

Lucketts

Spring 2011

A Joint Publication of the Lucketts Ruritan Club
& Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board

NEWS & NOTES



Lessons from the Potomac

On Thursday, February 10th, the Lucketts Elementary Potomac River Rangers club had its annual River Fair. Elementary school students, parents and friends crawled through the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District's soil tunnel. Participants learned about the historical, ecological, geological, and recreational aspects of the Potomac River district as they focused on the importance of conserving this natural resource. This year's theme, the Lucketts area watershed is essentially the Clark's Run Watershed. Fifteen interactive stations were staffed by a variety of student led groups, naturalists, scientists, and experts on a wide variety of topics.

The event featured contributions from Ecology Club members from Smarts Mill and Harper Park Middle Schools, a storyteller, several live animals and various crafts. Participants learned that invasive plants grow quickly, change the

chemistry of the soil and that they provide little food or shelter for birds, bees and other native animals. For more information on plants native to the Lucketts area go to <http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/chesapeake/toc.htm>.

Living history re-enactors were also on hand to discuss the role the Potomac River played during the Civil War era. Both union and confederate soldiers guided participants through examinations of artifacts such as shark's teeth and arrowheads.

The PTA would like to thank all who took time out of their busy schedules to educate our children and their families on this important topic.  —Lauren Lang, Leader of the Potomac River Rangers



All photos on this page are by David L. Crooks

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LUCKETTS NEWS & NOTES

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO
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GIVE US YOUR COMMENTS?**

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Rural Enterprise David L. Crooks

Not every rural enterprise has to be an agriculturally based business. Some are great complements to everyday life here in our little community off of the Potomac River. One of those fine businesses is the Nature based photography of David L.

Crooks. David found his passion for photography while taking a photography class in high school back in the film days. He shot for the school newspaper and yearbook. Later, he discovered a love of nature and with his camera lens



Photo by David L. Crooks

in tow he created a business that many customers are pleased to patronize. David has migrated to digital with online sales of his many award winning photos. His work has been featured in exhibits at The George Washington University and his photographs have been published in newspapers as far away as the UK.

Recently, the famous Cooper's Hawk trapped in the Thomas Jefferson building of the Library of Congress was transported to Sky Meadows State Park. David photographed the bird seconds before it was released back into the wild.

A highlight of David's career came during a photo shoot at the wetlands in McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area. David photographed a Great Blue Heron as it caught a Northern Water Snake with its beak. It was not until later, as David examined the photo in his studio that he discovered the snake had a fish in its mouth. The photo, rightly so, is titled "Food Chain"! This image has won him numerous awards. With the photo, as with David and with Lucketts,

it is truly amazing what you can see if you look a little closer. To view more of his award winning shots, visit David at www.flickr.com/dcrooks —Doug Fabboli, owner/vintner of Fabboli Cellars



Photo by David L. Crooks

Mrs. Lockett's Garden

Photo courtesy of the Thomas Balch Library



If you lived in Lucketts in the nineteen forties and fifties, the person to know was Mrs. Roger W. Lockett. That's because Mrs. Lockett presided over the U.S. Post Office as well as her general store, and, in the nature of things, sat like the queen bee in the center of information central. Everybody came in to gossip, and she heard it all. Her little post office served some 150 rural mail boxes and 170 families. She knew when you got that letter from Aunt Matilda, and when you got around to answering it, and she might ask you how Aunt Matilda was doing. She knew when the packages from Sears, Roebuck came, and who was getting the spring seed catalogues.

And in fact, when you did get the seed catalogues, it would be a good idea to drop by the store and talk to her about the best seeds to buy. Everyone knew that she was the finest gardener in Loudoun County. In fact, she had two gardens—a big vegetable patch just next to her side porch, and her beloved flower garden across the road. If she wasn't at her desk in the post office when you went in, the next place to look for her was in her favorite spot, where she could be seen wearing the long dresses and aprons of another era and a broad-brimmed sun bonnet. You can still see the garden today—that fenced in triangle just next to the kid's playground by the Old School.

There's not much left but the memories, except for a few shrubs that still come into flower. It's all waiting for someone to revitalize it.

