



THE QUARRY BULLETIN

VOLUME 4

ISSUE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 2007 annual meeting of VSR unit owners will be held on 26 September at 7:00 pm. Because our Clubhouse will accommodate no more than 100 people, we plan to meet in the cafeteria of the Miller Elementary School.

A new Board of Trustees will be elected as part of the annual meeting. Judy Culver resigned on 1 July this year, leaving an unexpired term of one year, so this position is to be filled. Carlene Craib was appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve in Judy's stead until the 2007 elections. At the 2004 elections, Tom Barry and George Heiter were elected each for three year terms, which have now expired, and thus we will elect two people to take on new three-year terms.

Voting Procedures

At the end of August a proxy form and a ballot listing the candidates will be sent to residents. Please get your proxy vote to Election Committee Chair Richard Diaz (14 Stone Ridge) by 16 September. There will be a space to vote for a write-in candidate. The ballot requests voting for one candidate for the one-year term and two candidates for the three-year terms and can be cast one ballot per unit with the Election Committee Chair on or before 26 September 2007, or at the annual meeting. All ballots will be collected in a sealed voting box to be delivered to Great North Management Company for tallying. The results will be announced by 5 October. This extra time is required because the vote cast by each unit must be weighted by the percent interest in VCR of that unit. The positions will be filled by the candidates receiving the highest weighted number of votes.

Candidates' Night

A question and answer forum is planned as part of our regular first Thursday of the month "Village Meeting," scheduled for 6 September 2007 at 7:00 pm in our Clubhouse. Included in this bulletin are the biographical sketches of the VSR residents who have been nominated and graciously accepted their nominations to the Board.



Tom Barry



Ron Caterino



Carlene Craib

CANDIDATES' BIOGRAPHIES



Tom Barry 27 Stone Ridge Road

I was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and spent most of my early years in Cambridge and Winchester until Linda and I were married in 1968.

I received an Associates Degree in Accounting from Burdette College in Boston in 1967, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Drexel University in Philadelphia in 1978.

My career with W. R. Grace & Co. included relocations to five different sites throughout the country, and spanned 38 years including various positions in accounting, production and plant management, and facilities management positions until my retirement in September, of 2005. I completed my career with Grace as Director, Facility Services, at the Grace Performance Chemicals headquarters in Cambridge, MA.

After living on the southern side of Westford for 20 years, Linda and I moved to 27 Stone Ridge Road in June 2003, and have enjoyed every minute of our time here. We have two daughters, Alicia and Renee. Alicia and her husband Chris have a three year old daughter, Caroline, and a two month old son, Dylan, our two precious grandchildren who are the sparkles in our lives. Both Linda and I come from large families, and family is “number one” to us, along with our friends—both old and new.

During our first year at the Village, I joined the Finance and Budget Transition Committee and served as its Chair until being elected to the first Board of Trustees in September, 2004. Since that time, I have served as Treasurer on the Board and as Board Liaison to the Finance Committee.

During these first four years I have found an incredible group of volunteers here at the Village, with an unending wealth of information and professionals from all walks of life. It's even more astounding that we have so many residents who are willing to get involved for the good of the entire community.

I believe that our community is, and will continue to be, recognized as a “top end” community, envied by many who wish they lived here, and praised by many who have visited. VSR is highly regarded, not only because of the quality of the homes and the well manicured landscaping, but also because of the people who live here, people who are only too happy to help the community or their next door neighbors when the need arises. That's what makes this place so special!

I have thoroughly enjoyed the past three years on the Board of Trustees. We have accomplished a tremendous amount in a very short period of time. I look forward to the next three years to continue to build on the community spirit we currently enjoy, maintain the quality of life as we have come to expect, and help to manage the operations and financial condition of the VSR to ensure that we will all be forever proud to call this “our community.”



Ron Caterino 45 Stone Ridge Road

Three and a half years ago my wife Christine and I decided to move to the Village of Stone Ridge because we were taken with its physical beauty, and it certainly fit our model of a desirable retirement home. We shortly found that as an extra, unanticipated bonus we had entered a community of friendly, caring and very special residents. This truly was one of our better decisions!

