

VOLUME 3

**ISSUE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2006** 

# A Look at 2006 from Your Trustees

As we complete the second full year of operating under our own leadership, we can continue to be proud of our accomplishments. With the active involvements of an impressive number of residents, giving freely of their time and their exceptional talents in a great variety of areas, we have been able to address many of the issues facing our new community.

The enthusiastic support of twenty-one residents as chairs of our six Standing Committees (Architecture, Finance, Legal, Property, Social and Wastewater) and their several subcommittees (each of which carry a number of members as well) demonstrates the strong individual commitments we have relied on in the past and can continue to experience in support of our community. An update of the Directory listings will be mailed shortly.

In addition to the regularly scheduled Board meetings, we have continued to use the informal "Village Meetings" in the evening of the first Thursday of each month as a forum to address issues of interest to all of us. A number of initiatives, from Landscaping to Sprinklers to Waste Water treatment, had their origin in these discussions. We will attempt to continue these events as long as there appears to be interest on the part of our residents.

Although we were unable to make some needed modifications to our Deed and Trust documents, we published the thoroughly revised and updated VSR Rules and Regulations, governing many aspects of life in our Village. In addition, a 2006 Residents' Directory was assembled and made available to Unit Owners for their exclusive use.

During the year, a number of Village maintenance issues, such as rear deck staining, road crack filling, etc. were initiated as a start to address routine maintenance. We intend to continue to address these areas in an effort to uphold the high expectations we have come to enjoy in our environment. We need the individual cooperation of every resident to maintain these values.

We hope you will continue to enjoy life in the Village at Stone Ridge and we encourage you to help us make this a great place to live!

WE WISH YOU A JOYFUL HOLIDAY SEASON AND HEALTHY AND SUCCESSFUL YEARS TO COME.

Your VSR Board of Trustees, Tom Barry, Judy Culver, Eli Demetri, George Heiter, Bill Nussbum.

### VSR Board of Trustees Elections

As part of the 2006 Annual Meeting, the VSR residents voted to elect two new members of the Board of Trustees. Each of the Units had the opportunity to vote for two of the four candidates (see September/October 2006 issue of the Bulletin). The cast votes were then multiplied (weighted) by the beneficiary interest assigned to that unit, as specified in the constituting documents. The ballot counting and weighting was performed by Great North, our management company, who reported the following results.

With a participation of 87 (79.1%) of our units, the two leading candidates received approximately one third of the weighted votes each, while the two other candidates shared the last third about equally. The two new Board members, each elected for three-year terms, are therefore: Eli Demetri and Bill Nussbum.



EliDemetri

Bill Nussbum for your effort.

The strong showing of all of the candidates testifies to the fact that they are each held in high regards by the community and respected for their ability as well as their willingness to serve the Village. In addition, the very high turnout for this election again testifies to the strong involvement of our residents in the affairs of our Village. We would like to thank you especially

#### **GET READY FOR WINTER**

You know just what's coming when you see our VSR TruGreen landscaping crew out there pounding those tall orange-topped stakes into the ground to mark boundaries for snow plowing and shoveling. The snow removal procedures developed with TruGreen last winter are spelled out elsewhere in this bulletin. Since newcomers need to be informed and others of us need to brush up on measures for coping with winter here in our Village, summarized here are a few of the articles and tips from past bulletins.

Larry Anzivino warns us that if the power goes off for any period of time, the batteries in your thermostat



(two AA's) will ensure that your heating system remains on and operating properly. If these batteries are weak or dead, they will not protect the heating system in an extended power failure and could result in damaging issues such as frozen pipes.

When you see a "Bat" or "Lo" message on the thermostat display, the batteries inside the thermostat need to be replaced immediately. Low batteries will shut down your heating system. Also this is the time to replace the filter in your furnace with a new one. This really should be done twice during the heating season. It is located on the right hand side of the bottom compartment which opens on the side of the unit that says 'Rheem." Most of our units use a 25"x16"x1" filter of the accordion style.

