



Quarry Bulletin

August-September 2012

IT'S ELECTION TIME IN THE VILLAGE

I hope that the word election doesn't mean you immediately turn your attention elsewhere! Because exercising the opportunity to choose those who will lead us on the Board of Trustees is a very important part of being a member of this community. There are two openings for three-year terms and we have two candidates standing for election. On page eight you will find information about both candidates. You will have a chance to meet them in person and ask questions at the Candidate's Night Village Meeting on September 6th. You will also receive information about the candidates and a ballot in the mail from Great North that you can either send back to them or put in the ballot box at our Annual Meeting on September 27th. See you there!

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Gordon Wood
13 Gatecrest Road



Ruth Coleman
23 Sandstone Road

VSR Men Revive an Old Tradition

By Dean Hubbard

Not since the days of Gene Hudon and the VSR Cigar Night of 2007 have the VSR men gotten together as a group to celebrate life, manhood, beer (or wine for the less manly men like me), and steak. I am grateful that the organizers, Ken Hyle and Ron Caterino, opted to forego the cigars this time in favor of key lime pie and coffee.

Due to the size of both the crowd and the steaks a second grill was brought in for the occasion. I think this is the first time that two grilles were required for a VSR event. Buzz McArde offered his services as grill master; however, Dom DeFronzo could not bring himself to completely hand over the chief chef duties. Thus it was a cooperative cooking effort that turned out sumptuous sizzling steaks, all done to perfection.

Even though the steaks sizzled, the night was cool and balmy making the meal and the conversation all the more pleasant. The table talk included feats of daring-do, such as motor biking to Bike Week in Laconia, paddle boarding around a lake, kayaking Nashua River, scoring a hole-in-one, and walking into a pond with fish lures around his neck and catching fish without hands or pole. I have agreed not to divulge the he-men in our midst who performed these deeds.

Of course as the night wore on and personal achievements seemed less significant, our thoughts and conversation drifted to family and friends. It seems that new grandchildren are a topic of special pride. The night ended as the sun set with thoughts of those who could not be with us. We all agreed that it was a night that should be repeated on an annual basis.



Tom, are you asking for a handout?



The grey beards wait for the "Steak's ready!" call.



I have my secret sauce.



VSR BOOK CLUB NEWS

By Dianne Marston

Even though the summer months take many people away on vacation, the VSR Book Club has been thriving. Twenty-five people gathered at the clubhouse on August 2 to socialize and to discuss *Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919* by Stephen Puleo. This little known disaster provided the background for a very interesting discussion of the events of that time period in Boston.

The book for our next meeting on September 13 will be of a very different nature, *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. Author Wally Lamb writes, "I savored this book for many reasons: a dog who speaks, the thrill of competitive racing, a heart-tugging storyline, and – best of all – the fact that it is a meditation on humility and hope in the face of despair." Book clubbers who have read this novel highly recommend it.

On October 25 the featured book will be a former national bestseller, *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert. This "sweeping debut novel tracks the grim struggle of a Hawaiian woman who contracts leprosy as a child in Honolulu during the 1890's and is deported to the island of Moloka'i, where she grows to adulthood at the quarantined settlement of Kalaupapa. Brennert transforms the material into a touching, lovely account of a woman's journey as she rises above the limitations of a devastating illness." (From Publishers Weekly)

We are looking forward with anticipation to reading these two excellent books and then gathering together to talk about them with one another. All Villagers are most cordially invited to these meetings. Refreshments are served at 1:00, followed by discussion at 1:30.



JUNE HERBAL LUNCHEON

By Joyce Minosh

On a beautiful Tuesday morning in June, Jodi Gilson from Gilson Greenhouses in Groton arrived at the Village, herbs and luncheon ingredients in hand. About 25 folks enjoyed listening to her presentation on herbs, and then we moved outside to put together our own herb or salad patio gardens. The happy result was a wide variety of cleverly arranged herb pots.

We then moved back into the kitchen to watch a demonstration on making herbal butter and cream cheese, and a very tasty lavender lemonade. She then described her recipe for basil bread: 3 cups of self-rising flour, 12 ounces of warm beer, 3T of sugar, and 1/2 cup of chopped basil placed in a cold oven set to 350 degrees and baked for 50 minutes. This was really delicious, easy to make, and impressive to serve.

