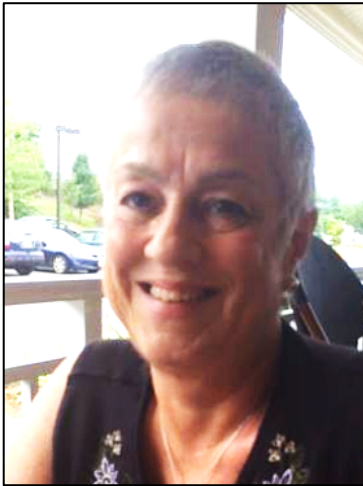


QUARRY BULLETIN

July-August 2014

Once again it is time for residents to elect new members of the Board of Trustees. This year there is one slot open for a three-year term that currently is held by Steve Currier. Candidate's Night will be on Thursday, September 4. Voting will take place by mailing your ballot to EMI or bringing it to the Annual Meeting, to be held at the clubhouse on September 23. Results will be announced by September 30.



Sandra Kelly Accepts Nomination to the Board of Trustees

I am honored to accept the nomination to our Village Board of Trustees. Though I have lived in Westford more than half my life, I will always be considered a “blow in.” But in my heart I have truly become a “townie” and now a “Villager.” I came to live at VSR six years ago, somewhat

by fate. I had unexpectedly sold my home in Parker Village the first day it went on the market! I had nowhere yet to move. When my realtor asked me why I had never looked here before, I replied that I didn't think I was old enough. HA! And so, a new chapter in my life began. I'm not sure where the years have gone but I love living here and have truly been a happy camper since my arrival. Where else can one move that a neighbor finds you and calls to welcome you and gets you listed in the Village Directory before you even move in? I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many people that have offered a helping hand, checked in on me, and have continued to inquire about my illness this past year. I am back to good health and happy to give back to the neighborhood that makes my life both rich and interesting.

I retired one year ago from a thirty-year career and life long passion in education. I knew that teaching was my calling the day I entered first grade! Over the years, teachers who were encouraging, sincere, and true mentors have continually inspired me. I began working in grades 4-6 in the Woburn Public Schools. During that time I retrained to become a school librarian. I left work for eight years to become an at home mom with my now grown children, Caitlin, Mike, and Chris. After Chris entered kindergarten I was

Continued on page 2

hired by the Westford Public Schools to coordinate and organize their elementary school library program. Seven years later I was offered the job of school librarian at the PK-8 Carlisle Public School. Though I have been retired from Carlisle a full year now I still miss my wonderful students and fabulous colleagues.

I continue working within my professional network serving on the executive board of the Massachusetts School Library Association (MSLA) as a conference organizer and longtime coordinator of our annual author “meet and greet.” Over the years I served as the membership chair and president. As MSLA President I was privileged to travel and meet many amazing colleagues, authors, and professional leaders all across the country. My working style is casual and collegial but I am not known to be shy about advocating for what I believe is right. I have spoken publicly before the Education Committee at the State House in Boston, visited legislator’s offices in Boston and Washington DC, and met with our MA Commissioner of Education on several occasions. I plan to stay involved in strong educational practice with a position on the Leadership Board of WGEE, a unique statewide coalition of leaders from numerous professional organizations in the Commonwealth. Over the next year I will be weaning away from my MSLA obligations, and I am looking forward to become more involved with our Village activities and events.

On the Westford home front and at varying times, I have participated in many community events. I was an active member of the Westford League of Woman Voters for a number of years, a volunteer with the Westford Brews and Blues Festival when it was a school fundraising event, a member of the grassroots parent organization known as “School Room,” and for better or worse, I was one of the original members of the group that stopped Walmart from building a store in Westford! I served three terms on the JV Fletcher Library Board of Trustees including serving as Board Chair, advocating for library funding, speaking at Town Meeting, and having the honor of representing the library at their grand centennial celebration under a large tent on the Town Common. I served on the first Town of Westford Long Range Planning Committee and also completed a short-term appointment filling a vacated position on the Westford School Committee.

Additional things you may, or may not, want to know about me, just for fun:

- Once upon a time, I was Westford’s Welcome Wagon Lady!
- I was one of the first two school library professionals in the state to receive National Board Certification.
- I “once” went white water rafting and slipped off the back of the raft on the first rapid. I had to ride the icy Colorado water until they could pull me back in!
- I assisted our beloved Shirley Chambers with set up and design of the *Quarry Bulletin* before she stepped down as editor.
- I was the original organizer for the Merrimack Valley Single Friends Meetup group that grew to over 600 members! (*Sshhh, don’t tell the Social Committee!*)
- I met President Obama when he was a Senator from Illinois.
- I used to have a home sewing business making curtains, draperies, and even wedding attire.

