dark. We still continue the sliding party tradition every winter!

After growing up in Manchester, ME and being in the 10th Mountain Division during WWII, my father was assigned to Lovell as a Game Warden. It was so much fun when he'd bring baby animals home for me to play with before he took them off to the Gray Animal Farm. One day he brought home a baby crow that couldn't even fly yet that he had found and let me keep it all summer! What fun we had!

My mother was trained as a nurse, but stayed home to raise three children. When we were older, she worked at Severance Lodge and also sold fishing and hunting licenses at our house. The first time I was aware of Jon, I was about 12 years old when I was staying at Cliffwood, my girlfriend's house on the lake and I woke up at dawn to a strange and mournful sound coming from the lake. Alarmed, I woke up my friend and asked what in the world was that noise? She replied, "Oh, it's just this weird red-headed kid who plays the harmonica and fishes from his kayak every morning." Who knew what the future held for us?! It was a few more years before I met him again with our summer gang of teenage lake rats. There were always more girls than boys in the pack, and when they came to pick me up in the boat one day, I saw this person back-to to me, with long red hair. When he turned around with a full beard, I was so surprised, because I had just assumed it was another girl! He instantly became one of the pack. We always had so much fun water skiing all around the lake and whiling away the long summer days. We have stayed friends with all of those kids and look forward to seeing them every summer. Maine, the way life should be.

We were married in 1977, built our house in 1978 and had our son, Django, in 1979. It was still a wonderful place to raise a child, especially with my folks right down the field and our neighbors who had two boys for our son to play with. Django and his beautiful wife, Cherie, live in Boston where he is the CTO for Clear Company.

I worked at Farrington's in the kitchen when I was in high school but then started working at Evergreen Valley when it opened for skiing in 1972 until it ended in 1983. I then worked at the Inn at Evergreen Valley for many years afterward as a check-in clerk. Years later, I worked at Shawnee Peak and Sunday River. Thanks to my Dad, the ski industry was always in my blood. I also had my own business for many years, Acorn Designs, in which I made tiny stuffed Critters. I was also the office manager at a doctor's office in Bridgton in the 90's before following my heart and opening a gift shop in Center Lovell, where I made so many new and dear friends from around Lovell and Kezar. Since then, I have followed another dream and have been photographing anything and everything around me. It is really a crazy disease! I cannot help myself!

My father always used to announce when we would return from someplace, and start coming down "Nucky's Hill" in North Lovell, "Ah. We're back in Happy Valley!" It is still that for me and I am lucky enough to live here with the amazing man I love.

## **Jon Bliss' Bio**

I was born in Boston, MA on March 10, 1953, the youngest of four siblings, and grew up in Cranston, RI. I attended Woodbridge Elementary School, Cranston West Junior/Senior High School, and Boston University. My father, Frank Bliss was a renowned dentist, born in Cranston and my mother, Edith Kelley Bliss was a wonderful homemaker, born in Salem, NH.

Beginning in 1957, I spent several weeks each summer at the North End of Kezar Lake. Kezar was always my favorite place to be growing up. My mother and sister and I used to row to the North Lovell Landing and then walk to the North Lovell Post Office for the mail. We hiked, explored and were rockhounds. I went fishing every chance I had.

Lovell became my permanent residence in 1974. I met a beautiful young local gal, Pam Lord, on Kezar. We were part of a gang of "lake rats". In 1977, I married Pam, the lovely daughter of the local game warden, Ervin Lord, and his wife, Jeanette. Pam & I built our home in North Lovell on Amos McKeen Road, in 1978. The following year, we were blessed with a wonderful son, Django Elijah Bliss.

I began my career as a Land Surveyor in 1974 working on a survey crew during the construction of Evergreen Valley. I went on to work for a local surveyor/engineer, David G. Fox, for 10 years. I then worked for Thaddeus Thorne Surveys in Conway, NH and after several years, I started a survey office in Lovell Village, Steven Smith & Associates, in 1988. In 1994, I bought the business and renamed it Bliss & Associates, Inc. In 1996, I moved my office to its present location, at 693 Main Street. The business employs three full time persons.

In addition to my regular work, I am a musician. I have always been working in one band or another, playing the drums, since I was 16 years old. I enjoy music very much and have performed with numerous bands during my lifetime. I love to play music.

I am blessed with a wonderful wife and son. I am grateful to them because they have helped me see that love, caring, and understanding are what make our lives as good as they are.

We have a wonderful community here in Lovell. There are many citizens that are involved in town affairs. Everyone gets along. Even when people disagree, they agree to disagree!