I was born and brought up in the Newton/Waltham area where I met Christine, and married her in 1968. We have been blessed with three children and six-and-a-half grandchildren.

I received a BA degree in Finance from Bentley College and have spent all of my adult life in Finance and/or General Management positions. For more than forty years I have been General Manager, Division President, and for the past twenty years CEO/Owner of a company in Windham, NH, called MPI Outdoors.

In addition to MPI Outdoors, I am President of Reflex Consulting and past President of Reflex Technologies. I have spent five years on the Executive Board of AIM (Associated Industries of Massachusetts), President of AIMCAL (Association of Industrial Metallizers, Coaters & Laminators), and for the past eight years have served as a member of the Board of Directors of Rolvac, Inc.

Shortly after moving to VSR I decided to join the newly formed Finance Committee, and have had the privilege of chairing it for the past three years. During this time period I have been blessed with the support of the existing Trustees, as well as a dedicated group of members who have worked unceasingly to structure a cohesive transition from contractor-owned to your association. Although the work has frequently been difficult and time-consuming, it also has been personally very enjoyable and gratifying.

If elected I shall work long and hard to maintain and improve the proper balance of the Village's physical beauty, character and fiscal responsibility while listening attentively to its residents' needs. Win or lose, it is my intention to remain a member of the Finance Committee.



Carlene Craib 28 Stone Ridge Road

Doug and I have lived in Westford for 36 years, raising our family in the Nabnasset section of town. In 2001 we decided we had to do a major renovation or move, and when we saw VSR in its beginning stages, the decision was easy. Watching our village grow was such fun, and we are delighted with the results. Meeting so many new friends and becoming part of a new community were additional bonuses.

I have a BA and a MA in Classics from Tufts, where Doug and I met. I taught for four years in Holliston and Chelmsford before taking eleven years off to raise our two daughters. I began teaching Latin at Westford Academy in 1983 and then became Foreign Language Department Coordinator in 1990 and Foreign Language Curriculum Coordinator (Grades 6-12) in 2002. In fact, I count quite a few children of our Village residents among my students!

When I was not teaching, I was active in town, serving as President of the Westford League of Women Voters and on the Growth Planning Committee in the 70's. I was also on the Board of the Massachusetts League of Women Voters. I was a Girl Scout leader and President of the Nabnasset Parent Council. During my professional years I served on several boards, among them the Classical Association of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Foreign Language Administrators, the National Committee for Latin and Greek, and the North American Cambridge Classics Project, serving in leadership positions in all of them. Since my retirement in 2006 I have been consulting and giving presentations for Cambridge University Press. These activities have given me experience in leading organizations and working cooperatively to further the goals of a wider group.

I have enjoyed my short tenure as an appointed member of the VSR Board of Trustees and would like to serve for the remainder of Judy's term. I would continue to foster communications between the Board and residents, and to work cooperatively with Board members and our many committees to maintain the beauty and the warm community atmosphere of our village.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR An Uncontested Slate



Shirley Chambers

During the three and a half years of my residency here at VSR this is the first time we've had an uncontested slate with only three candidates running for the three open spots on our Board of Trustees. And how did this happen?

In the past the names of candidates accepting their nominations have been announced collectively at the close of the nomination period. This time, through the strong urging of a resident at the weekly first-Thursday night meeting, the names of those who were nominated were posted singularly immediately upon their agreeing to run. At the August Board of Trustees meeting Bill Nussbum expressed his disagreement with this procedure based on the theory that advanced posting discourages other potential candidates from running and is the reason we have only three candidates for three open spots in the coming election. I fully agree with Bill.

But, after reading the following open letter dated Aug 21 to the VSR Trustees from Dean Hubbard, I now agree with Dean also. (It's a two-headed coin.)

"I am one of the candidates that declined to run. Although it is true that knowledge of the candidates was one factor in my decision not to run, it is not true that not posting candidates would have changed my

decision. In fact, I told Richard Diaz that I would not agree to run until I knew who the candidates would be. If one hour prior to the deadline, there were not enough candidates to fill the vacancies or if there were not enough 'acceptable to me' candidates, then I would run. By posting the candidates in advance, it allowed me to make my decision in advance and not at the last minute.

