

July August 2015

Quarry Bulletin

July-August 2015

ELECTION SEASON APPROACHES

You are probably trying to ignore the cacophony of the election circus all around us, but we would like to invite you to a meaningful, important, and above all, dignified election process. There are two openings this year for seats on the Board of Trustees, those currently held by David Auld and Dorothy Moran. We are pleased to announce that we have two candidates for these positions: Buzz McArdle and Tom Sangiolo. You will find information about them below, and you will be able to meet them in person and ask questions at our Candidates' Night on Thursday, September 3 at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse. Ballots will be collected on or before our Annual Meeting on September 30 and the results will be announced by October 5.



Tom Sangiolo

I am a newcomer to the VSR having moved here from Groton, MA where I had lived since 1995. I am not completely new to the VSR however, because I have attended many functions here since 2009 and have made many friends during that time. I have lived my entire life in Massachusetts with the exception of four years in the US Air Force and a total of eight years in Kwajalein, Marshall Islands. I was married to my late wife Sylvia for 47 years before she passed away in 2008. I

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Buzz (Clyde) McArdle

My wife Nancy and I have lived in the Village since 2012 and are delighted we made the choice to move here from South Carolina. Although being close to our three children and six grandchildren was the key deciding factor to move, the warm reception and endearing relationships we have built here only prove it to be the best decision we could have made.

During my 3 ½ years here I have served as the Chairman of the Property Committee, co-chair of the golf

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Tom Sangiolo, continued

had three children, two who have passed away from cystic fibrosis, and one surviving daughter Valerie.

I am an electrical engineer employed by MIT- Lincoln Laboratory (MIT/LL) since 1975 and am currently a part-time consultant. My previous position at MIT/LL was as a Sponsored Research Staff Member. I was Radar Systems Engineering Manager of the Haystack Radar Site and I served two tours at Kwajalein, Marshall Islands as the MMW Radar Technical Leader and with Honeywell (MIT/LL Staff slot) as the ALCOR Radar Digital Engineering lead. Prior to working at MIT/ LL I worked for Honeywell, Inc. in Framingham, MA as a Digital Computer Systems Engineer where I was Project Engineer on Apollo and LEM On-board Guidance Computer Simulator. I share a patent on "Central Processor Unit Having Simulative Interpretation Capability."

As a volunteer I currently serve on the Finance Council of St. Catherine's of Westford and I served on the Finance Committee of the Town of Groton. I am also serving as chair of the VSR Architectural Standards Revue (ASR) committee and was recently added to the Replacement and Reserve Committee.

As a member of the Board of Trustees my intent is to work closely with Finance Committee to maintain the high standard of living and beauty that we are fortunate to have in our Village and to work with the ASR Committee to maintain standards that have been established, while being open to allowing changes without losing the uniformity that we have currently. I shall listen to the VSR community to assist me in making the proper decisions related to Board policies.

Buzz McArdle, continued

tournament, co-chair of Kentucky Derby /Work Play Day, co-chair of the Super Bowl party, and served on various committees concerning maintenance and operations.

In my previous professional life, I spent thirty years in the computer and software business. I started my own software company, until I sold it to a subsidiary of IBM. I joined the new company as the Director of Business Development and Latin American Operations, and for eight years I spent most of my time in Latin America, Mexico and the Caribbean. The hours were long and the air travel was a killer, so I decided after thirty years to pack it in and retire at age fifty-five.

Finding out fifty-five is too early to retire, we moved to Harwich on Cape Cod and I started my second business, Mid-Cape Maintenance, which was a home improvement company. I initially started doing small jobs, but as the business grew, the jobs got bigger and I decided to retire again at age 60. When I realized my golf game would never improve, I decided to enroll in college full time at the age of 61. It was the most enriching experience I ever enjoyed. I was the only grandfather in the class! Surprisingly, I graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Massachusetts at the age of 65, the same year I was eligible to collect social security, amazing myself and my friends as I was a C- student in high school, where partying was my priority.

