

  
the Village at Stone Ridge

# Quarry Bulletin

January-February 2016

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## NEW YEAR'S TRADITIONS CONTINUE IN THE VILLAGE

Thanks to John and Lorraine Facella, many Village residents once again rang in the New Year with music, dancing, and tasty bites. For the second year in a row they organized a party at the clubhouse to raise a toast and enjoy a fun evening with neighbors.

New Year's Day found Villagers gathered at the clubhouse again for our annual Champagne Brunch. The hams, breakfast casseroles, salads, and other goodies were soon gone but folks lingered well into the afternoon to share holiday stories and catch up with news. Thank you to all those who provided food and to Clara Currier and Dorothy Moran for their leadership and organization of the event.



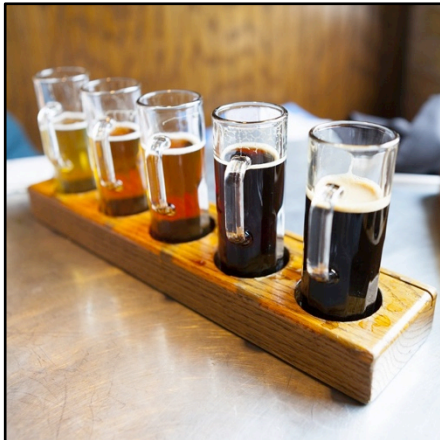
*Bob and Gail Eddy raise a toast.*



*Susan Hill and Nancy Sharpe enjoy the sumptuous feast at the New Year's Brunch.*



*Hank and Sherry Mollenhauer, back from NC for a visit, were delighted to catch up with friends.*



## Beer Tasting Night Coming Up

*By Dick Coleman*

**Saturday, Feb. 20th**

**7:00 to 9:00 pm**

Perhaps you are a Bud Lite kind of guy with an itch to step into a world of craft beer? Or, are you a connoisseur looking for an opportunity to match taste buds with a professional? Or, maybe you are not sure of the difference between an ale and a stout?

Let the winter winds blow and we will gather with friends at the clubhouse for a beer tasting evening. Dick Coleman and Frank Minosh will host the event, along with a professional from Westford Craft Beer Center. Light refreshments will be served. \$10 per person or less if more than twenty sign up. Please sign up and bring a friend.



## Looking for a Small Volunteer Job?

*By Joan Roy*

As you know, residents may rent the clubhouse for family events. Prior to renting, the clubhouse is checked to make sure that it is clean, that trash and recycle containers are empty, and that the renter has access to the supply closet (silverware, trash bags, etc.). After the rental the clubhouse is checked again for cleanliness and trash/recycles removal. The checker reports to Joan Roy and she contacts EMI to request return of the renter's security deposit.

Who does this checking? In the past, a few dedicated volunteers have done it, but we need more folks to join them! Please consider volunteering to be a "checker" for just one month. Joan Roy will orient you and provide you with a form, which makes the task simple. The time required is minimal.

If you have not volunteered in the Village before, this is an easy way to begin. Please respond to this appeal. Thanks!

# SAVE THE DATE

**APRIL 30, 2016 7-9 p.m.**

**Cocktails at 6:30**

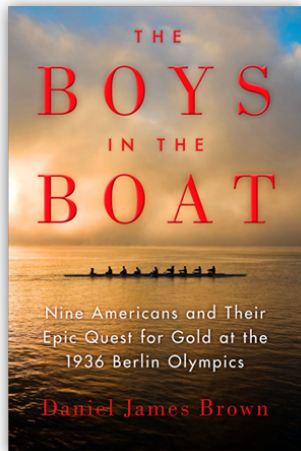


## **Kenny LaBelle Brings His Neil Diamond Tribute To VSR**

A Skip Giles Production

*THE DIAMOND COLLECTION* presented by Kenny LaBelle

A Western Massachusetts native, Kenny LaBelle is a singer and collaborative performer, most notably the front person for The Diamond Collection, a popular Neil Diamond tribute band. An accomplished guitar player and songwriter, his admiration for Diamond's music came early, not long after hearing the Diamond hit *Shilo* on the radio. Since 1999, The Diamond Collection has performed hundreds of Neil Diamond staples and some almost forgotten gems, always delivered with a consistent relevance and sincerity. Join us for this wonderful show at VSR.



