

# THE QUARRY BULLETIN

VOLUME 3

**ISSUE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006** 

# **ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The annual meeting of VSR unit owners is scheduled for 27 September 2006. Because our Clubhouse is limited to 100 persons, the meeting will be held in the cafeteria of the Miller Elementary School as it was last year. As part of the annual meeting, elections for the new Board of Trustees will be held at that time. Two positions are to be filled, each for a three-year term.

- 1. The two-year term created by the 2004 first Board of Trustees elections will expire and become a three-year term starting this year. Bill Nusssbum presently holds this position.
- 2. The second two-year term, also created by the 2004 first Board of Trustees elections, was originally held by Nick Johnson who resigned from the Board effective 17 October 2005, and was filled for the unexpired term of one year by Eli Demetri. This term will also expire and will become a three-year term starting this year.

Ballots will be mailed on 1 September 2006 to every unit owner of record. They will list the candidates and provide a write-in space for the two positions. The ballots will request voting for two candidates and can be cast (one ballot /unit) with election commission chair Richard Diaz on or before the 27 September Annual Meeting. All ballots will be collected in a sealed voting box that will be delivered to Great North Management Company for tallying. This will require extra time since the vote cast by each unit must be weighted by the percent interest in VSR of that unit. The two positions will be filled by the two candidates receiving the highest number of weighted votes. The results will be announced by 5 October, and the newly elected board will meet on 16 October 2006.

Included in this Bulletin are biographical sketches of the four candidates who have accepted their nominations. Come to the Clubhouse on 7 September from 7:00 to 9:00 pm for Candidate's Night so that you can get to know more about these nominees. This will be a question-and-answer forum and will be part of the regular Village meeting. We look forward to your inputs during these two important VSR meetings:

September 7- Candidate's Night September 27- Annual Meeting



Eli Demetri 31 Stone Ridge Rd



Bob Eddy 2 Sandstone Rd



Dean Hubbard 6 Stone Ridge Rd



Bill Nussbum 29 Stone Ridge Rd

# THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES



#### Eli Demetri

It was around 4 years ago that my wife, Charlotte, and I discovered VSR and knew, almost immediately, that this was where we wanted to live into retirement

and beyond. Since moving here in December 2002 we have come to love and appreciate not only the physical beauty of the surroundings, but also the friendliness and sense of community that pervades our neighborhood.

I was born and brought up in Somerville where I lived until Charlotte and I married in 1963. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Tufts University and a Master of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering from MIT. My career has been spent almost entirely in Contract Research & Development for government and industry, primarily in the Aerospace and Energy fields. This has included positions as Senior Staff Member at Arthur D. Little and Director of R&D at AMTI, a firm in Newton specializing in advanced prototype development of energy-related equipment for commercial and military clients. I am currently Corporate Fellow at Concepts NREC, an aerospace consulting company headquartered in Vermont with offices in Woburn. I'm semi-retired and, fortunately, have a considerable amount of flexibility in setting my own working hours to meet both professional and personal responsibilities.

Prior to becoming a Board member, I served as chairman of the Legal Committee working with the Trustees to address the many shortcomings of the present set of condo documents, in particular the Master Deed which we tried so hard to amend. For the past year, I've had the privilege and responsibility of serving on the Board of Trustees as Property Management Director acting as liaison to the Property Committee and Subcommittees. I'm sure that I share the primary goals of all VSR residents which are to maintain the beauty and character of this neighborhood and to provide the services we have a right to expect at a cost we can all afford. If reelected to the Board, I will continue to work towards achieving that proper balance to the best of my abilities.



#### **Bob Eddy**

Gail and I moved to the Village from Natick in 2005, and we are delighted to be living here. We were both born in Rhode Island and have lived all over the

country. We have two married daughters, and moved to Westford to be near our granddaughter who lives in Groton. I am a graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and also have a B.S.degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois. After my retirement from the Coast Guard in 1987, I was the Public Works Director for a Massachusetts municipality, facilities manager for a private boarding school, and project manager for a large national construction company that did maintenance and repair work for the U.S. Navy.

