



THE QUARRY BULLETIN

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ANNUAL ELECTIONS

by Tom Barry, Board of Trustees President

It's that time of year again when we're looking for people willing to serve on the VSR Board of Trustees.

The Trustees are made up of a dedicated group of hard-working residents charged with the responsibility to manage the VSR Association for the good of all of us.

Each Trustee not only serves on the Board of Trustees with its monthly Board meetings as well as Village meetings, but also functions as a liaison to at least one, if not two, standing committees, most of which also meet every month.

If this type of commitment to time, dedication, and service to your community sounds appealing to you, then you may be the perfect addition to the Board of Trustees. Each Trustee is elected to a three-year term, and this year there will be two open positions.

If you have any questions about the structure or activities of the Board of Trustees or just want to talk about the possibility of serving as a VSR Trustee, please call any of the current Board members: Tom Barry, Ron Caterino, Carlene Craib, Eli Demetri, or Bill Nussbum.

This year (2009) the period for nominating a VSR resident as a candidate for election to the Board of Trustees will be from Wednesday, July 22 through Wednesday, August 19. Any resident may nominate another resident or himself/herself during this four-week period.

*Two other important dates to mark on your calendar are **Candidates Night** to be held on **Thursday, September 3rd at 7:00 pm** in the Clubhouse, and the **VSR Annual Meeting** to be held on **Wednesday, September 30th** in the Clubhouse. The VSR By-Laws require that the Annual Meeting be held on the last Wednesday in September each year.*

More information on these election details will be mailed to you by July 20th. In the meantime please consider running for a position on the Board of Trustees.

2009 SPRINKLER REPAIR PROCEDURES

*by Doug Craib and Bob Eddy,
Co-Chairs, Sprinkler Sub-Committee*

The three wells that furnish water to the Village sprinkler system were activated for the season during 30 April – 4 May 2009. This year the sprinklers for each zone will continue to be on longer and will run every other day. According to the experts, this is better for the turf.

The Sprinkler Sub-Committee has established some procedures to deal with the damage and failures that occur within a system of this size and complexity. Residents should report all problems with the irrigation system to Great North Property Management by phone (603) 891-1800 or (800) 221-0210 or fax (603-891-0086) **during normal working hours**, unless there is an emergency such as a broken sprinkler pipe that is gushing. Please remember that if you call outside of normal working hours, at night, during the weekend, or on a holiday, the Village gets charged a minimum of \$80 just to take the call.

Great North will refer all sprinkler problems to the committee who will evaluate the situation, correct it if they can, refer it back to Great North who will forward it to TruGreen for repair, or place it on a repair backlog list for future correction as funds become available. Items given to Great North and forwarded to TruGreen for repair will normally be corrected during TruGreen's weekly maintenance visit. The Committee will provide feedback to the resident as to the corrective action taken.

Please help us maintain this complex system by adhering to the above procedures.

WESTFORD TOWNIES TELL IT ALL

Carlene Craib put together and moderated a panel of long-time Westford residents who shared with about 40 of our VSR'ers a few of their "townie" secrets and favorite town haunts. They directed residents to some of the town's offerings such as strawberry festivals, public beaches, and free passes to museums. This program constituted our June Thursday Night Village Meeting.

The panel did well recapturing the past, naming landmarks long gone now, recalling many memories of the town's profile and activities some half a century ago. The panel offering this insider's tour of our town consisted of Linda Barry, Shirley Chambers, Judy Culver, Sandy Kelly, Ed and Alice Kern, and Joan Roy.

CLUBHOUSE DOOR LOCK OVERRIDE

Recently when Herb Shanzer drove by our clubhouse where a rental party was in progress he noted that both front and back doors were propped wide open to give people access. As long as we are not heating or airconditioning the outdoors this is not an issue. But it reminded him that some residents don't know about the clubhouse door lock override. Therefore he suggested that the following article, which was published in the Bulletin about four years ago, be called to everyone's attention. Thanks Herb!

When an event is held at the clubhouse, the badge-activated door locks are inconvenient for VSR residents and a major obstacle for outside guests. To date this problem has been solved by propping the clubhouse doors open with rocks and/or doorstops. Unfortunately, this is very wasteful of heat in the winter and A/C in the summer – adding to the utility bills that we all pay through our condo fees. In addition, it allows insects etc. into the building during the summer.

There is now a better solution to this problem. An override button has been installed. This will temporarily disable the door locks, enabling everyone to arrive for the event without needing a badge. Once the host pushes the button, the door locks will be disabled for one hour. This period was picked as a reasonable compromise that provided enough time for everyone to arrive, but didn't leave the clubhouse unlocked for too long and thereby represent a security risk. Unfortunately, it is not variable.

