




The Village at Stone Ridge

Quarry Bulletin

January - February 2012

FAREWELL 2011 - WELCOME 2012

By Louise O'Donnell



Laughter and merriment resonated throughout our Club House as the Village revelers ushered out 2011 and welcomed in 2012.

Our clubhouse was transformed into a nightclub setting with small tables that allowed for an easy flow of conversation. The ladies were resplendent in their lovely attire and the gentlemen in their Sunday best were handsome. Revelry was in vogue as Ray and Anne Marie Barnes, our terrific Village D.J.'s, kept the party flowing by providing wonderful and nostalgic music to keep the group dancing, singing, and just plain listening to a variety of tunes by Willie Nelson, Roy Orbison, the Platters, the Beach Boys, etc. which took us back a few years. Also, some plucky people did line dancing to "YMCA," etc. The dance floor was always busy and full. The food was plentiful, delectable, and varied and was passed around by some lovely ladies. The dessert table was very tempting and held delicious goodies. As is usual for our soirees, there were a few games played. Musical chairs kept us watching to see who would end up in the final chair. After searching for hearing aids, keys, and an assortment of items

continued on page 2

from other Villagers and dashing back to claim a chair, Jean Guthrie was the last person sitting and declared the winner.

As we got ready to pull the champagne cork, we danced to "Save the Last Dance for Me." Oh, come on, you all remember that song! And then to close it out, an old favorite was played (mine, too), "We Are Family." As the Villagers prepared to drift off (in more ways than one) we said farewell to 2011 and hello to a happy, healthy 2012! A new year has begun.

Many thanks to the Social Committee for a New Year's Eve that will be remembered. Thanks also to the roving photographer, David Auld, for clicking away merrily on his camera to get just the right shots. And a big thanks to Ray and Anne Marie Barnes for another wonderful night of music.



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



Frank Bashore and Louise O'Donnell



Frank and Elaine Tino



Peter Abate and Judy Gilmartin



A Chorus Line?????

More scenes from New Year's Eve on page 8



CABARET NIGHT



A little old Italian Momma, a silky smooth ballad crooner, a fast “tawkin” cats-eyed glasses wearing jokester, and a saucy, smart raconteur all visited the clubhouse on January 26th, and they were all rolled into one enormously talented half of a dynamic duo, Carol O’Shaughnessey and our own Donn Hill. After a delightful cocktail hour spent mingling and sipping, a large crowd of residents settled in for an evening of terrific fun.

With Donn at the piano and chiming in on vocals, Carol sang some old favorite songs – calling for audience participation which of course we heartily offered and let us in on some behind-the-scenes stories of life on the road with Donn over the course of their 32 year collaboration. No one knew what to expect when she pulled the babushka and apron out



of her bag, but when she began the routine as the Italian Momma, the whole room rocked with laughter.

It was a wonderful evening, and thanks go out to Joyce Minosh and the Social Committee for the arrangements and set up, Skip Giles for his sound work, Larry Anzivino for playing master of ceremonies. Donn and Carol perform at the Bull Run in Shirley on occasion. You can check them out as well on YouTube.



Carol and Joel Shyavitz

Emcee, Larry Anzivino



Ruthann Dillon, Louise Tahmoush, Judy Premru

The Village Zoo



Is it a bobcat? Is it a lynx? There may be a difference of opinion among VSR residents about this cat's exact species, but there is no denying its presence in our midst. Photographed by both David Auld and Richard Diaz in their backyards, this beautiful animal has been making VSR its home this winter. For more information about the differences between a bobcat and a lynx see:

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/life/zoology/mammals/bobcat-vs-lynx1.htm> There is another photo on the VSR website.