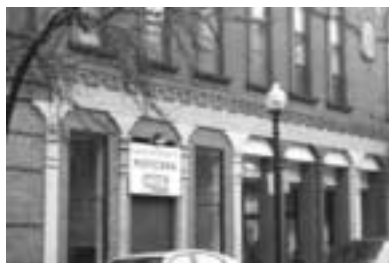
To my mind any negative consequences of advance posting of accepting candidates is far outweighed by the advantages of advance posting. These advantages are that if the candidates are too few, other candidates will be encouraged to run and if posted candidates are considered 'not acceptable' by any resident, this resident can run himself or encourage another resident to run. The final and perhaps most important advantage of advance posting is that it presents a transparent process to all unit owners. Thank you for advance posting of candidates. Dean Hubbard."

To Vote or Not to Vote?

You could just not bother to vote since we have three excellent candidates and without opposition they will be shoo-ins. But voting for Tom, Ron, and Carlene will show them our approval and act as a "Thank You" for their being willing to serve our Village. So vote to stay involved.

AREA DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

Reviewed by Ed Kern



Galleria Umberto, North End Boston -

When you go out for Italian food, do you look for Northern Italian or Southern, red sauce or a more modern version of the taste of Italy? Have you ever tried Italian street food? At Galleria Umberto, 289 Hanover Street in the North End of Boston, they serve up the best every-day Italian food around. We've tried this restaurant many times over the years and never get tired of it. It cannot be compared with a high-end restaurant, but it is just a fun experience that brings you back to the North End of many years ago.

You will not find any waitstaff or much ambience here, but people start lining up at 11:00 each weekday and stand in long lines to wait for the chance to try some of their favorites.

Two unique items on the menu are Panzarotti (a deep-fried herbed mashed potato with cheese in the center) and Arancini (fried rice balls filled with meat, peas and cheese). They are also well known for their ricotta-based calzones and their own version of ham and cheese Panini. Also a favorite is their Sicilian style pizza which comes out on giant trays and is then cut into squares. Since the price is right, you see folks ordering one of each to give themselves a buffet style lunch. For around \$1.00, you'll get wine in a Dixie cup. If you spent \$10.00 on lunch, you would be quite stuffed.

Here's the catch: they open Monday through Saturday at 11:00 and close at 2:00 or (as they like to tell you) when the food runs out, and it often does. So get in line and be ready to place your order when you get to the counter. Then get a table and enjoy watching the crowd of office and construction workers or neighborhood locals. Come early (before noon) or be prepared to wait. The line is often out the door.

The delicious simplicity of Galleria Umberto makes it a perfect spot for lunch. It has no desserts, but if you still have room after eating here, you can walk across the street to Mike's Pastry or one of the other pastry shops in the neighborhood to complete your meal with something sweet.



City Room Cafe, Nashua, NH -

What's your favorite meal? Breakfast? Me too! Sometimes our dietary requirements get in the way of enjoying this meal the way we used to at home, but an occasional trip to a diner or breakfast cafe is just the fix to bring back all those fond memories of some great starts to our day. A number of restaurants in the Westford area serve breakfast, but my favorite of them all is just a little farther north in downtown Nashua. It's the City Room Cafe, and it's the perfect little breakfast spot that has all the atmosphere and great food to bring you back to those days when we all had our favorite breakfast hole-in-the-wall.

I must confess that we're pretty basic eaters when it comes to breakfast, so the traditional two eggs, sausage, home fries, toast and coffee is what I order. The City Room handles that with ease. The only other thing on their menu that I've tried is the French toast, and that was great. Our friends are a little more adventurous, and they can't say enough good things about the rest of the menu. In particular they have tried the omelettes and the crepes, both getting great reviews. If you are in the mood for a big breakfast they have the Bonanza Breakfast, which is like a breakfast buffet with a little of everything for \$6.95. That's right, \$6.95 for a meal that would cost you \$9 to \$12 anyplace else. That's the other nice thing about the City Room; their prices are straight out of the 1960's with a basic breakfast costing \$2.95. The service is friendly and the owner and waitstaff work very hard to keep everyone happy.