After serving three years on the Property Committee, I have decided to run for the Board of Trustees. I see the following issues as major challenges in

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Buzz McArdle, continued

the years ahead:

- We are beginning to see a dearth of volunteers. Because we are a self-managed community, eventually this problem will become critical. We may have to pay outsiders to perform many of the tasks our committees do or turn these tasks over to our management company. This would greatly increase our management fees, and hence increase condo fees.
- The age of our facility is a concern. Our infrastructure is beginning to show its age and although we have planned for the future replacement in our reserves, the planning, and execution of this is critical.
- I deem the 100% voting requirement for bylaw change to be detrimental to the community. We have several major financial decisions to make in the future and the fact that one resident can block the wishes of 109 unit owners is not only impractical, but also dangerous. I would very much like to see this changed to a majority of 85%.

I have other concerns as well, but I feel confident that we will solve the issues as they come up and work as a team. The community has a history of doing this, and we are very fortunate to have the folks who serve and have served. Hopefully others will continue to step forward in the future.



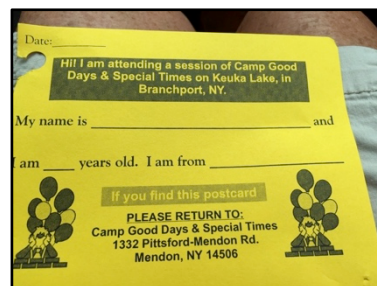
It's not my birthday, nor a bobcat, nor a bear – it's a balloon bouquet!

By Barbara Leary

I just had to share this with the Village. To my surprise one morning recently when I opened the shade in my bedroom, there was a lovely



balloon bouquet wrapped around a tree right outside my window! On further inspection I saw postcards attached to it. Somehow it had arrived here from a camp in New York. I checked it out online and it is a camp for children and some adults with cancer. It is free to all who attend, funded by donations with many volunteers who make it possible. I am so touched that these balloons ended up in my yard. I will send them a donation as well as return the postcard. I wish they had put their names on the cards. Their website is: <http://www.campgooddays.org>. I am still in awe of this whole event!





THE VSR FLAG

By Frank Bashore

It has come to my attention that many of you have been wondering why our American flag has been flying at half-staff on occasion. Our VSR procedure with regard to the flag is that it will fly at half-staff only when authorized by the President of the United States or by our Massachusetts Governor. I receive that authorization by email distributed from our US Flag vendor and signed by the President or the Governor. That is the only time our flag is lowered.

In the future I will post a notice on the bulletin board detailing the reason for this action unless it is well understood, such as on Memorial Day. Other days that have been designated annually for lowering the flag are Peace Officer Memorial Day on May 15, Patriot's Day, September 11, and Pearl Harbor Day on December 7.

Many of our young men and women have given their lives to keep our flag flying high and lowering it should be with the utmost respect. I consider it an honor to be its custodian here at VSR.



The Platters' Music Brings Back Some Great Memories

By Larry Anzivino

Enchanted, Remember When, and My Prayer

These are just a few of the great hit songs of the Platters that Tony Funches (right) treated us to on June 13. In addition to their many hits Tony brought us back to some memorable greats from Elvis, "old blue eyes" Frank Sinatra, and many, many more. More than eighty people attended this most enjoyable evening with many commenting not only on Tony's performance, but also the warmth of his personality and delivery. He performed for about ninety minutes and when leaving, it was obvious that this *young crowd* was up for more. Recognizing that, Skip would not disappoint and proceeded to play a dozen or more songs from his karaoke list and the crowd danced on into the night with a "bring the roof down" atmosphere. Hey Skip, many thanks for your untiring efforts to coax us on to the dance floor yet again. As the Platter's hit songs says, "*Only You*". See you all in **November** when the **Orange Blossom Special** rolls in.



Larry Anzivino and Skip Giles spin some platters.