## Book Club News

By Dianne Marston

The Book Club is thriving! With about 15 members present at each one, the last two meetings have been very interesting. In December, book clubbers were so pleased to welcome Judy Culver to share her knowledge and enthusiasm for a look into the life of author Laura Ingalls Wilder. In January the book *Emily Alone* evoked much discussion about the 80-year-old title character who faced many physical and emotional challenges, similar in some respects to our own.

On March 10 the group will discuss *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown, “the kind of nonfiction book that reads like a novel. Centered around the life of Joe Rantz – a farmboy from the Pacific Northwest who was literally abandoned as a child – and set during the Great Depression, this is a character-driven story with a natural crescendo that will have you racing to the finish. In 1936, the University of Washington’s eight-oar crew team raced its way to the Berlin Olympics for an opportunity to challenge the greatest in the world. How this team, largely composed of rowers from ‘foggy coastal villages, damp dairy farms, and smoky lumber towns all over the state,’ managed to work together and sacrifice toward their goal of defeating Hitler’s feared racers is half the story. The other half is equally fascinating, as Brown seamlessly weaves in the story of crew itself. This is fast-paced and emotional nonfiction about determination, bonds built by teamwork, and what it takes to achieve glory.” *Chris Schlupe*

The book chosen for the April 21 meeting is *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai. “Riveting . . . Co-written with Christina Lamb, a veteran British journalist who has an evident passion for Pakistan and can render its complicated history with pristine clarity, this is a book that should be read not only for its vivid drama but for its urgent message about the untapped power of girls. It is difficult to imagine a chronicle of a war more moving, apart from perhaps the diary of Anne Frank. With the essential difference that we lost that girl, and by some miracle, we still have this one.” *Marie Arana, Washington Post*

I encourage you to read either of these two riveting books, even if you are unable to join the discussion. Better yet, read, become inspired and join us! As always we meet in the clubhouse at 1:00 p.m. for refreshments followed by our discussion. We always learn something new and are enlightened by one another’s observations and feelings about the books.



## SEEN AROUND THE VILLAGE



*Dave Auld captured these shots in his yard – above, a squirrel stands guard over the feeder; at right, a hawk eyes his prey.*



*Joyce Minosh and Jack Bilodeau wish all Villagers a Happy New Year!*



*Joan and Joan (Roy and Murphy, that is) get to know each other at the Brunch.*



*Winter has arrived in the Village.*



*Yoga participants show their holiday style with colorful socks.*

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Volunteerism is our style here at VSR. From the Trustees on down to those who give a few hours on Work/Play Day, our neighborhood is so beautiful and active because of what volunteers do. The Village looked festive during the holiday season because Buzz McArdle, Jack Gilmartin, and Paul Currier helped put up the Christmas tree and wreath inside the clubhouse and Jack Gilmartin, Jack Bilodeau, and Dean Hubbard placed the outside lights and wreath. Ruth Coleman has helped in many ways as a member of the Social Committee over the years, not the least in helping to organize the holiday caroling event. She has recently left the Social Committee and will be greatly missed, but my guess is she will find other ways to make our lives brighter. Month after month, Dianne Marston publicizes and runs the Book Club, and Linda Anzivino keeps our library organized and the displays inviting. Skip and Pauline Giles put on spectacular entertainments, and Rick Culver keeps our fitness center in tip top shape. Joan Roy sends get well cards to Villagers who are under the weather. There are many more who could be mentioned, and if you have a favorite volunteer you would like to highlight – drop me a note for next time.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE DATES

- |                    |  |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| <b>February 20</b> | Beer Tasting Party   |  |
| <b>February 21</b> | Happy Hour   |   |
| <b>April</b>       | Spring Brunch<br>(date TBA)  |   |
| <b>April 30</b>    | Kenny Labelle – Neil<br>Diamond Tribute Concert  |   |
| <b>May 7</b>       | Work/Play Day  |   |
| <b>May 30</b>      | Memorial Day Cookout<br>(Would YOU like to be the coordinator for this event? The Social Committee will walk you through all the steps to a successful cookout. Let Clara Currier know if you will take up the challenge!) |   |

### QUARRY BULLETIN STAFF

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*This month's photographs are by David Auld, Carlene Craib, and Barbara West. 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*

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