—James P. Lucier, Lucketts resident and historian. Excerpt from an article written for the Thomas Balch Library Chronicle, Winter 2007.

The gardens today

In 2008, Eagle Scout candidate, Cody Collins, worked to clean up the garden by defining some of the spaces with landscape timbers and mulch. More recently, two members from the Loudoun County Master Gardeners presented a detailed plan to the Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board and to the Lucketts Ruritan Club to restore the gardens to reflect the era of Mrs. Lockett's loving care.

The only thing missing now is the manpower to bring the plan to fruition. A number of creative ways to contribute are available, such as donations of plants material, landscaping materials, individual shrubs and the always useable people power. We welcome your ideas, donations and volunteerism toward the completion of this project. **Contact Hilary Cooley at the Lucketts Community Center 701-771-5281 or hilary.cooley@loudoun.gov.**





Celeste Kenny and Joe Bennett, celebrated for 30 years perfect attendance



Celeste Kenny and Matt Quitter, "Ruritan of the Year"



Linda Hobbie, "Mayor of Lucketts"



New officers of the Lucketts Ruritan

Photos above by David L. Crooks

Lucketts Ruritan Club Roundup

The Lucketts Ruritan Club closed 2010 with their Annual Awards Banquet. Following a festive meet and greet reception, attendees gathered for a delicious buffet dinner. President Celeste Kenny called the meeting to order by welcoming special guests Edna Frye, Zone Governor Reg Jones and his wife Janie, and thanking, Audrey Moreland, Linda Hobbie, June Goss; and Nancy Waters, the ladies of Furnace Mountain Presbyterian Church, for faithfully preparing hearty meals at the monthly meetings. Acknowledgements went to Jim Hobbie, Lucketts Fire Department liaison; Tom Howder, for organizing the guest speaker series; Buddy and Audrey Moreland, for ensuring trash service runs smoothly; and Steve Hilebrand and Dan Wiseman for managing the parking events. The 'year in review' included welcoming new members Darryll Walley and Sean Kenna, and highlighting donations of over \$14,000. to 21 different charities and organizations.

Recognition went to Joe Bennett for his 30 years of perfect attendance! An engraved pocket watch and a pin were presented in appreciation of the integral role Joe has played in the club's success. Others recognized for perfect attendance include: Buddy Moreland for 29 years, Dick Snooks for 20, Matt Quitter for 9, Gretchen Burgin and Celeste Kenny both for 5, and Steve Scheibelhofer for 2.

The Lloyd E. Frye Memorial Award or "**Ruritan of the Year**" was presented to Matt Quitter. Matt joined the club 10 years ago when he started the Lucketts the Boy Scout troop. Matt also sits on the Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board where he serves as Treasurer. Matt is a wonderful Ruritan, neighbor and friend.

The **Lucketts Ruritan's Citizen of the Year** award went to Linda Hobbie. Often referred to as "The Mayor of Lucketts", Linda was born in Leesburg and raised in Lucketts. She attended the Old Lucketts School and High School at 'County'. Linda and her husband were married 40 years ago and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. She has been a mainstay with Loudoun's Fire and Rescue Community since 1982, where she serves as Secretary. Linda is also an elder and a member of the Ladies Circle at Furnace Mountain Presbyterian Church.

New officers: Peter Baker, President; Dan Wiseman, Vice President; Gretchen Bergen, Secretary; and Steve Schieblehofer, Treasurer, were inducted by Zone Governor, Reg Jones. President Baker's goals for this year are: to increase membership; become more effective as a club; and most importantly, to have fun.

What's Ruritan?

First chartered in 1928, Ruritan (from the Latin "ruri" or open country and "tan" for small town), has evolved as "America's Leading Community Service Organization." The organization's focus on improving local communities through fellowship, goodwill, and community service.

FELLOWSHIP: The Lucketts Ruritan Club has monthly dinner meetings to examine important issues affecting our community and socialize with our members

GOODWILL: The Lucketts Ruritan Club has established an enviable record of helping those in need. Our membership includes people from all walks of life.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Organized, in part, to save the Old Lucketts School from neglect, our Club's initiatives range from helping form our ag districts, to safety on US Route 15. And we provide support to our local churches, civic organizations. To do this, we conduct fund raisers. The most notable one is the annual Lucketts Fair, and the most visible one is our Saturday morning refuse and recycling collection service.