It's not a bad idea to shut off the outside water faucet at the valve located in your basement, and also drain your hoses before bringing them indoors.

Last year Nick Johnson gave us some helpful hints for properly maintaining our unit systems. Your furnace intake and exhaust pipes are on the outside of your unit and are normally visible on the side or rear of your unit. They consist of two white plastic PVC pipes, one going up, the other going down. There may be a third pipe for the water heater exhaust. These airways always need to be unobstructed and not covered with snow. If the intake vents are covered by snow, the furnace or water heater becomes starved of air and the system shuts down. Clearing the snow away from these vents will resupply proper ventilation and allow the furnace or water heater to restart.

#### SNOW REMOVAL PROCEDURES

by Bob Eddy and Doug Craib, Co-chairmen, Snow Removal Committee

The following snow removal procedures have been developed with TruGreen to service all unit owners with equal efficiency.

When snowfall totals equal two inches or greater, street plowing will commence. During and after the storm, special attention will be given to repeated plowing and sanding of the seven special priority Fernwood unit driveways. When the storm is over the streets will be replowed. The removal of snow from the remaining driveways will be accomplished using one of the four storm procedures listed below.

The first storm of the season will be considered Storm #1, and the Storm #1 driveway clearing procedure will be used. The following storm will use Storm #2 procedure and so on.

**Storm #1:** Plow truck starts clearing driveways at 61 Stone Ridge and continues to the end, then starts at 2 Sandstone and continues to the end. The Bobcat starts at Rockwell, then goes to 2 Highland and continues to the end. It then starts at 1 Gatecrest and goes to the end, and then to Landview.

**Storm #2:** Plow truck starts at 33 Sandstone and continues to the end, then starts at 3 Stone Ridge and continues to the end. The Bobcat starts at Landview, then to 17 Gatecrest and goes to the end. Then it moves on to 28 Highland and continues to the end, and then to Rockwell.

Storm #3: Plow truck starts at 2 Sandstone and continues

to the end, then to 3 Stone Ridge and continues to the end. The Bobcat starts at 2 Highland and goes to the end, then starts at 1 Gatecrest and continues to the end. It then does Landview and then Rockwell.

**Storm #4:** Plow truck starts at 3 Stone Ridge and continues to the end, then starts at 2 Sandstone and continues to the end. The Bobcat starts at 28 Highland and continues to the end, then to Rockwell. It then goes to 1 Gatecrest and continues to the end. Then it goes to Landview.

This snow removal rotation chart will be posted on the Trustee's Bulletin Board.

#### SNOWPLOW DAMAGE REPORTING PROCEDURE

If your condo is damaged by snow plowing (that is, garage, siding, or fencing), please contact Paul Okonak at Great North Property Management. Paul's phone number is 1-800-221-0210. Paul has requested that each damage report should be confirmed by mailing a note to him at: Great North Property Management, 100 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, NH 03060.

If snow plowing causes damage to your landscaping and/or sprinkler system, a snowplowing damage report will be requested from you at the end of the winter season.



#### **PERCEPTIONS** Different Seasons



by Louise O'Donnell

Everyone has a favorite season. Some people love summer and escape to the South before winter sets in. Others wait out the winter and spend their summers up North where cooler weather prevails.

Some love the spring, when flowers begin to sprout and lovely blossoms begin to appear. Their scent fills the air and we feel renewed.

I love the fall when God paints a masterpiece with colors of red, orange, yellow and gold. Just behind our building on Stone Ridge Road is one absolutely beautiful and perfect tree nestled in amid large pine trees. When you look out at the pond, there stands this gift of nature, all colors glowing in the sunlight. It's uplifting and makes you believe that all is right with the world - a small tribute to this season of thankfulness.

I always feel rejuvenated in the fall when the weather is so accommodating, crisp and cool, and when we start to slow down, relax and begin to anticipate the softness and pristine whiteness of winter snow. Summer and fall are over, the hectic pace begins to slow, and we prepare ourselves for the quiet season of winter.