Lunch consisted of 5 quiches (rosemary, basil, tarragon, mushroom and ham/cheese), a beautiful salad filled with herbs and wonderful herbal cookies. During lunch, Jodi continually tossed out wonderful ideas for other herbal treats that we might enjoy. She was also happy to answer our many herbal and gardening questions and to tell us all about her greenhouse.

4TH OF JULY COOKOUT

The July 4th barbecue was a great success. There were over 40 people at the event, which was held inside due to a chance of bad weather. Dom and Peter did a great job cooking up all the goodies and a sign on the door kept the hungry crowd at bay until there were enough burgers and dogs to get the party started. As usual there were wonderful appetizers, side dishes and some very creative desserts to share. No one was in a rush to move on to other activities and the majority of the group lingered well into late afternoon. It was a very relaxing event with jokes, storytelling and interesting conversations at all groupings. Eli Demetri won the 50/50 raffle. The Village BBQ's are a good opportunity to visit and get to know your neighbors. Plan to attend the Labor Day BBQ as we hope to have some of our new neighbors in attendance. It will be a good chance to meet them.



LIBRARY NEWS

By Linda Anzivino



"Books are beautiful things."

George Bernard Shaw

Paper Passion: Perfume For Booklovers

This is a new scent created to remind us of the beautiful smell of old pages and glue! *Wallpaper* magazine commissioned famed perfumer Geza Schoen to find a way to bottle the indescribable smell after German publisher Gerhard Steidl made the comment that his favorite scent was "a freshly printed book." The perfume comes packaged in a white-bound book with pages cut out to hold the bottle. It was released July 11th and will retail for \$98.00 and features five woody ingredients (compared to the 100 plus ingredients in most perfumes). Honestly folks, I couldn't make this stuff up if I tried!

Recently the *Boston Globe* ran an op-ed piece by Jeff Jacoby (July 18, 2012) called "The Book Lover's Lament." He wonders why we can't read books as fast as we buy them! I am sure this is something we have all pondered from time to time. In the article he mentions an interesting item. "William F. Buckley Jr. once described the experience of entering a well appointed home in which something seemed out of order. It took him a few moments to realize the problem: There were no books. It was jarring, Buckley wrote, to be confronted with the fact that there are people in whose lives books play no role whatsoever."



LANDSCAPING NEWS

LAWNS AT VSR

By Phil Macpherson

Most residents of VSR would agree that landscaping is one of our most valuable assets. The beauty of our Village enhances our property values as well as quality of life. A healthy green lawn provides an important backbone to any good landscape plan. My first season overseeing the lawns has been challenging to say the least. Getting up to speed on the responsibilities and procedures for



managing the lawns, the abnormal weather conditions and the acquisition of TruGreen by Morin's Landscaping were factors that impacted our lawns this season.

The transition to Morin's has gone smoothly. Some concerns that were brought to their attention when they took over our lawn care were: the considerable amount of crabgrass within the lawns, the improper use of heavy mowing equipment in the areas with sprinklers, and improper weed whacking which left grass clippings in bark mulch, on fences and siding of units.

The winter of 2012 was among the mildest and snowless winters in recent memory, followed by an unseasonably early, warm and dry spring, and a summer of near drought conditions. To combat these challenging weather conditions, Morin's applied the June fertilizer application early and in late July and recommended that the grass cutting schedule be decreased from every 7 days to a 10-11 day schedule. Mowing will continue on this schedule until the grass gets back to its normal growth habits.

We currently apply 4 applications of fertilizer annually (April, June, August and October). The August application has been applied and with the recent rains the lawns should green up and any turf areas that have been struggling with the hot dry temperatures should strengthen. The hot temperatures have provided prime conditions for weeds. Included in the August application were treatments for broadleaf weeds (clover, chick weed, etc.) No treatments were applied for the crabgrass that typically stops germinating in late August and will die out in September, allowing the grass to fill in during the fall months. The fourth applications in late September will be applied to further strengthen and encourage a thicker greener grass come spring.