City Room is located at 105 West Pearl St. just off Main St. If you've shopped at Alec's shoes, you can use that as a reference point because the City Room is just down the side street from Alec's. There are only about fifteen tables in this tiny store front, so it is often packed necessitating a wait, especially on Saturdays and early on weekdays. If you can come a little later on a weekday, you'll have the place to yourself. Even if you have to wait, I'm sure you will leave thinking it was worth it.

A special thanks goes to Carol Shyavitz who first recommended this restaurant to us a couple of years ago, leading us to many great breakfast outings there since then.



NEWS

by *Dianne Marston*

On August 2 our book club members held a lively discussion about *The Covenant*. You are invited to join us for our next discussions, which will be held in the Clubhouse:

Thursday, September 13
1:00 pm Refreshments
1:30 pm Discussion

The book: *In An Instant* by Lee and Bob Woodruff. This memoir tells the story of how Bob and Lee Woodruff's lives came together, then were shattered by Bob's severe injury while reporting for ABC News in Iraq, and were miraculously put together again during his remarkable recovery. It is a story of love and courage, an extraordinary drama of perseverance, hope and survival.

October 25th meeting:
Cane River by Lalita Tademy

December 6th meeting:
The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd

LIBRARY NEWS

by *Linda Anzivino*



I would like to thank all the people who have so generously given books to our Library this month. There are several new biographies including *The Chief*—The Life of William Randolph Hearst, and David Rockefeller Memoirs.

It's not too late to do some summer reading like *Cape Cod* by William Martin. Also, *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell is available and still on many best seller lists.

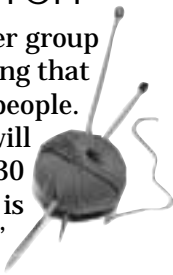
Several people have suggested that after reading a book it would be nice if you make a brief comment in the front of the book for future readers. Something along the lines of: loved it, hated it, couldn't put it down, a real page turner, etc. Please feel free to do this. You may also put the date (month & year) and your initials. It will help us find out how many and what types of books are being read most often, and it might even be fun!



NEW TIME FOR KNIT, STITCH & *ITCH

Harriet Shanzer announces that her group is going back to evening meetings, hoping that this new time will appeal to more people. Starting on September 10, meetings will be on Monday evenings from 7 until 9:30 pm at the Clubhouse. Some thought is being given to undertaking a "group" project such as knitting dolls for AIDS orphans in Africa.

Coffee/tea and dessert will be served at the "kick-off" meeting on September 10th. If you have questions please call Harriet at 978-392-1508 or email her at heshanzer@comcast.net



CHANGE OF DATE FOR KARAOKE NO. 3

The date for our karaoke party has been changed from September 14 to **October 27th.**

Please so note on your calendar.

VSR Bards - Are you game to sing? Now you will have a little longer to practice! Check our bulletin board in late September or early October for lists of songs; there are hundreds from which to select.

As usual, Skip Giles will be the KJ (Karaoke Jockey). Will some new hidden talents be unleashed on this musical night?

See you on October 27th.

PET SITTERS

If you get stuck occasionally for a pet sitter, Wendy Wolfberg (4 Rockwell) offers this information.

Karen Riseman,
(978) 392-9577 home

Nancy Webb,
(978) 649-2655 work



Both sitters are good and are bonded and insured by Pets International, which was highly recommended to us.

WE MAKE YOU KINDLY WELCOME

by Ann Sullivan

For two hundred years, from the 1790's to the end of the last century, a gospel-based commune of men and women lived and worked under a Covenant of Heart and Hand to God. They became known as the Shakers because of their animated motions in prayer: clapping of hands in joy, turning about in circles to encompass God's world, bowing down in obeisance and raising arms and hands skyward in praise. By the covenant, they foreswore marriage, living as celibates, pacifists and close to the earth and nature. They were farmers, weavers, tinsmiths, inventors, printers, organized perfectionists in all they did.

Children over the age of five who were abandoned or orphaned were trained in their ways and educated, boys and girls apart. When older, the children could opt to remain with the commune or leave and become "worldly people" as outsiders were known.