#### NEW MEETING DAY AND TIME FOR KNIT, STITCH & \*ITCH GROUP

The Knit, Stitch & \*itch group now meets on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

All levels of handwork are welcome. This includes knitting, crocheting, and needlepoint. Or just come and learn a new hobby. If you have questions call Harriet Shanzer at 978-392-1508.



A couple of witches flew over VSR on Halloween. The one in the foreground is a Village resident. Can you guess which one? She's not wearing a mask. Answer in Jan-Feb 2007 Bulletin.

#### **BIRTH OF VSR WOMAN'S CLUB** as Hope for Red Hatter Chapter Fades

#### by Ann Sullivan

No Red Hats in sight on Saturday, September 30 at ( Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, but the

VSR Woman's Club was



born. As our group of seven enjoyed the tea room's creative lunches under a brick-floored large white tent overlooking the panoramic view of fall in the Nashua River Valley, we got to know one another. It was so beautiful, so welcoming, and so New England.

After lunch we explored the trails and fields to the Bronson Alcott home, founding place of the transcendentalist experiment to live a perfect life. Next, on to a Native American Gallery of a wigwam, dugout canoes, clothing of native peoples over the last 10,000 years. Then, a healthy climb to an historic Harvard Shaker Museum of furniture, drawings, and manuscripts that was the community's gateway to a new world. All are now faded dreams of what was to have been a utopia.

We women of the twenty-first century hiked in sneakers, no long skirts, and got to share with one another a utopian day! Join us next time.

Those interested in joining the VSR Woman's Club, watch for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

#### **DIAZ INTERVIEWS ON CHANNEL 8**

#### by Shirley Chambers

Richard Diaz is doing a series of interviews of Westford veterans for local broadcast on Westford CAT



(Channel 8) These are forwarded on to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. He has completed two of these broadcasts: in May of 2006 he interviewed our Villager Raymond Allaby, and in November 2005 he interviewed Charles "Chip" Collins. Both men were in the U.S. Army Air Corp., and Ray was a POW (see the May 2005 Quarry Bulletin). These interviews are run periodically on Channel 8. Any veteran living in Westford is eligible to be interviewed. Call Richard at (978) 692-0648 to initiate same.

The interviews are done at the Nashoba Valley Technical High School, which is the new location of the TV studio. Westford residents may volunteer to produce a TV show, the subject matter being of their choice. They must, however, take a short course on TV procedures and techniques; this is taught by Ron Zimmerman at the studio. For more information check the website http//westfordcat.org or call Ron directly at the High School. Richard hopes to build a library of interviews to be run every Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

# Karaoke Night 2006



By Bob and Gail Eddy

Stone Ridge was rocking and dancing on Karaoke Night, proving once again that the 50's and 60's are alive and well in the Village.

Skip Giles, emcee, DJ, and crooner, started the evening with his rendition of Ricky Nelson's "Poor Little Fool," followed shortly by Willy Nelson's "Always on My Mind." This immediately prompted June and Len Halio to start the dancing. President Clinton was known for playing the saxophone, but tonight our President Bill look-a-like left his sax at home and "accompanied" himself and others on his guitar.



Phyllis Duggan, our resident professional, treated us to sultry renditions of "Fever," and "Days of Wine and Roses," as well as collaborating with Richard Diaz on "To All the Girls I've Loved Before." Richard also sang a Dean Martin classic, "Amore."





Singing to a "mill-around-smartly" crowd, Larry Anzivino donned a cowboy hat for his first song of the evening, "Chattanooga Choo Choo." He was accompanied by a sun-glassed Pres. Bill look-alike imitating Elvis. Isn't that a mouth full? Later, after Larry had treated us to his version of Bobby Darren's "Mack the Knife," he donned a bathrobe, tossed a towel over his shoulder, picked up his rubber ducky and jumped into "Splish Splash." Finally, taking up his trumpet and handkerchief, Larry rasped Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World" and "Hello Dolly."

As Dean Hubbard and Joyce Minosh were singing "Bye Bye Love," Roni (Dean's wife) and Frank (Joyce's husband)

joined arms, waved, and strolled off through the crowd. Great Choreography!