Although I have never served on a condo association board of trustees, I have experience in budgeting and financial management. While in the Coast Guard, I managed facilities at a training center that included 100 units of housing, roads, sewer and water systems, and 800 acres of property. As DPW Director, I managed the infrastructure for an entire town, and as facilities manager at St. Mark's School I was responsible for the construction and maintenance of dormitories, faculty housing, a sewer plant, acres of athletic fields, a golf course, and landscaping. Since moving to VSR I have served on the Waste water Treatment Facility Transition Committee and have developed a filing system for the Village office.

Gail and I have been impressed with the beauty of our surroundings, the friendliness of our neighbors, and the spirit of volunteerism that exists in the community. If elected, I will work to preserve the appearance and character of the VSR.



#### Dean Hubbard

My wife, Roni, and I are proud to be members of the Village at Stone Ridge. If elected, I will work hard to preserve and enhance all aspects of the excellent environment in our community. I believe

that it is important to listen to all community members and to use the talent and experience from as many community members as possible. I have enjoyed working as chairman of the Waste Water Treatment Facility Transition Committee and plan to continue monitoring the health, safety, and efficient operation of this critical part of our community regardless of the outcome of the election.

I hold a Masters of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and have recently retired from Raytheon Company after 36 years of service as a defense system engineer. I have served as a Trustee at the Hildreth Hills Condominium.

I am interested in giving my time and talents not only to the Village at Stone Ridge but to the larger community. Since my retirement I have served as a RESEED (Retirees Enhancing Science Education through Demonstrations and Experiments) volunteer at the Bartlett and Stoklosa Middle Schools in Lowell and as an instructor in the Science Adventures after school science class at both the Alcott School in Concord and the Job Lane School in Bedford.



#### Bill Nussbum

I was raised in Lexington, MA, went 2 years to Lexington High School, and then to Kimball Union Academy where I graduated in 1959. I graduated from Colby College in 1963. While falling

down a ski slope in Maine, I met "Tink" and we were married in 1965.

I have served for 41 years as President of DMI, which is a sales and marketing organization focused on the aerospace and medical industries. For 10 years I was on the Board of Directors of Martin Machine Co., and for 17 years on the Board of Directors for Kinemotive Corp., a New York manufacturer of aircraft fuel controls. For 5 years I was a Trustee at the Middlesex Point Condominium Trust; this is a business condominium complex in Bedford, MA.

I served as Director of the Kimball Union Alumni Council for 6 years, and for the past 2 years have been a Trustee at the Village of Stone Ridge.

## **GOVERMENT AFFAIRS**

#### **Owner Modification of Units**



by Judy Culver, Board of Trustees

The Architectural Standards and Review Committee (AS&R) has placed folders on a shelf in the Clubhouse Library containing material which it believes will assist unit owners when considering changes or

improvements to the exterior of their unit. The Deed and Trust documents for VSR require that all Unit Owner changes must be approved by the Trustees prior to initiation. The Trustees act on recommendations from the AS&R.

The Library folders contain the Trustee approved specifications for routine items such as storm doors, exterior railings, step extensions, stains and gutters.

Unit changes which impact the Common Areas or Limited Common Areas at VSR create a 'change of use' for the area and require that the Unit Owner record this change with the Registry of Deeds. Procedures and Forms for these changes are also included in the folders.

When ready to submit a plan for unit modification, please contact an AS&R member to request a Committee review of the plan prior to its recommendation to the Trustees for action. AS&R meets on the second Monday of the month to consider pending requests.

#### **Operating Committee Members Needed**

September marks the beginning of much that is new: the school year, football season, car models, fashions, and television shows. As part of your fall season, please consider joining one of the active committees at VSR. You will undoubtedly be able to put your talents to good use and, at the same time, enjoy working with your neighbors on the variety of projects that maintain VSR as an attractive community.