There is no need to use the override button to facilitate leaving the clubhouse. As always, no badge is needed to exit.

The button is located in the clubhouse storage room. If you turn left immediately after entering the main room, you will see the door to the storage room directly in front of you on the far wall at the end of the corridor. It is unlocked. After you open



the door, you will see a large red alarm panel on the wall immediately to your right. The small tan box below this panel contains the door lock control system. The override button is mounted on the outside of the cover of that box and is clearly labeled with simple directions. Please close the store room door after you have pushed the button.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT



by **Tom West, Chairman**

So far this spring, bushes and shrubs have been planted, either to replace those that existed or to add to the landscaping.

We have begun our demulching program, doing a fifth of the property every year. We have also planted three new trees, and TruGreen replaced one maple three from last year.

The grub control program continues. Bushes, shrubs, and trees will be trimmed and pruned in the fall.

A word of caution to all unit owners: bushes, shrubs, and trees cannot be planted without prior approval of the Landscape Committee. Annuals and perennials can only be planted in existing flowerbeds, and they must be maintained by the unit owner.

As a result of the heavy and consistent rain, you might notice some red in the lawns. This is "red thread;" although there is nothing you can do about it, it causes no harm or damage.

A special thanks to Jack Bilodeau, Ed Kerns, and Bill Townsend for their work on the landscaping and property. It is above and beyond, and saves us all a lot of money. Also, as always, a special thanks to Lois Frampton for her knowledge and hard work on our landscaping efforts. Also, your Landscape Committee deserves a lot of thanks for their efforts – from walking the property, to inspecting the landscaping, to attending the meetings, and to responding to all of our emails.

Any questions or concerns, please email tom@bbpinc.com or Barbara@bbpinc.com.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Attention Village Grandparents -

The 2010 March/April Bulletin will be a special issue celebrating VSR grandparenting. Announcing these plans at this time may seem a bit premature, but what Nany and I want to do with this issue will take us several months to put together. We would like photos of your grandchildren (sorry, limit of TWO per resident family), either 35 mm or digital. Let us know if you need a third, and if there's room we'll get back to you. We need captions to tell us their names and what they call YOU. Feel free to write a separate but brief little bragging blurb about them or tell us something brilliant they have said or done. How many greatgrandparents do we have here?

Please start sending this material to me (ss.chambers@comcast.net) ASAP. So far everyone seems excited about our plans to celebrate our Village's grandparents. Join in and have fun with this special issue.

JOURNEY TO PICKETY PLACE

by **Joan Roy**

A rainy June morning was made brighter for those Village women (The VSR Women's Group) who journeyed to "Pickety Place" in Mason, NH.



We enjoyed the scenic ride, a superb lunch, visits to the charming gift shop and gardens, and most of all the camaraderie.

Thanks to Freiderike Heiter for putting it all together - a very successful event.

APROPO OF JUNE'S WEATHER



Remember -

*Timing has a lot to do with the outcome
of a rain dance.*

Every path has a few puddles.



VSR WOMEN'S GROUP LUNCHEONS AT ELEGANT CHEF

by Ann Sullivan

The VSR Women's Group went to the Nashoba Valley Technical School on May 15th for their buffet luncheon at the Elegant Chef, a dining room run by the school's Culinary Arts Program. There are 80 students in this most popular curriculum, others being computer repairs, graphics, automobile repairs, construction, cosmetology and more. These technical classes alternate with traditional academic high school classes as well.

Our reserved table was attractively set up, and upon our arrival we were directed to the several buffet setups. We all agreed the roast pork was outstanding, as was the stuffed and rolled chicken breast. The basil seasoned cream of tomato soup and innovative salads of stuffed tomatoes and various fruits and greens would charm a vegetarian. All this was available buffet



PHOTOS: SHIRLEY CHAMBERS

style and completely cooked, arranged and served by students. Two of our waitresses Kaylee and Jon, served our group and they enticed us to visit the dessert table more than once. Our choices ranged from petit fours and small chocolate pies drizzled with sauce, to fresh fruit or multi-tiered puddings decorated with swirls of whipped cream.

The restaurant is open to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 11:30 to 1:00, but it's best to have reservations. (Not open in the summer.) Just call 978-692-9958 and ask about details, although walk-ins are welcome if space permits. This is no cafeteria but an attractive atmosphere run by teens and supervised by education- degreed teachers, Janet Maske and a father/son team, Steve and Greg Whiting.

We'll go back. But VSR folks – try it, you'll like it, and at \$7 these meals are a real bargain.