I hope this brief summary indicates my ability to contribute to our Village in some helpful way. Feel free to contact me with any questions. I look forward to meeting you at Candidate’s Night.

4th of JULY FESTIVITIES

By Ruth Ann Dillon

Although the rain kept the cookout indoors, the spirit of the day wasn't dampened. It was a fun gathering with our grill chefs providing hamburgers and hot dogs, accompanied by the delicious appetizers, salads, and desserts contributed by those attending. Co-chaired by Joyce Minosh and Ken Hyle, the clubhouse was decorated in patriotic red, white, and blue, and Joyce led us all in challenging trivia games based on the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and presidential facts. Tom Sangiolo, our newest resident, was the winner of the day as he recited the Preamble to the Constitution without hesitation, from beginning to end. Well done, Tom!



Steve and Clara Currier get into the spirit of the occasion.



The kitchen crew: (left to right) Loretta Auld, Clara Currier, guest, Miriam Rodriguez, Ken Hyle, and Gail Sergenian.

At right: Dave Auld, Jack Gilmartin, Frank Minosh, and Tom Sangiolo enjoy the party.



Left: Bob and Karen Morton, Joyce Minosh, and Elaine Tino celebrate the Fourth of July at the clubhouse.

MEN'S STEAK AND ALE NIGHT JUST KEEPS GROWING

By Ron Caterino

A record number of men attended the 5th Annual Men's Steak & Ale held on June 18th. It was interesting to note that the first Men's Steak, Ale, and Cigar night in 2007 had twelve attendees and in 2008 there were sixteen. The event was revived in 2012 (without cigars) and the attendance grew to 26, then 32 in 2013, and 38 this year.

Although the weather was clear, the organizing trio of Ron Caterino, Ken Hyle, and Paul Currier made an executive decision to hold the event inside due the high temperature and humidity. Ron, Ken, and Paul enjoy the planning and implementation of the event; however, it would not be possible without their two master chefs, Dom DeFronzo and Buzz McArdle, who grill the sumptuous, sizzling sirloin steaks. For the third year in a row the size of the crowd and the number of steaks required a second grill be brought in for the event. A special thanks to Larry Tobiason for the transportation and use of his grill. (We look forward to the day we have to bring in a third grill!)

The night started with all you could eat shrimp, grilled kielbasa, and ample coolers of three different kinds of ice-cold beer. This was followed by the steaks, baked potatoes, salad, and rolls. The final course consisted of generous cuts of a delicious custard cake, hot coffee, and in some cases, more beer. It's fair to say all left satisfied!

It was a great opportunity for the men to brag about their golf scores, discuss their summer vacation plans, talk about their grandchildren, or just discuss their favorite beers.

At the end of the night we had a 50/50 drawing with a twist. The winner had the opportunity of keeping half of the money collected, or taking a \$20 scratch ticket. The winner was Bob Eddy who opted for the cash.

Many thanks to all those who came and contributed to its great success!



GET INVOLVED IN VILLAGE LIFE – HAVE FUN!

By Carlene Craib

Fall is in the air (and on the trees here at our place on the lake in northern Maine!), so I thought it was a good time to remind everyone about the many opportunities to be involved in your neighborhood. Exercise and yoga classes will be starting up again soon; knitting, bridge and book club have been ongoing all summer and will continue. You are always welcome at Friday night social and games, including poker and canasta. Maybe you are interested in starting up a new activity – photography club, cooking group, investing, drawing, or poetry sharing anyone? Who knows – only you!

Of course, the Village Committees can always use more volunteers (see the ASR appeal on page 6. Step up and try it. Contact any Committee chair for more information.

VILLAGE MEETINGS INFORM AND ENTERTAIN

THE BUTTERFLY PLACE



By Joan Roy

On Thursday, June 5th, VSR residents enjoyed a most interesting presentation given by our neighbor at the Butterfly Place, George Leslie. George's interest in butterflies goes back to his childhood when a thoughtful uncle gave him a book on butterflies, a book which he treasured and which led to a lifelong interest in these beautiful creatures. The Butterfly Place is celebrating its 25th year in Westford. Many school groups visit and this has kept the attendance growing. In addition to telling us about the Butterfly Place, George shared wonderful anecdotes about the Boston Marathon. He has run annually and completed the race again this year, at age 83! At the conclusion of his talk George presented a beautiful plant to the resident with the oldest grandchild. Frank Bashore was the lucky recipient, a fine ending to a lovely evening.