Some of the original members of many of these committees have either moved on or are ready to take a break. Each of the Operating Committees listed in the Residents' Directory is looking for NEW members. Please consider joining one of them - your involvement is needed.

Contact any of the specific committee members listed in the Directory for details about the committee's role and time commitment at VSR.

#### "Emergency" Calls to Great North

by George Heiter, Trustee

If you contact our management company during non-working business hours to report an "emergency," VCR is charged for this. In particular, their system is set up to require immediate response to "Emergency Calls" as defined by the caller. Please be judicious in categorizing your call. For example, a non-working lawn sprinkler section called in over a weekend as an "emergency" resulted in a charge to VCR of almost \$400. We surely cannot afford many of these!

Thank you very much for your considerate cooperation.

# CRACK SEALING SCHEDULED

As requested by our Board of Trustees, Great North has received confirmation from the N.H. Blacktop Sealers that they will be sealing all of the cracks in VCR's roads and driveways on October 10, 2006.

They can crack seal in a slight drizzle, but not in pouring rain. Although they operate pretty much on schedule, this target date can of course be affected by weather.

You need not wait to drive over the sealed cracks, but to avoid tracking the sealer into your condo you should wait a reasonable length of time before walking over them in your driveway.

> Submitted by Paul Okonak Great North Property Management

## **PERCEPTIONS** Changes in the Air



by Louise O'Donnell

During the last several decades much attention has been given to global warming and the potential risks associated with these climate changes in the future. It's all a bit frightening.

This summer has been very hot and humid, so much so that we haven't seen many of our neighbors moving about our Village. It's much easier to sit indoors and enjoy the cool drafts of air from our air conditioners or to vacation in cooler climates. Here in our little Village life has been quiet, much like the long hot summer in Tennessee Williams' book.

I remember from my childhood (so long ago) the same sort of hot, hazy, humid days. I recall going to bed at night and trying to go to sleep down at the foot of the bed near the open window, and attempting unsuccessfully to find a breeze cool enough to enable me to drift off into dreamland. I recall trying to find the trees giving the most shade to spread out our toys, and drinking lots and lots of Kool-Aid.

My husband and I and other family members just returned from a trip to Alaska. We found glaciers, snowcapped mountains, and cool temperatures. This is truly a most beautiful State, wonderous in size, and the scenery is dazzling. There is no evidence there that would prove the planet is any warmer now than in the past.

The last few summers here in New England have been almost atypical with little warm weather and much rain. (No, we're not entering the Ice Age.) Even the climate scientists cannot reliably predict the future.

### **BOOK CLUB REPORT**



The VSR Book Club has embarked on a timely new subject with the reading of "The Teammates" by David Halberstam. It's a behind-the-scenes friendship of four well known Red Sox players. Can you guess who they might be? The book introduces a rare and personal view of each at a time when the public spotlight had been off of them for many years. You don't have to be sports minded to read this book, but when you've finished you might take up perusing the sports pages for the first time.

The book for October is "The Prize Winners of Defiance, Ohio" by Terry Ryan. The author tells us how her mom raised 10 children on 25 words or less. It's a hilarious tale, and oh how parenting has changed!

Come join us. We always welcome new readers. Social is at 1:00 pm and meeting at 1:30 on the third Thursday of the month.



...And we said "Play it again, Skip," and that's just what he'll do on Saturday, November 4th.

Karaoke No. 1 was such a big hit, it will be difficult to top himself on No. 2. But Skip Giles, with our help, will try. So hone up those vocal chords, run your therapeutic voice exercises, practice in the shower, practice in the car, think soloing, think group singing, and come to the Clubhouse on Nov. 4 prepared to give it your best shot, We're CR

going to have a great evening, again. As he did last time, Skip will provide all the equipment, have printed copies of the song sheets available (and one will be on the bulletin

board well before the event), and emcee the evening. Villagers who missed the last Karaoke party are urged not to make the same mistake again.

See you there!

