



The Village at Stone Ridge

Quarry Bulletin

November - December 2016

It's Beginning to Feel a Lot Like Winter



Stringing the Christmas lights: left to right Jack Gilmartin, Tom Barry and Dom DeFronzo. A Santa's Elf below



Decorating the clubhouse Louise Tahmoush and Judy Premru, above. Below, Pauline Giles kissing Santa at the Holiday party.





Photos courtesy David Auld

CLUBHOUSE REFURBISHING COMMITTEE UPDATE

January 2017 will bring new furnishings to our clubhouse. Existing furnishings were showing wear, were too heavy and bulky to move easily, and were not comfortable for our residents to sit on and rise from. The Clubhouse Refurbishing Committee completed a plan to refurbish the Great Room and Library of the VSR Clubhouse. In November, VSR Trustees approved the purchase of new furnishings with funds accrued over the years in a Clubhouse Capital Reserve account.

With the assistance of an interior designer at no cost, the Committee developed a design to refurbish the Great Room. Referencing some furniture pieces identified by the earlier Refurbishing Committee, members received estimates from two vendors for these pieces as well as alternate pieces. Flooring choices for both rooms were reviewed and estimates sought for carpet installation with felt padding.

Both the Library and the Great Room will be carpeted. All of the Great Room furniture, with the exception of the piano, will be removed. Two sofas and three groupings of upholstered accent chairs will be placed in the Great Room. This room will be more light and welcoming to both residents and visitors, providing comfortable seating for both small and larger groups. The fireplace will remain the focal point of the room.

The uncomfortable leather furniture in the Library will be replaced with a sofa and two wingback chairs from the Great Room. Seating in the Library will be more comfortable than it is now.

Clubhouse and Fitness Center activities will be curtailed during the delivery and installation period, estimated to be at the end of January or early February. As much notice as is possible will be given to all groups who use these areas. We ask that you be tolerant of the 5-6 days of confusion at 2 Stone Ridge Road.

Both rooms must be emptied before the carpeting can be installed. We will ask for volunteers to help move the to-be-kept pieces to other temporary locations in the clubhouse. Unneeded furniture pieces will be first offered to VSR residents, with the remainder donated to Household Goods in Action for their disbursement to eligible families. *On January 18, from 1:00 to 3:00, residents may come to the clubhouse to select the pieces you would like to 'adopt'. All pieces selected must be removed by Jan. 28.*

Committee members are Judith Culver, Chair; Nancy McArdle, Steve Currier with Sandy Kelly, Trustee Liaison

A WORD OF THANKS

Anatole Paquette, THE Annie of Annie & The Orphans, enjoyed playing for Villagers at the Holiday party on December 10th, for a non-stop 2 ¾ hours! He wrote to Skip:

“Just a quick note to say thanks again to you and Pauline. What a nice bunch of folks in your community. I really enjoyed the entire evening. The hall is absolutely beautiful. The acoustics were good also. The audience was so receptive to me and The Orphans, that it completely energized us to keep everyone dancing! Someone asked me how come we never took a break? I responded with "I was afraid everyone would leave and go home if we stopped playing!" Last night's crowd is a testament to why I continue to perform and play Rock N 'Roll music. What an incredible night. If you come by anyone who took photos of last night's event, I would be interested to get copies for our website. Enjoy the Holidays. You really know how to organize a good party. It was certainly a success, due to your attention to detail. Hoping [to] do it again. See ya on The Mount next summer.”

Yes, Annie, well said. Skip and Pauline plan extraordinary events. Thank you, Skip and Pauline for a spectacular and memorable holiday party!



THANKS AND HIGH PRAISE

To Skip and Pauline Giles for a wonderful holiday party. By now you have received many THANK YOUs for putting together this special event. It was by all accounts...

“...such a BLAST !!!!!!!!! Everything was as perfect as it could be ...you both are the best !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

“...a super party last night! Annie and the Orphans were awesome and so was the food. We had a wonderful time ...thanks a million for all you do!”

"best ever" Christmas party. The food was delicious & plentiful. I was amazed how quickly they served everyone.”

“...Annie & the Orphans were great.”

“...a fabulous party! The festive look, food and music, were the very best to make Merry...”

“...the BIGGEST Village event ever! “

“...a great time ...You really out did yourself on this one. The dinner was delicious and the entertainment was fantastic. Thank you so much for all your hard work. We should do this once a month! (just kidding). You really know how to put on a show! WOW !!! What a great night...”