VSR BOOK CLUB NEWS

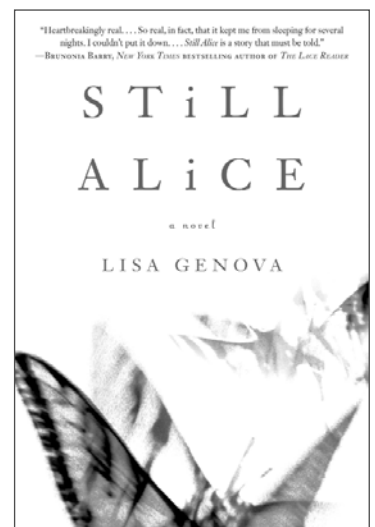
by Dianne Marston

On June 25 the VSR Book Club discussed the novel *Loving Frank*. This historically imagined novel related the tragic relationship between Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney in early 20th century America. As an extension of the reading of this book, Joyce Minosh has arranged a "field trip" on Friday, July 31 to the Zimmerman House, a Frank Lloyd Wright house in Manchester, NH. Following the tour, the group will have lunch at Fratello's in the historic Millyard in Manchester. We are excited over this opportunity!

The August 6 meeting will feature a discussion of a debut novel, *Still Alice*, by Lisa Genova. Lisa is the niece of Louise O'Donnell, and Louise will lead the discussion. This book chronicles the insider's perspective of a 50-year old woman (based on the author's Nana) who is slipping further and further into dementia. In Lisa's own words, the book offers inspiration,

assurance, and hope. It's about identity, living a life that matters, about family, and about what crisis does to relationships. We will welcome to our discussion Lisa's mother, Rose O'Donnell, who edited the book. It promises to be an outstanding meeting.

On September 17 we will discuss *Ahab's Wife* by Sena Jeter Nashlund. This ambitious novel is peopled with a rich array of fictional, mythic and historical characters, and it has been called a female version of *Moby Dick*. It is a romp through mid-nineteenth century New England history. All Villagers are welcome to attend the discussions.



ONE FINE DAY!

What's better than sitting outside on the Clubhouse patio on a nice 70+ degree day until nearly 6 pm chomping on cookout leftovers, drinking a little vino, and laughing and chumming with those fellow residents who share the joy of this kind of laid-back perfect ending to another successful social event?

Our Memorial Day observance started promptly at 1 pm by rallying around our flag, which Harry had just had the honor of raising, hand-over-heart pledging our allegiance, and observing a moment of silence in memory of our lost friend Len Saulnier.

Everyone brought their best carry-in side dish—all sorts of salads, pastas, beans, fruit, and even shrimp— and the eating and fraternizing began. We have become accustomed to the feel-good familiarity of our cookouts with Dom and Peter on the grill. They are so proficient they even sometimes remember who wants medium, well-done, and no cheese please. And then out came the vast array of desserts, and in the vernacular of Long Islanders - Oh my gawd!! Who brought that lemon cheesecake?

Dorothy Moran carried on beautifully in the absence of her Social Committee co-chair. We are grateful for all the help given during the setting-up-and-tearing-down procedures and for the Social Committee members dutifully moving about their tasks with their usual efficiency. This was indeed One Fine Day!



A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR GRILLERS



How did VSR get lucky enough when we began having cookouts here (04) to have Dom DeFronzo volunteer to do the grilling? In those early days the grill used was a donated one that did the job ok but didn't have all the bells and whistles, and as our community grew in size, it wasn't big enough. In the summer of 2006 we bought a bigger and better gas grill for our cookouts, and

Dom has been the Head Chef de Cuisine from the very beginning. It's not just grilling Dom does, he's also responsible for making sure the propane tanks are full and for cleaning the grill after each use, and he does it meticulously and without a wimper. In the past year he has taken on the responsibility of buying the food for the grill as well.

And then we got a double stroke of luck – Somewhere along the line Dom said “Hey - I could

use some help,” and so Peter Abate entered the scene as our Sous-Chef. Who could ask for a better team? Anyone can toss meat on a grill, but this team has all the right skills. Not only are they good grillers, they are also cheerfully entertaining, and we all wish to extend our special thanks to them.



VILLAGE BROUHAHA OVER NESTING ROBINS

An email from Ron Caterino sent to VSR friends on May 28 at 10:27 am read: If anyone passes by 45 Stone Ridge and notices the yellow **caution** ribbon across our front door, I want to explain our crisis!

We have a decorative ornament on our front door, and after seeing a robin fly into the artificial floral ornament, Christine noticed a large robin's nest had been built inside it. Upon closer examination Christine found out that the nest contained a male and female robin as well as three robin's eggs. Yesterday one of the eggs hatched.