#### **RED HAT LADIES TRIP**

The VSR Red Hat Ladies trip to Fruitlands on Prospect Hill in Harvard, MA is planned for Saturday, September 30. We will have lunch in the tea room that

is part of the vast complex there including a number of buildings and museums. We will be able to order at the table, but we need reservations for seating. The lunches range in price from \$8 to \$14. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

After lunch, the ladies may wish to visit the various museums. Wear good walking shoes. The Fruitlands farmhouse is where Bronson Alcott founded his aspiring transcendentalist community in an attempt to bring about a new social order. In addition to the Alcott farmhouse, we can visit the Shaker house and its furnishings transplanted from the nearby Shirley Shaker community, an Indian museum displaying indian art and artifacts, and an art museum that houses some exceptionally good Hudson River School paintings. Visiting these museums will be up to the individual. There is an overall charge for same: adults \$10, seniors \$8. Fruitlands Museum is on 218. The vista from this site is magnificant; it overlooks the Nashua River Valley with Mt. Wachusett and Mt. Monadnock on the horizon.

We will meet at the Clubhouse at 11:00 am and split up into whatever number of cars that will be required for transportation. Call (978) 692-2423 for additional information.

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS Donn & Susan Hill

by Shirley Chambers

had met Donn at our Clubhouse post office some time ago, and when I discovered that he is a freelance pianist-musician I urged him to try out our newly acquired piano. This man can really play honkey tonk, and I was hooked from the start! I found that this genre of music is best played on an out-of-tune piano with some malfunctioning keys, which then pretty well described our piano. I am so hopelessly addicted to music

that I was in heaven with my private concert. I determined then and there that I wanted to learn more about Donn Hill and wife Susan.

Donn and Susan were college sweethearts who met at Lowell State College where they were both studying Music Education. They have now been married for 34 years. Susan graduated from the New England Conservatory with a Masters Degree in Voice Performance. Both of the Hills have New England roots. Susan is the Business Planning Manager at Hewlett Packard in Littleton.

For nearly 30 years Donn

has been the pianist every Friday night in Leonardo's Lounge at the Bull Run Tavern in Shirley, MA. The patrons often do some sing-alongs, although at times he has had to prod them a little to get them going. He has also put on some variety shows there; he stimulates the crowd by getting them to march around banging on pots and pans. (Oh well, I guess we're never too old to do goofy stuff!) Even though

Donn does play some classical music, he primarily sticks with the popular and show tunes at the Bull Run. How about a bunch of us getting together on a Friday night and converging on the Bull Run Tavern to eat (it is after all a five-star restaurant) and have a little fun singing along with the Donn? We could practice for our

karaoke party. The ambience at the Bull Run is fascinating and is steeped in history going back to George Washington's days.

For all their talents, I find Susan and Donn to be quite modest about their accomplishments, except for their work with the Jimmy Fund. About this they are passionate and thus inclined to brag a bit. They do a great deal of walking and work out quite strenuously all year to keep in shape. Presently they're in training for the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. On Sunday September 17th they will walk the 26.2 miles from Hopkinton to Boston with the Brent Leahey team. This will be their third year participating in this event. (We applaud you!)

The Hills like to travel, but their favorite trips are to New York City to see Broadway shows. What makes it even more interesting for them is they have actor friends (and sometimes their entire families) who are in many of the



shows, often in lead roles. Recently they saw (but what else?) two musicals, Jersey Boys and The Light in the Piazza. The whole left side of their refrigerator is covered with magnets depicting the shows they have loved. I was so caught up in this that I forgot to see what was on the right-hand side.

Although Donn is kidded about being a wayward musician, both he and Susan are very serious about their music. Once a week Donn conducts the Mishawum Choral Society in Woburn, MA. This is a group of

amateurs from many different towns in the area who got together in 1963 to establish a performing ensemble with an aim of perpetuating and enhancing the art form of choral music in concert. Needless to say, after all these years together they have become a family of friends. The society is in rehearsals now for its concert on December 4. Susan sings soprano with this group. I can't help but smile when

Donn describes himself as a "musical director and a saloon piano player," but that really does say it all.