Other memorable performances included the Shirley Chambers country line dancing ensemble performing to Skip's rendition of "Achy Breaky Heart," and an appearance by the VSR Aerobics Dance Troupe, led in their first public recital by their aerobics instructor Elaine.







During an interlude, Jack Gilmartin's name was drawn in the 50/50 raffle. He offered to buy all of us drinks, but no one would take his money.

Joyce and Frank Minosh performed that international favorite, "Prop Me Up Beside the Juke Box if I Die" (you never heard of it before?), followed by another classic "Goodbye Earl" sung by Ruthann Fisher and Elaine. The trio of Nany Diaz, Ruth Ann Dillon and Frank Tino gave us their version of Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings." Roger

Whitaker recorded this song first, but Bette made more money from it, and she's better looking. And what a pleasure to hear Pauline Giles accompany Skip singing "Making Memories of Us."

There were many other performances, but they are too numerous to list in this limited space. Is it possible that there is an American Idol winner among this group?





The ladies serenaded us with several songs, but our vote for stars of the evening goes to the men. From the Beach Boys "Barbara Ann" to "Song Sung Blue," "Country Road," "Forever in Blue Jeans," Sixteen Tons" and even the Red Sox seventh inning stretch song, "Sweet Caroline," the guys lifted the evening (and the noise level) to new heights.



They say that friends, laughter and wine (especially red) help you live a long life. Based on the abundance of all three at this event, we should all live for a long, long time. Whether you performed, sang or danced with the crowd, or just watched, this was a trip down memory lane. A great time was had by all!

Our thanks to Skip, all the performers, Roni Hubbard, and her Social Committee for making this evening so special. Let's hope this will become an annual event.

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS Don & Gathy Shreve

by Shirley Chambers

had a three-G impression of the Shreves when I first met them for this interview: Genuine. Gentle, and Genteel, and by the time I left their condo this impression had been many times reinforced. Don and Cathy are among the most recent neighbors to join us here in VSR. In the short time they've lived here, they have meshed into our community and readily adapted to our VSR lifestyle. You're good additions. Welcome!

fare is garlic soup with mussels. I find Don a serious man; he thinks and listens. (We should all take lessons in those disciplines.)

Cathy majored in Health and Physical Education with a minor in English. She taught P.E. for four years but then stopped to have their children. She never went back to P.E.

When she returned to the work force it was as a reading specialist, and she did this for 25 years including a five-year

Don and Cathy met while they were attending Bowling Green State University in Ohio. This is where they got their Bachelors degrees,  $\mathbf{she}$ in Education and he in Math. From there Cathy went to Rhode Island College in Providence to get her Masters degree in Reading, and Don went to Stevens Institute in Hoboken, N.J., to earn his Masters in Applied Math. He describes himself as a late bloomer since he had to take four years off from his studies to earn enough

money to complete his education. He did so by working in the heavy construction industry. (That builds muscles and character, Don.)

Since teachers are left-brained and engineers are right-brained, they need one another to keep on an even keel. The Shreves claim this is why there are so many teacher/engineer marriages, and this is one reason why their's is a solid one that has lasted 44 years.

The Shreve union produced two 'hunky" sons, Ken and

Mark. First born Ken lives with his wife Kim in Sherman Oaks, California with eight-year-old Ryan and five-year-old Gillian. Mark and his wife Amy live in Fountain Hills, Arizona with two-year-old Bradley and soon a baby girl they expect Amy to deliver around Thanksgiving. Cathy and Don travel west two or three times a year to see their

children and grandchildren. On these trips they try to explore the southwest bit by bit by making a few side jaunts, i.e., to Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon, Pike's Peak.