“... amazing. The place looked beautiful, the food was delicious, you didn't even know they were there. And, of course, Annie and the Orphans. What fun it was to have them again. They really know how to sing our music. The filled dance floor was an example - lots of sore bodies today I am sure. And, of course, your song. I also liked the flags at the end. Nice touch. You are both great host and hostess. Thanks for a great way to start the holiday season. It will be hard to top last night.”

“...was GREAT. The food was fabulous, the decorations beautiful, Annie & the Orphans are always awesome and adding Santa really put it over the top! There were absolutely no negatives. It was the best yet.”

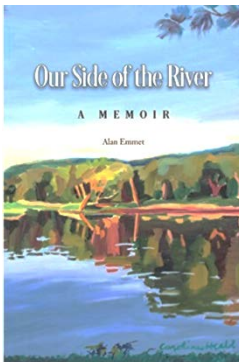
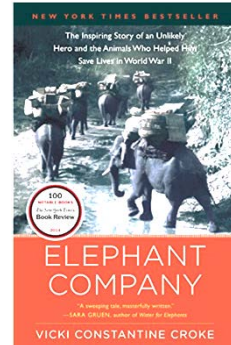
“...was wonderful! The food was **outstanding**, the tables were **lovely** and it was such a great way to wish everyone a wonderful Holiday. We are looking forward to the next Giles ...”

“...was perfect, can't get much better than that...”

Book Club News

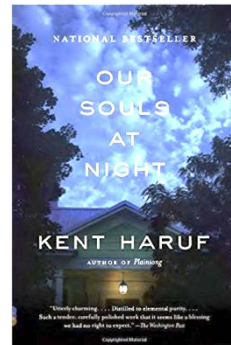
by Dianne Marston

The VSR Book Club was "bursting at the seams" at our Nov. 17 meeting! 23 members gathered to discuss the non-fiction book *Elephant Company: The Inspiring Story of an Unlikely Hero and the Animals Who Helped Him Save Lives in World War II* by Vicki Croke. Members found the book to be informative and fascinating.



Our next meeting on January 5th will feature a local author, Alan Emmet, who wrote *Our Side of the River: a Memoir*. This book relates "her experiences of the childhood summers on the St. Croix River in Minnesota. Alan Emmet is looked after by a flinty trio of strong-minded women, almost as if she had three mothers. Her imagination is fired by their tales of pioneering ancestors, including the great-grandmother who hid her children in the asparagus patch when Indians invaded their lonely prairie dwelling." [from the back cover]. We are very excited to welcome Alan Emmet to our meeting!

On February 16 the group will meet to discuss *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf. "Lateness—and second chances—have always been a theme for Haruf. But here, in a book about love and the aftermath of grief, in his final hours, he has produced his most intense expression of that yet. . . Packed into less than 200 pages are all the issues late life provokes." —John Freeman, *The Boston Globe*



For newcomers to the Village, please know that all are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings. We begin with refreshments at 1:00, followed by the discussion at 1:30.

Deck Tips

Snow will soon be here. If you shovel your deck, do not use a metal blade shovel, it will damage the surface. Use a plastic bladed snow shovel.

Use a calcium chloride snow melt for composite decks, not rock salt.

The deck may be slippery when wet. Please use the proper foot wear.

For information, please check out the following Duralife web site.

www.duralifedecking.com/resources/care/

Planning for the Unexpected

by Sandy Kelly

In November, a number of Villagers greeted Mike Votano, a hospital emergency room nurse who visited VSR with information about the new Westford Emergency Services Registry. We are fortunate here to also have a Helping Hands Committee, which will provide a ride to an appointment, a dinner or to pick up supplies and even just some company when needed. However, while we all live independently and feel confident a neighbor would come to help us in a time of difficulty, resident Wendy Wolfberg summed it up nicely when she said, *“We all need to be a bit more humble about what our future needs may be.”*



Most of us think we know what we would do in an emergency but we never really make a fully thought out plan. If you live alone, or your relatives are at a distance, or you just like the peace of knowing someone could check in on you during a serious storm or natural disaster, please consider filling in the Registry form. You can access a copy from the link below or call the Health Department and ask for assistance to get one. Our Health Director Sandy Collins will be retiring in January but Mike has also volunteered to make an appointment and come work with you to gather the necessary information. The registry could help in an evacuation with medical equipment, to provide emergency shelter information or even what to do if you have a pet in an emergency.