On their coffee table I found an excellent carving done in mahogany of an oriental subject. Susan tells me this was done by her father who lived in China in the 1930"s and taught English there.

Later her father was a Congregational minister in churches in Chicago and then in Northboro where he served for 20 years, and this is where Susan grew up. On the walls I spied some wooden plaques carved in relief of more modern subjects, and I learned that pianist Donn is a carver too.

Why is it that those who think they would not be good subjects for a "Meet Your Neighbors" article because they insist they aren't interesting turn out to be fabulously intriguing?

Donn describes himself as a

"Musical Director and

a Saloon Piano player"



We hope everyone is enjoying this wonderful summer and looking forward to lots of fun activities coming up this fall.

We now have our new grill. Hopefully the great VSR chefs (especially Dom) will find this much easier. Use only the rough sponge to clean the grids, and please leave the sponge with the grill after use. Cleaning with a wire brush will ruin the grids.

#### **REMINDERS:**

- When using the Clubhouse, please put out the NO PARKING ON THE GRASS signs that are kept in the furnace room.
- We use a special bulletin board to show Clubhouse bookings. Any date with a \$ sign next to it is a rental. Please do not remove the \$ mark; it is being taken off on a regular basis. Only the Social Committee should use this board.
- Please remove all your food from the refrigerator after use. The food you find in the refrigerator is the community function food that will be used when we have open Villager events.

#### **COMING EVENTS AT THE CLUBHOUSE**

Sept. 3 - Labor Day Cookout

- Sept. 7 Trustee Candidate's Night
- Sept. 27- Annual Meeting of Unit Owners and **Election of Officers**
- Oct. 15 Brunch
- Nov. 4 Karaoke Partv
- Nov. 18- Third Annual Arts Festival
- Dec. 2 Holiday Party
- Dec. 31- New Year's Eve Party

#### **CLUBHOUSE PRIVATE BOOKINGS**

Sept. 17, Oct. 7, Dec. 17, Dec. 23

#### SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Sept. 5, Oct. 10 and the second Tuesday of each month

#### **ON-GOING FRIDAY QUILTING GROUP**

If you wish to join our Friday's guilting group that meets every week between 9:30 and 12 noon, please call Lois Frampton at (978) 692-4095.

You must bring with you a portable sewing machine. Meeting place will depend on size of the class.

### **MOVIE NIGHT AT THE VILLAGE**

The September movie is one of the greatest love stories of all times, "Pride and Prejudice" starring Keira Knightley and Mathew Macfadyer. Based on the masterpiece by Jane Austin, it is the classic tale of love and misunderstanding that sparkles with romance, wit, and emotional force.

On October 19, the movie club will show "Five People You Meet in Heaven." Based on the New York Times best seller, this movie explores the unexpected mysteries of the afterlife by reminding us of what really matters here on earth.

Thursday, September 21 at 7 pm Thursday, October 19 at 7 pm "PRIDE AND PREJUDICE" & "FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN" We'll provide the popcorn - you bring your beverage - Dorothy Moran & Ann Sullivan

#### MISSING REMOTES

In an attempt to tidy up, has anyone stashed the Clubhouse's VCR and DVD remotes in a safe place? The Movie Club can't find them and is asking for our help.

# **THANKS ELLEN!**

Many thanks to Ellen Calvert who is leaving the editorship of the Bulletin to move to Portland, Maine. She has been the Managing Editor of the Bulletin since January 2006, and she has done a wonderfully professional job. We will miss her skilled hand and



her pleasant personality.

# KIDS SAY THE DARNDEST THINGS

Edited by Gail Sergenian and Mort Silverman

This one comes from Nancy Fletcher whose sons are two and a half years apart. When Paul had learned his letters. Nancy heard him proudly pointing out a sign to his younger brother. "See that sign, Al? P - E - P - S - I ....It spells Coca Cola!

Send us your stories! You must have a favorite one about your children, grandchildren, or those of a friend. Share it with us. Email us at:

gail sergenian@yahoo.com or call us at (978) 692-6046.

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