Steak & Conversation Sizzle at the 6th Annual Men's Steak & Ale Night



The chefs, left to right, Paul Currier, Dom DeFronzo, and Peter Abate, get ready to dish up the steaks at the Steak and Ale Night.

By Paul Currier

The annual Steak & Ale Night attended by thirty-five hungry men took place on Wednesday, June 17th at the clubhouse. Judging from the smiles, feedback and full bellies at the end of the evening, it was once again a success!

Our own master chef, Domenic, with assistance from Peter and Paul without Mary, grilled the steaks to everyone's satisfaction. As the commercial goes, "have it your way," at the Steak & Ale Night, is a core belief of the master chef. The evening began with our own version of happy hour, coolers stocked with beer on the patio. There was no shortage of bad jokes, historic golf scores, fishing tales, and good old fashion

ribbing of one another. World hunger, politics, the economy, along with our popular sports teams, were all discussed. Happy hour continues all night, but the food begins with our famous appetizer table. Mounds of cold shrimp with cocktail sauce and grilled, melt in your mouth kielbasa consumes everyone's attention until it all disappears. Next is the main course, the mouth watering, and delectable, always perfectly grilled, artery clogging sirloin steaks. Of course we have the buttery, sour creamy one-pound baked potato and healthy salad and dinner roll to accompany the steak.

The tables were arranged inside the clubhouse in a "U" shape to allow for plenty of table talk. The room soon became quiet, as we never talk with our mouths full, but conversation picked up as dessert was served. For those with a sweet tooth we had lemon meringue pie and chocolate chip cookies with coffee available or more beer.

After the meal we had a 50/50 drawing, won by Ron Caterino who chose the cash versus a \$10 lottery ticket. Extra cash from the drawing was donated to the Social Committee to help them with their expenses. The Men's Steak & Ale Night committee was comprised of Ken Hyle, Ron Caterino, and Paul Currier who enjoy holding this event every year. With the large turnout and happy faces again this year, we look forward to the 7th annual event next year.



Herb Shanzer and Skip Giles do some "bonding" at the Men's Night.



New Board Policies Involving Conversion of Common area Into Exclusive Use Area

By David Auld

This past fall and spring of this year the Board of Trustees received a number of requests requiring the conversion of common area into exclusive use area in varying amounts such as conversion of an open deck into an enclosed porch, expansion of a grill deck and use of a natural gas generator. We questioned what our basis for granting such a request is and what our limitations are. After receiving opinions from a number of sources (our lawyers, Legal Committee, and management) the Board passed the following policy at the April 20th Board meeting to deal with items requiring only small amounts of common area to accomplish a task: ***The Board of Trustees will directly rule on requests that need approximately 30 sq. ft. of common area to accomplish a task. This number is chosen because it represents about 1% of the total area of a condo unit and thus will have a minimal effect on future maintenance costs. All requests must follow Architectural Standards Committee specifications including signatures in agreement of affected abutters.***

The conversion of open decks into enclosed porches led the Board to examine filings at the Registry of Deeds as a basis of what were the characteristics of an enclosed or screened porch that Guthall originally built at the Village of Stone Ridge. The deck size differs considerably for the type of condo unit (from 12' x 14' for a Granville to 12' x 20' for a Durham). However, for those owners who chose to have an enclosed porch (3-4 season room) the room was essentially the same size. Thus examples of Alden, Durham, Granville and Hampton types had average dimensions of 11' 5" by 13' 6", differing by only an inch or two in either dimension. The Board thus passed a policy stating: ***Based on information filed at the Massachusetts Registry of Deeds for the dimensions of enclosed and screened porches built by Guthall for Alden, Durham, Granville, Granville 3, and Hampton style condo units, the Board of Trustees recommends that we use the outside framing dimensions of 12' by 14' in the ASR specification for the conversion of an open deck into either an enclosed or screened porch. This specification should include a 7' by 5' (35 sq. ft.) grill deck attached to the egress from this room and the outside stairway. This conversion will also require the builder's \$12 per month fee (prorated to the current VSR yearly budget) be added to the unit owner's monthly condo fee. This fee will aid in minimizing future VSR maintenance costs due to the addition of such rooms.***

These decisions were guided by fairness to the entire community and keeping future maintenance costs low.