More Village Meeting news on page 9.

VILLAGE ADVENTURERS TREK TO MACHU PICHU

Recently Dick Coleman, Joyce Minosh, and Dean Hubbard did a hiking trip to the historic sanctuary of Machu Pichu in Peru and shared their stories and gorgeous photos with neighbors. Over four days and three nights, they hiked the famed Inca Trail from Pisacucho to Machu Picchu, passing through lush cloud forests and alpine tundra and examining Incan ruins.

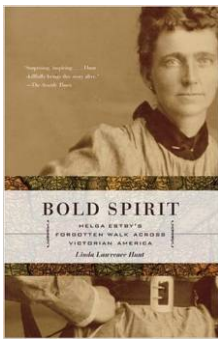


Dick, Joyce, and Dean at 14,000 feet after having completed the hardest and longest day of the four-day hike. They were all very tired and very happy to arrive at Dead Woman's Pass.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

By Dianne Marston

Book Club members have been enjoying the summer months by reading great books and having interesting discussions. At our August 7 meeting the featured book was **Orphan Train** by Christine Baker Kline. This historical fiction story began in 1929 on a cross-country train carrying orphan children. It went on to detail the courageous life journey of one of those orphans. Most of those in attendance had very positive comments about the book.



The September 18 book will be **Bold Spirit: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America** Linda Lawrence Hunt. This is a true story of a Norwegian immigrant woman who in 1896, set out with her daughter

from eastern Washington and walked through fourteen states in hopes of earning \$10,000. Hunt skillfully brings this story to life 100 years later. She “allows us to follow Helga Estby not only across the physical landscape of 1896 America . . . but across the country’s social, political, economic, and cultural landscape as well. . . . Fascinating.” (*Linda Peavy and Ursula Smith*)

You are always invited and encouraged to attend our discussions, held in the clubhouse. We begin by having refreshments and socializing at 1:00 p.m. After choosing an upcoming book, we proceed to the discussion of the book of the day. Many feel that through these discussions, insights are achieved, friendships are formed, and bonds are created. You are most welcome to join us!

HELP NEEDED!

By Judy Culver



Interested in joining a vital yet not time-consuming committee? The Architectural Standards and Review Committee (ASR) is seeking new members. This committee has been meeting monthly for many years to assist residents in receiving approval from the Trustees to make modifications to their units.

A unit owner submits a formal proposal to the Architectural Standards and Review Committee, which reviews it with the unit owner and forwards it to the Board with its recommendation. The Trustees have adopted this 2-step approval procedure to minimize the bureaucratic burden on the unit owner.

ASR meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month when there are owner requests to review. Meetings generally consist of brief, informal discussions with the unit owner and provide ASR members an opportunity to weigh in on the suitability and effect that a requested modification may have on VSR’s architectural integrity and construction quality.

Please contact any ASR current or former member listed below to determine whether this committee will be a good fit for you. We will welcome you. Judy Culver, Gail Eddy, Gabriella DiPrizio, Nancy Fletcher, Larry Tobiason are current members. Bill Nussbum, Mike Gallant, Carl Erickson, Ruth Coleman are recent past members.

LIBRARY NEWS

By Linda Anzivino

“I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of anything than of a book! When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library.”

*Jane Austen, **Pride & Prejudice***

Here are three recent quotes I came across that you might enjoy.

- David McCullough (a Pulitzer prize winning author): “I think the public library system is one of the most amazing American institutions. Free for everybody. If you ever get the blues about the status of American culture, there are still more public libraries than there are McDonald’s. During the worst of the Depression not one public library closed their doors.”
- Jeff Jacoby (*Boston Globe* columnist): “I’ve been a book reader for as long as I can remember, but until I was in college most of the books I read came from – and went back to – the library. The books I actually owned as a kid were relatively few. With disposable income, however, the world changed. I realized that the pleasure of reading books was amazingly enhanced by the pleasure of *owning* books. I liked seeing around me books I had already read; I found it gratifying that my encounter with a book continued even after I finished reading it.”
- Caitlin Lowans (Co-Director/Associate Artistic Director & Director of Education at the Stoneham Theatre) “My mother set my elementary school bedtime early. At 8pm, teeth brushed, pajamas on, all lights off – except one. As long as I was quiet and stayed in bed, I was allowed to read as late as I wanted. I’m not sure she realized how late “as late as I wanted” could be. I would pull books from the shelves at the library then pile them under the pillow next to me, so that I could read book after book without breaking the rules. My mother is responsible for a lifelong love of reading late at night (and an inadvertent love for sleeping late into the morning).