Christine panicked and after consulting our Village bird expert (Tink) last night, she made me go to the hardware store this morning to get caution ribbon to block the front door (inside and out) to allow the other two eggs to hatch and the three young ones to learn to fly. (I bought the smallest roll, which is 100 yds long, and I have about 96 yds left if anybody else has some feathered boarders living at their home.) According to our resident expert Tink, this should be about two weeks. As a result our front entrance is taboo for two weeks!

And so the blogging began:

5/28 8:41 pm from Eli to Ron: See what you've started? Now everyone is going to want their own robin! I

suggest you hatch out a few and distribute them to neighbors.

5/28 9:48 pm from Ron to Eli: At 1:00 pm this afternoon all three eggs have successfully hatched! As you drive past my house notice the caution tape as well as the balloons. Christine picked up 3 balloons (2 blue/1 pink) to celebrate the birth! I think she has gone over the edge!

5/28 11:27 pm from Tom and Linda Barry to Ron: Congratulations on the births. Hope everyone is doing well.

5/29 8:35 am from Larry and Linda Anzivino to Ron: We assume she's registered at the Audubon Society for the shower gifts.

5/29 8:47 from Eli to Ron: Two boys and one girl? I hate to ask this but how did Christine determine their gender? Do girl robins walk with a wiggle?

6/11 from Ron to VSR friends: The chickens “Flew the Coop” on June 10th! We are taking down the caution ribbon and “cleaning” our porch today. The front door will probably have to be repainted.

THE JOYS OF AL FRESCO DINING

by Shirley Chambers

Some 50 Villagers brought their sunny dispositions (to match this day's seldom-seen bright SUN) to the Clubhouse on July 5th to celebrate Independence Day and to kick off summer.

Our day began with a prestigious display of patriotism - the raising of a flag that had been flown over Aircraft Carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt on 7 December 08 somewhere in the Middle East, and on 9 December it was carried aboard a Navy E-2C Hawkeye on a mission over Afghanistan. It was given to Bob Eddy by a family friend who was aboard the carrier. We thank Bob for sharing this special flag with our community.

In keeping with the holiday theme, plenty of red, white, and blue decorated the Clubhouse and, in fact, many of the residents as well. So fire up the grill VSR chefs. Oops, one missing. Peter on sick leave, so Jack Gilmartin substituted (thank you Jack). And of course Master Chef Dom was on tap manning the grill with all his charm and wit. The food brought in by residents was to die for. So many good cooks here!

Two raffle tickets were drawn. Roni Hubbard got a bottle of wine, and Dottie Zahos won the big bucket of goodies. This lady was born under the right stars - she keeps winning winning!

Since the weather was good, most of the tables had been set up out on our patio. The appeal of a cookout and the scent of smoky foods turns anticipation into a party mode, and we shared the euphoria at dining al fresco after an endless winter followed by unrelenting rain that fell in copious amounts.

See the wonderful pictures that Nany took of this 4th of July celebration



ABSOLUTELY SOCIAL



by *Ruthann Fisher*
&
Dorothy Moran
Co-chairs

By the time you read this we will have already celebrated the 4th of July when we had a very special flag raising followed by our traditional holiday cookout. The flag mentioned was one that had been flown over the Aircraft Carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt on December 7, 2008 somewhere in the Middle East, and on December 9th it was carried aboard a Navy E-2C Hawkeye on a mission over Afghanistan. Thanks to Bob Eddy for sharing this flag with us for a memorable 4th of July.

Our grill chefs for the day - Dom and Jack Gilmartin - manned the grill expertly. Absent from the scene was chef Peter who was on "sick leave." Hopefully he's recuperating nicely. Residents (about 50) made the usual delectable salads and desserts. It was a fine sunny day for good conversation and good food.

We will have another Drop-in Coffee - this time on a Saturday, August 1st. Hope you'll plan to attend this pleasant low-key event. And of course we'll celebrate Labor Day with a cookout on Monday, September 7th.

Watch the bulletin board for any additional info on upcoming events.

I Made it Through the Rain

Do you remember Barry Manilow's song from the 70's?

"I made it through the rain

I kept my world protected.

I made it through the rain.

I kept my point of view.

I made it through the rain,

and found myself respected

by the others who

got rained on too

and made it through the rain."

THE AMA ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

Doctors far and wide have weighed in on the project of universal health care. Here's a sampling of how they feel about it -

- The Allergists voted to scratch it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.
- The Gastroenterologists had sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve.
- The Obstetricians felt they were all laboring under a misconception.
- Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted.
- Pathologists yelled "Over my dead body!" while the Pediatricians said, "Oh, grow up!"
- The Psychiatrists thought the idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.
- Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.
- The Internists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."
- The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea.
- The Anesthesiologists thought the idea was a gas, and the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.
- In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the assholes in Washington.

-Submitted by Dottie Hall

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