Don has a quiet demeanor. He also has a wry sense of humor, and you must watch for that twinkle in his eyes and listen carefully or you'll miss it. Don claims 'I smile while I'm cooking." Wouldn't you just know he's not talking about the tedious every-day cooking, just his epicurean specialities like Cuban black bean soup, lamb with artichokes, and tonight's



stint as a middle school head. In one way or another she has been involved with education for 39 years. Cathy has always had volunteer jobs, but she said her best one was working in the grandeur of the Blithewold Botanical Gardens in Bristol, R.I. She also loved being a tour guide at the Garden in the Woods in Framingham, MA. She now works two days a week in the library at the Meadbrook School in Weston.

Don worked as a software engineer for Bell Labs in N.J.

After ten years there, he went to work for Raytheon in Portsmouth, R.I. and from there to Marlboro, MA. When the Shreves were living in Rhode Island Don did a lot of sailing, mainly on Narragansett Bay. He raced his own boat for four years, a 23-ft. Ensign sloop, and he won quite a few races. He went from that to crewing on a 40-ft. sloop that sailed from Newport to Bermuda. This was the end of his sailing days because it became hard work, he said. One life experience that Don had, and it makes me claustrophobic just thinking

> about it, was to take a three-day trip on a submarine (submerged, that is) out of New London as far as the Continental Shelf.

> Holding true to the right-brain typology, Don is very creative. He has a variety of interests and hobbies, and since his retirement in 1995 he has pursued many of them. For example, he makes clocks. Among

those he's done are a nice mission style, a Connecticut cottage type, and a small grandfather. He also collects pocket watches and has these displayed in some nifty Don-made watch hutches. He loves his workshop, and Cathy calls him Mr. Fix-it.

Don is a freshwater fly fisheman (catch-and-release, of course), but he hasn't tried our Quarry Pond yet. He may not find any game fish there to challenge him, but it's a serene activity for a "serious" man.

"Don claims 'I smile while I'm cooking." Wouldn't you just know he's not talking about the tedious every-day cooking"

#### **TWENTY STONE RIDGERS THINK COTE d'AZUR IS NICE!**

by Barbara Leary and Photos by Roni Hubbard



On September 18, 2006 a group of twenty people left the Village for Logan Airport in a bus piled high with suitcases and travelers anxious to drink some local French wine and taste the incredible Cote d'Azur food. We met one more of the group (friend of a Villager) at Logan and then departed for Nice, France where group leader and Stone Ridge resident Joyce Minosh met us. Thanks to her husband, Frank, this time all twenty one made it - no one left behind in Paris. Not only was this a great opportunity to sightsee throughout this beautiful area of southern France, but also to get to know your neighbors on a whole different level (more about that later!)

We spent the entire eight nights in the best-situated hotel in all of Nice. (Thank you, Joyce for finding it!) It was at the foot of a castle, across the street from the beach, and each room had a balcony and view of the entire bay. Around the corner was the port area and moments away was located the old section of Nice where an outdoor market was open six days a week. Restaurants and shops lined the streets as well as the favorite wine cellar where incredible local wines flowed from their vats - just ask Larry! We can't forget the gelato consumed nightly in any flavor you could want. Most of us came home with a few extra pounds thanks to that Italian invention. Nice has only been part of France since 1860 and, because of its proximity to Italy, is still influenced greatly by it, especially in its food. We were fortunate to have warm, sunny weather many of the days, and the rocky beach and swims in the Mediterranean were memorable-just ask Dianne!

Our touring days were made even more enjoyable because of our thoughtful and knowledgeable local guide (Jean-Paul) and our cheerful bus driver (Gerard)-my hero! He drove the bus for the Monaco soccer team so we rode in style every day thanks to him. He made sure we traveled on all three Corniches (coastal roads of varying altitude). However, some of the group would have preferred to skip those! The first few days were spent touring Nice, visiting the Fragonard Perfume Factory in Grasse, walking around the little village of Eze perched on a hilltop with the most amazing cactus garden at the top and scenic views in every direction. Of course, there was also time to eat, drink, and be merry-always favorites of this group! An exquisite lunch was had by all at the nearby Rothschild Villa & Gardens before our stop in Eze. Time to ourselves during the week was spent visiting local museums (Matisse, Chagall), beaching it, shopping, or walking around Cap Ferrat, Old Nice, the port area or the Promenade des Anglais.