Surely not reclusive, the adults traveled far, sharing faith and selling (as established businesses) their books, baskets, wool, sweaters, furniture, foods and other goods. In the years ahead they adapted to electricity, automobiles, telephones and machinery, still in touch with the world.

Of course, over the years their numbers dwindled to just three elderly women, the last of whom died in Vermont only a few years ago. Canterbury Village is now a living museum of archeology and an educational foundation of the original buildings, gardens in perfect condition with guided and self-guided tours. Nearby is a farm stand of village vegetables, herbs, seeds and flowers, as well as two restaurants and two small gift shops. More information is available at www.shakers.org or 1-603-783-9511.

On July 18th the VSR Woman's Group left the Clubhouse at 9:30, ready with directions, umbrellas, walking shoes and off to the Canterbury, NH Shaker Village. Fifteen gals left and fifteen returned, no volunteers for Shaker lifestyles left behind. Ruthann Fisher and Dorothy Moran organized the trip, and all went well. Met by a wonderful guide with a great voice, we traveled granite walkways, through the buildings and, off on our own, we explored acres of orchards, gardens and beauty in every direction. The laundry was a huge barn with mangle, hydro-extractor, spinners, tubs and sorting baskets labeled (a testament to Shaker organization and efficiency).

Having gone in various directions, our group toured according to interest, with well illustrated maps, and at 12:30 convened for lunch at The Shaker Table where we had a private area to cheer, laugh and applaud with noise not heard at Shaker tables of old. Making a selection from a menu of soups, salads, quiche, casseroles and pot-pies laden with vegetables and herbs from the nearby orchards and gardens was difficult, so a lot of sharing was negotiated. Culinary prize winners all.

Thanks, drivers, for bringing us back still laughing



PHOTOS: NANNY DIAZ



and chatting at 5:00 pm. Thanks, too, Dorothy and Ruthann for a wonderful trip. You hit the jackpot! Better than Foxwoods.



COMMENTS FROM THOSE MAKING THE TRIP:

"It's been a wonderful experience learning something new. I'd never heard of Shakers." "Very impressive day. The laundry was amazing. No time for any chore was wasted." "No quakin' and shakin' even in the rain. A wonderful day!" "A nice place to visit, but I couldn't have been one!" "I would have been a good Shaker since I love to sew, knit, and am well organized. But I would have missed all that wild sex!"

These are the gals who went on the trip. You figure out which one made that last comment. Nasreen Agha, Claire Allaby, Irene Boucher, Susan DeStefano, Nany Diaz, Nany's mother Ludy, Jean Einarson, Ruthann Fisher, Friederika Heiter, Lorraine Keele, Dorothy Moran, Dorothy Palisoul, Ann Sullivan, Lucille Borrello, Paula Townsend

VSR WOMAN'S CLUB

Next outing

On October 22nd the Village Woman's Club will go to lunch at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, MA, which is a national historic site and claims to be "America's oldest operating inn." If there are no more than a dozen of us, we can eat in the main dining room. More than a dozen and we will reserve a private room.

This is a fascinating property that puts you in touch with yesterday. From the Inn we can tour (either by car or on foot if weather permits) the Grist Mill (see it in operation), the Martha-Mary Chapel (famous site of many weddings), and the Redstone School House (of "Mary and Her Little Lamb" fame).

*"As ancient is this hostelry
As any in the land may be.
Built in the old Colonial days,
When men lived in a grander way
with ampler hospitality."*

Longfellow's Tales of the Wayside Inn

Please watch for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board around the beginning of October. Indicate if you are willing to drive.

PERCEPTIONS

What Makes a Neighbor?



by Louise O'Donnell

The dictionary defines a neighbor as a person who lives next to another or in the same vicinity. In my estimation, this description is a bit too general since neighbors are of several breeds. Some are just plain neighbors; some are friendly neighbors; and some are really good neighbors.

The first just live nearby and you seldom see them. The second are those who wave when you pass by and spend a few friendly moments with you. The third, the good neighbor, becomes a good friend as well. This is the neighbor who rejoices in your happiness, empathizes with your sorrows, and soothes your hurts. The neighbor who supports and defends us when others hurt us is a constant joy.