STONE RIDGE VOLUNTEERS HELP THE TOWN OF WESTFORD

Fifteen months ago, a group of five people from the Village volunteered to assist the Town of Westford in creating an environment that would entice entrepreneurs to settle here in Westford, rather than in other communities in the area. In a meeting with Angus Jennings, the Director of Land Use Management in Westford, Bill Nussbum, Tom Barry, Ron Caterino, Eli Demetri, and Tom West agreed to work on a process which would restructure the method of permitting small businesses in the town, thus saving time and expense to both applicants and the town itself.

The group from Stone Ridge interviewed the Supervisor of each Department in Westford that issues permits. They then met with several businesses that had recently gone through the permitting process to assess their experience. They also examined other towns to see how they handle many of the same issues that confront Westford.

The culmination of this effort was a "Permitting Guide To Doing Business in Westford" which outlines a simplified method for an applicant to follow in starting, buying, or growing a business in Westford.

The Stone Ridge group very much enjoyed working with the town officials, who expressed their enthusiasm throughout this process. The intent was hopefully to have the Village be recognized as a group eager to promote Westford's success and growth and to establish a tradition of partnership with the town in working on important issues.



RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR GENERATORS

After spending many weeks researching insurance, liability, and safety issues, the Board of Trustees has voted to change the rules and regulations regarding the installation and use of individual emergency generators by unit owners effective immediately. In summary, the use of a gasoline or propane powered generator is **not allowed** due to the inherent hazards with fuel storage. Natural gas powered generators are permitted, since the storage of combustible fuel is not required, provided the ASR Committee and the Board approve the installation. A unit owner installing a natural gas generator must also sign a waiver of liability.

This was not an easy decision. To knowingly allow the use of gasoline or propane generators could result in either losing our insurance coverage or increasing our insurance costs as well as result in a huge assessment and possible physical harm to residents in the case of an accident. Both our insurance agent and the VSR Legal Committee reviewed the Board's recommendations. The main concern of the Board is the physical safety and financial stability of the entire Village.

The complete Section 20 Generators (of the Rules and Regulations) and the Waiver of Liability will be posted in the Clubhouse, on the VSR web site, and distributed to all unit owners.



VSR BOOK CLUB NEWS by Dianne Marston



The VSR Book Club members recently gathered on Jan. 5 at the Clubhouse to socialize and to discuss the book, **Sarah's Key**. At this meeting the members chose the book for the March 29th discussion. It will be **Year of Wonders: Year of the Plague**, written by one of our favorite authors, Geraldine Brooks. The setting is in a rural village in England in the year 1666. "A housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as an unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes we follow the story as she and her fellow villagers confront the spread of disease and superstition. As death reaches into every household and villagers turn from prayers to murderous witch-hunting, Anna must find the strength to confront the disintegration of her community and the lure of illicit love. As she struggles to survive and grow, a year of catastrophe becomes instead *annus mirabilis*, a 'year of wonders.'" (from Amazon.com review)

Plan to join us for what promises to be a fascinating discussion!

I LOVE COFFEE, I LOVE TEA – I LOVE THE JAVA JIVE AND IT LOVES ME.

Do you remember the old 78-rpm record of the Ink Spots singing this in 1940? We now have a Keurig one-cup coffee-making machine in the Clubhouse kitchen. If you are attending a meeting, reading a book, knitting, or playing cards, you can enjoy a hot cup of java by following the instructions posted and leaving 50 cents to cover the cost to us. Look in the refrigerator for milk/cream.

This is another nice thing the Social Committee has provided for us. Elaine Tino did the comparison shopping, got the best price, and put the Keurig in place in our kitchen. Thank you "little elf."



LIBRARY NEWS

By Linda Anzivino



“Many of the happiest moments of my life have been spent in libraries.”

Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard

If you read **The Boston Globe** earlier this month you would have read the following:

“A fledgling university here was so grateful to receive a gift of 400 books from a clergyman in the late 1630’s that it named the place after him. The minister was John Harvard, and the university now boasts the largest academic library in the world.”

In some ways I feel that the library at VSR is equally blessed by all the wonderful donations by the folks who live here. Over thirty new books have been added once again this month.