If you have any concerns or notice any problems with the lawns in the Village please report them to Elaine Devlin at Great North elaine.devlin@greatnorth.net and Phil Macpherson at pmacpherson@vhb.com.

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

The new Village Directory has been published. If you haven't picked up yours yet they will be available at Candidate's Night, September 6th at the clubhouse or you can contact Louise O'Donnell at 59 Stone Ridge, 978-589-1175 or email at harlouod@comcast.net. If your email or phone information changes, please let Great North (elaine.devlin@greatnorth.net), Steve Currier (vsrcaccess@comcast.net), and Carlene Craib know (ccraib@comcast.net).

Changes for this month:

Add 23 Sandstone Road to Dick and Ruth Coleman's entry in the first listing and their name and telephone number (978-577-6058) to the second.

Lois Frampton		Loisframpton@ymail.com
Harriet Shanzer		heshanzer@gmail.com
George and Denise Roach		denisemroach6@gmail.com
Chuck and Sarah Crissey		srcrissey@verizon.net
Phyllis Duggan		phyllis.duggan@verizon.net
Gordon and Paula Wood		wood-gandp@comcast.net
Sharon Erickson		nanaofcarl@verizon.net

LOWELL SPINNERS OUTING

by Ed Kern

Twenty Village baseball fans made a trip to a Lowell Spinners game on August 7th to see the Spinners, a Red Sox minor league team, play against the Brooklyn Cyclones, a NY Mets farm team. The evening started with a pre-game meal at the Gator Pit in the Spinners' LeLacheur Park. They served up a buffet of all you could eat barbeque, and no one went to the game hungry. We were lucky because the night itself was one of the best of the summer with beautiful crisp air and nice temperatures. The game was a good one with the Spinners losing a pitcher's duel 1-0. Even though the Spinners didn't cooperate with a win everyone seemed to have a good time. This was the second year in a row that we have made a trip in to Lowell to see a Spinners game and hopefully it will become an annual event.

THANK YOU, BOB EDDY

by Dean Hubbard

Bob Eddy recently resigned his position on the Water and Sewer Committee. Bob's expertise and hands-on approach were invaluable and we will miss him. Bob has been the face of VSR in our interactions with Whitewater, the Tyngsboro Water Dept., and other vendors. We thank you Bob for over seven years of excellent service.

Bob will continue with his work on the Property Committee as co-chair of both the irrigation and the snow plowing subcommittees. We wish Bob well in these and other new endeavors he may choose to pursue.

Don Shreve has recently moved so we now have only three members that are not also Board members. New volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Contact Dean Hubbard (978-392-0949 or email at deanhubbard@comcast.net for more information.



4th of July fun and feasting

VILLAGE TIPS

A Tasty Tip

By Paul Currier

Jayne and I learned of Crush Pizzeria in Nashua one morning while watching the Phantom Gourmet. They recommended it as having the best tasting pizza in the area. We dropped over one night to give it a try.

In our opinion the pizza was delicious. Crush makes traditionally authentic Neopolitan pizza, made daily from scratch with the simplest and freshest ingredients available. The pizza dough is made from flour imported from Naples, and the sauce is made from imported tomatoes, crushed by human fingers daily. Their oven is imported from Italy and burns at a blistering 800-900 degrees, cooking a pizza in 60-90 seconds.

It's a tiny place with a small bar that sits half a dozen people and tables surrounding the rest of the pizzeria. Wine and beer is also available.

Crush Pizzeria

Take exit 7W for NH 101A West toward Amherst/Milford. Turn right onto NH 101A West Amherst/Milford for 1.3 miles. Turn right and Crush Pizza will be on your left. Tel. (603) 521-7440

Life is good, ENJOY!



CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Ed. Note:

This article summarizes the information Gordon Wood sent me, detailing his unusual and varied background.