Some of us have family living in a distant state or country, and some of us are fortunate enough to have family living nearby. In my parents' day, our neighbors were always there for us. When anything went wrong, we could always count on them to arrive with food or words of comfort. We knew all our neighbors and were proud to call them friends as well. In today's busy world it seems as though this type of neighbor is scarce.

But here in our Village, we have many good neighbors we can call friends. They watch our houses when we are on vacation, water our plants, and when we need them they are there with many kindnesses. I hope soon to meet our new neighbors and to call them friends as well.

A STONE MARKER FOR OUR VILLAGE

A volunteer committee has been at work for some months investigating the possibility of having a stone marker on the corner of Stone Ridge and Tyngsboro Roads. Many of our own boulders near the proposed site were considered, measured, and photographed, and one was found that not only is perfect, but also will not need to be "moved" very far. Then several stone engravers were contacted to get estimates for having our tree logo and VSR name carved into the bolder. Many members of the "marker committee" attended the August 20 Board of Trustees meeting asking for Board approval to proceed with this project. After due consideration, the Board gave its approval.

The next steps for the committee will be to get Town of Westford approval and then to solicit donations from our residents to fund this project.

The total cost for this endeavor is estimated at \$2,000.

Social Happenings



By Roni Hubbard

With so many residents away, our summer here has been rather quiet. Things will pick up a bit this fall starting with the Labor Day cookout on September 2, and then the Karaoke Party on October 27. We have nothing scheduled between those dates, so if anyone has an idea for an activity to fill that gap, please come forth at our Social Committee meeting on Sept. 11 and tell us.

We now have two new VHS/DVD's, one in the Library and one in the exercise room, and hopefully we will have a new TV for the exercise room very soon. Our Board of Trustees has authorized having the piano repaired and tuned, and mounted on a dolly to make it more mobile. And, as requested, the exercise room now has a coat tree.

December 8 will be the Holiday Party, and of course the New Year's Eve Party will be on Dec. 31. This winds up another year of our social activities at VSR.

Our Library is in excellent condition with all books in alphabetical order by author, thanks to Linda Anzivino. What a great job you've done, Linda. Thank you so much.

Don't Mess With Older People

George Phillips of Meridian, Mississippi was going up to bed when his wife told him that he had left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. When George opened the back door to go turn off the light, he saw people in the shed stealing things.

He phoned the police, who asked "Is someone in your house?" and he said "no." Then they said that all patrols were busy and that he should simply lock his door and an officer would be along when available. George said, "Okay," hung up, counted to 30, and phoned the police again.

"Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now because I've just shot them." Then he hung up. Within five minutes three police cars, an Armed Response Unit, and an ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the policemen said to George, "I thought you said that you'd shot them!" George said, "I thought you said there was nobody available."

Said to be a true story,

-Submitted by Roger Boucher

THERMOSTATS A Reminder

In the Feb 2005 issue of the Bulletin Nick Johnson reminded us to pay attention to our thermostats. Since we will all too soon be turning on our heat, this information bears repeating here for the many new residents and some old ones who have forgotten. If and when you see either a "Bat" or "Lo" message on the display, the batteries inside the thermostat need to be replaced immediately. Low batteries will shut down your heating system. After you carefully pry off the plastic cover plate, insert two new AA batteries and then of course replace the cover. If your system should fail you may need to switch your system off briefly by moving the "COOL-OFF-HEAT" to the "OFF" position for five seconds, then move the switch to the "HEAT" position, allowing the system to automatically reset.

CAUTIONARY TALE Expect the Unexpected

I was driving home from Westford Center around twilight on our nice new dark pavement and went to turn left into VSR. An oncoming car was some distance away, so all looked clear. As I turned left across the oncoming lane, I saw a car coming at me with its headlights off. It missed me by inches and never slowed down.

Fifteen seconds later and I'd have met my maker or the emergency room doctors. I was very lucky. That slight rise in the road was not the problem; the front car was dark in color and did not have its headlights on, and the one behind it had its lights in my eyes. Perhaps had I come to a full stop, I could have avoided this incident?

I wanted to let you know so you could give everyone a "heads up."

Submitted by Wendy (Ford) Wolfberg

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