If there are books or authors that you would like to see, please drop a note in either of the two baskets in the library and we will see what can be done! I recently finished reading **The Man Who Loved Books Too Much (The True Story of a Thief, a Detective, and a World of Literary Obsession)** by Allison Hoover Bartlett. It is the story of how people who love books steal rare expensive volumes for profit but also for their own enjoyment. Let me know if you would like to read it.



SIMPLY SOCIAL

Joyce Minosh, Chair

The Social Committee bid farewell to Loretta Auld as Chair at their last meeting of 2011. She was a most efficient and cheerful director for two years and the entire Village joins in thanking her for all her hard work.

Joyce Minosh is now Chair and with her at the helm the able Committee will continue to offer our traditional entertainments and some fun new events. The Committee members have each taken on lead positions for particular events and tasks. There are a few openings for these leaders – in particular for the holiday cookouts. Dom DeFronzo and Peter Abate, our intrepid grillers, do most of the food arrangements, but the Committee needs volunteers to organize the set-up and clean-up for Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. Even if you don’t feel you can formally join the Social Committee, you could take on responsibility for one of these events. Let Joyce Minosh know if you are willing. Come on, guys, pitch in with Dom and Peter and give the ladies a rest! Roni Hubbard has volunteered to be our “Official Photographer,” so smile when you see her!

One other task overseen by the Committee is checking the clubhouse after rental events so that the deposit can be returned. Joan Roy is lead person for this job and many have agreed to be checkers for a month at a time. We need a volunteer or two for April and then for the summer months. Email Joan if you would like to do this at jroy692@comcast.net.

The Social Committee always welcomes new members. Email Joyce Minosh at westfordconnect@aol.com to join.

2012 VILLAGE DIRECTORY CHANGES

The 2012 directory is in the process of being edited and completed. Please send any changes to your name, address, telephone number, and email address to Harriet Shanzer at heshanzer@comcast.net along with your cell phone number (if desired).

The deadline for this information is March 15, allowing us ample time to provide the new directory by late March or early April.



submitted by Linda Barry



Paul Bunyan's helpers at work recently in the Village. Note skillful technique.



Where do Village "swingers" go for big outings? What do they buy? Can you guess?

EDITOR'S NOTE

It is with no small amount of trepidation that I take on the job of Quarry Bulletin editor, for Shirley set the standard very high. But like every task here in the Village, the work is made light by all those willing to help, and I very much look forward to producing a Bulletin full of the contributions from the "regulars" and some new voices as well. I know some of you will remember the entertaining and lively profiles of residents that Shirley did in early Bulletins. Is there a roving reporter out there who would like to take on this assignment? Linda Anzivino often gives us book reviews in her column, but there is room for some other cultural reviews – books, music, movies, museum shows, theater, trips, etc. Maybe you have written a poem or a short essay. If you have an idea or something to submit, send it my way. I'll be looking forward to them!

Carlene Craib

Many thanks go to Dave Auld, Steve Currier, and Roni Hubbard for the photos featured in this Bulletin. For more photos see the VSR Website Gallery at <http://www.villageatstoneridge.com/>

QUARRY BULLETIN STAFF

<p><i>Editor:</i> Carlene Craib</p>	<p><i>Contributing Writers:</i> Linda Anzivino Dianne Marston Louise O'Donnell Bill Nussbum</p>
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Staff Photographer: **Roni Hubbard**

The Quarry Bulletin is a bi-monthly newsletter to keep you informed about events and information for The Village at Stone Ridge. Contributing writers please send copy to ccraib@comcast.net.

Volume 9Issue 1

MORE SCENES FROM NEW YEAR'S EVE FESTIVITIES



Musical Chairs provided many laughs.



Ann Marie and Ray Barnes – DJ's extraordinaire!



Wonderful food tempted all.



Neighbors enjoyed each other's company.



Y-M-C-A got everyone up and dancing.



A fitting celebration to welcome a New Year.