Other highlights of the trip included a memorable day that started with a guided tour of the Maeght Foundation (contemporary art and sculpture) followed by a visit to St. Paul de Vence, a medieval walled village whose narrow cobblestone streets are lined with art galleries. We even saw the house where our guide's grandmother grew up. We ended the afternoon high up in Gourdon, sitting at an outdoor cafe sipping wine and eating cheese while looking at amazing vistas and parasailers everywhere. Our day in Antibes with its open market culminated with lunch at the famous cooking school of Roger Verge. No trip to the Cote d'Azur is complete without a visit to Monaco and Monte Carlo where the rich and famous come to be seen and the high rollers live for the next game. On our last day Joyce arranged an extra side trip to San Remo, Italy-a border town with the largest open market imaginable. Some of the group even modeled their purchases on the bus ride home! Don't worry-what happened in France, stays in France!

Joyce arranged three special dinners for us in Nice and each was a gastronomic delight. Most evenings started off with wine gatherings before going out (at the hotel, on the beach) and several times the majority of the group dined together at local outdoor restaurants. We kept the local economy in business drinking their wines and pastis, eating mussels, pizza and creme brulee. We even provided them with photo ops-ask Skip about that!

Thank you, Frank, for getting us there and thank you, Joyce, for planning and executing another "once-in-alifetime experience". May there be many more than one of them in our future.





It's difficult to believe, but the holidays are almost here. Where did the summer go? I hope we all had fun. I think I did, but life is so busy it's hard to remember.

There is a new social club calendar on the social club bulletin board in the mail room, thanks to Joan Roy and Kathy Abate. Just check it out each month and see all the different events day and night. Please do not put anything on this board that is not a VSR community event. There is another board in the mail room on the left hand side of the door for non-VSR community events.

We have some fun things happening in November and December. The Art Festival will take place on Sunday the 19th of November from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Come and see the work of all the talented villagers we have here at VSR.

Our community Holiday Party will be on December 2nd. Details will be on the sign-up sheet. And the last-but-not-least event for the year will be the New Year's Eve Party. Details on this will also be on the sign-up sheet, and I promise it will be DIFFERENT.

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

Nov. 19 - Art Festival 3:00 - 5:00 pm Dec. 2 - Holiday Party Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Party



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

The October movie was canceled because of technical difficulties: we couldn't get the TV to co-operate. Fortunately, thanks to the help of some of our VSR residents, the TV is in a better frame of mind and so we plan to present "Five People You Meet in Heaven" on Thursday, November 16.

The movie on Thursday, December 21 will be "The Notebook" starring James Gardner, Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams and Gena Rowlands. Based on the best-selling novel by Nicholas Sparks, "The Notebook" is heartwarming and heartbreaking and will capture you in its sweeping and emotional force.

Please plan to join us for a relaxing evening with friends. You bring the beverage; we will provide the popcorn.

Movies that we are considering for the new year are "The Family Man," "The Family Stone," "Gathering Storm," "Monster-in-Law" and "The Aviator." Please let us know if you have a preference or additional suggestions.

–Dorothy Moran

#### **BOOK CLUB REPORT**

by Ann Sullivan



Hope you were able to have shared with us discussion of Tracey Chevalier's "Lady and the Unicorn" at our November 2nd Book Club meeting at the Clubhouse.

The book for our December 7th meeting (1:00 also at the Clubhouse) is "Those Who Save Us." by Jenna Beem. It's a mind-feeder of a book, so discussion will thrive (as it usually does).

Come alone or come with a friend or relative in town; we welcome you.

#### THE QUARRY BULLETIN BECOMES BI-MONTHLY

In the past the Bulletin has primarily been a monthly publication. From now on it will be issued every other month **(bimonthly)**. So the next issue will be:

JAN/FEB 2007.

Don't forget there is a complete set of these Bulletins in the Clubhouse Library for your perusal.



**We wish you a joyful** Holiday Season

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