Gordon Wood grew up on a farm, learning to hunt and ride horseback. His early employment was in television and on the stage, directing and acting, including a stint on *The Three Stooges* program and leading roles in a variety of stage productions and musicals. He then moved to business as a finance researcher for Dun and Bradstreet and an accident investigator for Allstate Insurance Company. After serving as Director of Management Development for Honeywell, he became a consultant on leadership selection and development and worked with the US Navy as a consultant at the Pentagon and the Naval War College. He was recognized for developing a program to take city kids off the streets in New York suburban areas and for his work as an undercover agent, an account of which was made into a film. He taught management courses at Assumption College and hosted a live TV interview program. Along the way, Gordon learned to fly light planes and parachute and received Masters and Doctorate degrees in Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of churches in PA, MI, and MA, and most recently he has developed “Return Ministries,” designed to provide healing to troubled churches. On a personal level, Gordon is married to Paula whom he describes as “a most wonderful wonder woman,” and he has grown children and their families

Candidate Statement

By Ruth Coleman

Greetings to all. I’m happy to be running for the Board of Trustees because VSR is such a wonderful community. I believe it will be time well spent to help maintain the smooth working of the Village, which we can easily take for granted. And as new needs arise, I look forward to working with the rest of the Board to develop solutions to carry us forward.

Dick and I moved here from Pembroke, MA, a little over 2 years ago. We have one daughter and her family here in Westford. In all we have 3 daughters and 6 grandchildren – all of them the best! I was born in Detroit, but grew up near Los Angeles. I used to read Robert Frost’s poems and daydream about New England, so I must have been destined to live here. I received my B.A. from Occidental College in Sociology, and Masters degrees from Princeton Seminary and University of Connecticut School of Social Work.

My professional career was primarily in Clinical Social Work. As an LICSW I held positions in several areas. I provided psychotherapy services in both outpatient and inpatient settings. I worked as a Supervisor to other staff, and as an Instructor at Simmons College School of Social Work. I also worked in management as Director of Social Work Services at Fuller Memorial Hospital and at Quincy Mental Health Center.

My Trip to the Grocery Store

There was a bit of confusion at the store this morning. When I was ready to pay for my groceries, the cashier said, "Strip down, facing me." Making a mental note to complain to my Congressman about Homeland Security running amok, I did just as she had instructed. When the hysterical shrieking and alarms finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to my credit card. I have been asked to shop elsewhere in the future. They need to make their instructions to seniors a little clearer.

Thanks to Wendy Wolfberg for this smile for the day!



Herbs and Lunch Bunch



4th of July at the Village



FITNESS CENTER REMINDER

Please set the thermostat before leaving the fitness center.

Summer usage: A/C set to OFF, fan set to Auto

Winter usage: Heat set to 60, fan set to Auto

Make sure lights and fans are off.

Editor's Note:

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue, especially for the Village Tip. Keep them coming! Soon all our activities will begin their fall season. We look forward to seeing you at the gym, at Friday game night, at bridge, knitting or any other activity that takes your fancy. Maybe you have an idea for a new way for us to spend our time! Don't be shy – contact Joyce Minosh (978-692-2323 or westfordconnect@aol.com).

I always welcome articles and pictures about activities. Send them to ccraib@comcast.net.

Carlene Craib

More from the Steak and Ale Night



Julia has nothing on Dom!



*We spent hours coordinating these shirts.
Ed. Note: See website picture for explanation!*



I'm ready now; where's my steak?



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!

We are happy to welcome our newest Villagers to our midst. Add their information to your new directory:

Gerry and Charlotte Hall will be moving into 7 Sandstone on September 4. Their email is gHall58@yahoo.com and telephone is 978-692-2012.

Larry and Judith Harrington will be living at 22 Highland. Larry's telephone number is 978-930-2228 and Judee's is 508-641-5258 and their email is harringtonlj@aol.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 3 Labor Day Cookout
- September 6 Candidates' Night
- September 27 Annual Meeting
- October 13 Italian Night
- November 17 Karaoke
- December 1 Holiday Party
- December 20 Caroling
- December 31 New Year's Eve Gala

QUARRY BULLETIN STAFF

Editor:
Carlene Craib

Contributing Writers:
*Linda Anzivino
Paul Currier
Dean Hubbard
Ed Kern
Dianne Marston
Phil MacPherson
Joyce Minosh
Gail Sergenian*

This month's photographs are by Dean Hubbard and Joyce Minosh; cheeky captions by Dean 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.