Book Club News

By Dianne Marston

Hopefully you are spending some quality time reading this summer, whether at the beach, overlooking a lake, or inside enjoying your air-conditioning! The VSR Book Club continues its regular schedule, meeting every 6 weeks at 1:00 p.m. You are most welcome to join any of our discussions.

In July we discussed Geraldine Brooks' *Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women*. Our August 20 meeting will feature *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. "Inspired by the true story of early-nineteenth-century abolitionist and suffragist Sarah Grimké, Kidd paints a moving portrait of two women inextricably linked by the horrors of slavery. Sarah, daughter of a wealthy South Carolina plantation owner, exhibits an independent spirit and strong belief in the equality of all. Thwarted from her dreams of becoming a lawyer, she struggles throughout life to find an outlet for her convictions. Handful, a slave in the Grimké household, displays a sharp intellect and brave, rebellious disposition. She maintains a compliant exterior, while planning for a brighter future. Told in first person, the chapters alternate between the two main characters' perspectives, as we follow their unlikely friendship (characterized by both respect and resentment) from childhood to middle age." [from *Booklist*] Many of us remember Kidd's earlier novel, *The Secret Life of Bees*, and look forward to discussing this book.

On Oct. 1, the book for discussion will be *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. "In this sweet, uplifting homage to bookstores, Zevin perfectly captures the joy of connecting people and books. A. J. Fikry, the cantankerous owner of Island Books, is despondent after losing his beloved wife and witnessing the ever-declining number of sales at his small, quirky bookstore. In short order, he loses all patience with the new Knightly Press sales rep, his prized rare edition of Tamerlane is stolen, and someone leaves a baby at his store. That baby immediately steals A. J.'s heart and unleashes a dramatic transformation. Suddenly, the picture-book section is overflowing with new

titles, and the bookstore becomes home to a burgeoning number of book clubs. With business on the uptick and love in his heart, A. J. finds himself becoming an essential new part of his longtime community. Filled with interesting characters, a deep knowledge of bookselling, wonderful critiques of classic titles, and very funny depictions of book clubs and author events, this will prove irresistible to book lovers everywhere." --

Cartoon at left from the *New Yorker*, courtesy of Linda Anzivino.



SAVE THE DATE – NOVEMBER 11

Legendary country rebel Johnny Cash comes to life with this full band extravaganza that gives vintage country and non-country fans alike the chance to experience a Johnny Cash Live Tribute Show with authentic costumes and stories from Cash's eventful life. Singer Brian Chicoine captures Cash's trademark baritone, while his band delivers the infectious, driving rhythm of the



Tennessee Three. Naturally, it wouldn't be a Johnny Cash show without Mrs. Cash, June Carter, brought to life by Vicky St. Pierre on such classic duets as *Jackson*.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE DATES TO REMEMBER

September 7 – Labor Day Cookout , noon – Boston Chicken will provide the food. \$10 pp.

October 17 – International Potluck

November 11 – Johnny Cash Tribute Concert

Other Activities

Aerobics Classes will resume after Labor Day on Monday at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:45 a.m.



Yoga will resume on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.



Knitting is at 1 p.m. on Monday.

Bridge is at 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

Game Night is Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Next **Happy Hour** August 23 Watch bulletin board for dates and announcement of other fun activities and events.

QUARRY BULLETIN STAFF

Editor: Carlene Craib

Contributors:

David Auld

Larry Anzivino

Frank Bashore

Paul Currier

Barbara Leary

Buzz McArdle

Dianne Marston

Tom Sangiolo

This month's photographs are by Tom Barry, Frank Bashore, Paul Currier, Buzz McArdle, Barbara Leary and Tom Sangiolo. 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 Carlene Craib.

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