Westford Health Department Phone: 978-399-2908.

<http://westfordma.gov/223/Emergency-Preparedness>

Here you will also find a list of safety resources and a complete emergency preparedness document. <http://westfordma.gov/215/Health-Department>



FILE OF LIFE

KEEP INFORMATION UP TO DATE !!
Review At Least Every Six Months !

MEDICAL DATA REVIEWED AS OF MO. YR. Sex M F

Name: _____
Address: _____
Doctor: _____ Phone #: _____
Preferred Hospital: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____
Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____

Also available are these magnetic pouches, which can be kept on your refrigerator! As an emergency room nurse Mike said these are very helpful if you need to be brought into the hospital via ambulance. The fire department workers who automatically accompany an ambulance will look for this File of Life on your refrigerator. They give it to the EMTs who hand it to the emergency room nurse at the hospital. This provides the ER with immediate information about your medications, vital current info about pre-existing conditions without having to access computer records. It can save important time in determining how to properly respond to your health issue. You just fill it in, make changes when needed to keep it current and place it on your refrigerator.

TEAM for the VOLUNTEERS LUNCHEON



Left to right: Nick Johnson, Don Chandler, Bill Townsend



At our October 6th Village Meeting Jodi Ross, Westford Town Manager spoke to a record Village Meeting crowd on the upcoming town meeting, Drew Farms, the JV Fletcher Library addition, the asphalt plant permit approval, and a host of other topics affecting the town of Westford. Jodi was given a tour of the Village at Stone Ridge and was very impressed with the beautiful appearance of the village. *-Courtesy Tom Barry*

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

by Gail Sergenian

According to most participants, VSR's first progressive dinner was a roaring success. It was fun to "mix up" our groups over good food and drink, gather with neighbors with whom we might not have had much previous contact, and enjoy all of this while sharing the efforts of preparation. The evening began with cocktails at the homes of either the Aulds or Luise Sandholm. Participants then went to one of four homes to enjoy a delicious dinner of coq au vin, green salad and hearty bread. Thanks to the Colemans, the Craibs, the Minoshes and the Townsends for hosting dinner. Finally, we all convened at the clubhouse for dessert and coffee. Sandy Kelly, Susan Hill and Gail Sergenian facilitated the evening, and everyone contributed. Kudos to all who participated for your efforts and your willingness to try something new! Let's "progress" to the next one!

Here are Susan Hill, June Halio & Harry (left picture). Dick Coleman, Larry Tobiason and Bill Townsend (right picture)



David Auld regales guests with champagne and autumn photos from Vermont. (l to r) Nancy Fletcher, Susan Hill and Joyce Minosh, while Laretta Auld chats with Frank Minosh. The group in front of fireplace (l to r) Steve and Clara Currier, June Halio, Gail Sergenian, Larry and Barbara Tobiason

Upcoming Events

Holiday Caroling on December 13. Anyone who wants to join in is welcome to come caroling around the village. Get in touch with Susan Hill or Ruthann Dillon to participate. And after that there will be Holiday sing-a-long at the clubhouse with refreshments. Everyone is also invited to that, even if they didn't participate in the caroling.

New Year's Day Brunch on January First at 11:30 AM. It's our 5th annual event. There will be champagne, ham, brunch casseroles, salads, fruit, and desert.

Toys for Tots collection container is out in the lobby of the clubhouse through December 15th. Please donate an unwrapped toy and put a sparkle in a child's eye this Christmas.

Clubhouse Furniture Adoption: On Wednesday, January 18 from 1:00- 3:00 residents may come to the clubhouse to select the pieces you may wish to 'adopt'. All pieces selected must be removed by January 28.



New Resident Reception a Success

by Carlene Craib

The Village's first New Resident Reception was held on November 13 and more than sixty "old-timers" and new residents attended. Carlene Craib introduced the newcomers and the heads of Village committees and other activities so that faces could be matched with names. While munching delicious pastries and sipping coffee and tea, participants mingled, greeting old friends and making new ones. Thanks to Sandy Kelly, Barbara Leary, and Joan Roy for their help in making this event so welcoming and fun for all who attended.

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This month's photographs are by

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The Quarry Bulletin is a bi-monthly newsletter to keep you informed about events and information for The Village at Stone Ridge.

Please send your pictures and articles.

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