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES



Our newest neighbor is one many of you already know. **Tom Sangiolo** has moved into 29 Stone Ridge Road.

- **Tink** and **Bill Nussbum** have moved next door and their new address is 33 Stone Ridge Road.

VSR Fitness Center New Additions

By Rick Culver

The VSR Fitness Center has recently been updated with a new Spirit XBR95 Fitness Bike for your exercising pleasure.



Some of the features of this new bike include:

- A bright blue backlit LCD console offers a multitude of feedback data
- Remote resistance controls make adjustments more convenient
- Squeeze-grip handles adjust fore/aft seat & reclining backrest positions
- A muscle activation figure that shows which areas are being targeted
- A heart rate bar graph that makes it easier to maintain your heart rate zone
- Generator power system eliminates the need for electricity
- An audio jack and speakers for personal entertainment
- Twelve innovative programs offer a variety of workouts
- Multiple storage areas for water bottles, etc.

Also, we now have two new treadmill belts for our treadmills. The original belts gave us ten good years of wear but were in need of replacement. Please continue to do a good job in using these treadmills by wearing dry footwear on these units. Wet footwear that carries salt, etc. can limit the life of the new belts.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE NOTES

By Buzz McArdle

Recently we replaced our washing machine and dryer after ten years of good service. We opted to install an electric dryer for the rebates available and the efficiency. So it seemed a good time to clean out the 30' dryer vent that runs across the entire basement. Pictures speak a thousand words (see left), but needless to say we were courting a dryer vent fire.

Each year 15,000 clothes dryer fires occur in the USA and have led to deaths. There are professional dryer vent cleaners available for about \$100 and the investment could well pay for itself. Here are some signs to look for:

- Clothing does not dry completely after a normal drying cycle.
- Drying time for clothing takes longer than 35 to 40 minutes in duration.
- A musty odor is noticed in the clothing following the drying cycle.
- Clothing seems unusually hot to the touch after a complete drying cycle.
- The dryer vent hood flap does not properly open as it is designed to do during the operation of the dryer.
- Debris is noticed within the outside dryer vent opening.
- Excessive heat is noticed within the room in which the dryer is being operated.
- Large amounts of lint accumulate in the lint trap for the dryer during operation.



QUADCOPTER PRESENTATION AT VILLAGE MEETING

Forty neighbors gathered at the clubhouse on August 7 to hear about the Stevens Coolidge Place and see a demonstration of a quadcopter. Resident Armand Francoeur provided the quadcopter presentation followed by a demonstration in front of the clubhouse. He showed us how he steers it left, right, up, and down, and levels it. He can set a GPS coordinate for retrieval if there is a problem. A stabilizer keeps the camera steady and takes great photos.



Following the demonstration Les Wood presented a fabulous slide show of the Stevens Coolidge Gardens in Andover. He showed photos of the gardens in all seasons. Armand took some of the photos from the quadcopter.

It was an interesting evening, and we thank both Armand and Les for giving us this wonderful presentation. A visit to the Stevens Coolidge Place is in the works.

Nany's Apple Tree

By Louise Theofilos

The Gala apple seed was planted as a promise that Nany and Richard Diaz's son would thrive. Before long a tree was growing with stones placed as protection for this fragile life. Now the son and mother are gone but the apple tree stands some five feet tall as a reminder of two lives who were so lovingly cherished. According to Weston Nursery the tree will grow many feet tall, yet will bear no fruit as will those that have been grafted.



UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

October 18 –
International
Potluck



November 8 –
Drop-in Coffee

November 15 – Skip Giles
Oldies Night

COOKOUT TIME AGAIN – SEE YOU THERE!

September 1 –
Labor Day
Cookout



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This month's photographs

are by Ruth Ann Dillon and

Joyce Minosh. The Quarry

Bulletin is a bi-monthly

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informed about events and

information for The Village

at Stone Ridge. Contributing writers please

send copy to Carlene Craib.

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