PLEASE JOIN US. Meetings, are currently held at SkillsUSA on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The evening includes dinner, a guest speaker and a business discussion. For more information please email us at: luckettsruritan@gmail.com.

Ruritan Gives Back

The Lucketts Ruritan Club is accepting applications for up to \$9,000. in academic scholarships. Between 3 to 5 scholarships may be awarded and competition is open to any Lucketts graduating senior regardless of which high school they attend. Applicants must pursue an academic degree at an institution of higher learning or enroll in a vocational or technical training school. Additionally, applicants must have demonstrated exemplary behavior and a willingness to serve the community without regard to personal gain or recognition.

Students pursuing an engineering degree may also apply for the Thomas Keefer Memorial Scholarship Award. This lucky student will receive a scholarship valued at over \$3,300!

To ensure objectivity, applications are reviewed by our fellow Ruritans at the Point of Rocks Club. Students are encouraged to see their guidance counselor for more information or may contact **Mr. Ryan Henning** at 703-729-4245 or e-mail him at rghenning@hotmail.com. This year's deadline is April 8th. Apply now, and make sure your application is complete (incomplete applications will not be considered)  *—Peter Gustafson, member, Lucketts Ruritan*

On this page: *The Lucketts Ruritan conduct the Saturday morning recycling and trash collection, rain or shine! They serve ribs for the Lucketts Fair; manage parking for the Lucketts and Waterford Fairs, Rubicon Horse Trials and the Morven Park Races.*



Photos above and right by David L. Crooks



Why Recycle?

Ever wonder if recycling is really worth the effort? Consider this: by choosing to recycle, Loudoun County residents and businesses recycled over 80,000 tons of bottles, cans, paper, and other materials last year in 2010! Collectively, we saved nearly 1 MILLION trees and we prevented 62,000 TONS of coal from being burned. Recycling is worth it. Want more information? Visit www.loudoun.gov/oswm and learn about hazardous waste disposal and the Loudoun County Landfill. You can also phone the Department of Construction and Waste Management at 703-777-0187.



Photos above by Steve Hillebrand

Church Calendar

Furnace Mountain Presbyterian Church

Worship Service on Sundays at 9:30am

Faith Chapel Presbyterian Church

Saturday, April 9 "Bikes for the World" drop off from 9-noon. See article on page 7.

Worship Service on Sundays at 11am.

Christ Episcopal Church

Tuesday, March 8 Pancake Supper from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Free will offering.

Bible Study every Wednesday night beginning March 2 from 7:30-8:30pm in the church house (white house next to church).

Sunday morning service start at 9:30am. All are welcome.

Eagle Scouts Upgrade Local Pond



Scouts putting the last of the plants in

Last spring, Eagle Scout Kyle Raffensperger, set out on an adventure to build an outdoor pond. This was not just any pond. His project was to remodel the pond at the Lucketts Elementary School.

First, Kyle enlisted the assistance of fellow troop members who helped him remove plants, drain remaining water, remove and clean the tarp liner and clean out the pond. During that process, they also found a few toads! They ended day 1 by removing rocks and the water filter.

On day 2, the Eagle Scouts placed the clean tarp lining in the pond, laid rocks around the tarp's outer edges and covered that with a new tarp. Kyle then filled the pond with water. After that task was completed, Kyle and his team replaced the rocks and placed weed block around the plants. Because of the electricity factor, the team was assisted by adults who installed the water filter.

The third and final day ended with Kyle and his fellow Eagle Scouts placing new plants around the pond. With that, Eagle Scout Troop 1910 finished its project!

—Randy Bowser, Boy Scout Troop #1910



Kyle in front of the finished product

Boy Scouts Court of Honor

Lucketts Boy Scout Troop 1910 celebrated the achievement of two of their scouts to the rank of Eagle Scout on Thursday, February 10, 2011. Matthew Callaham and John Owen became Eagles at the troops winter Court of Honor where the scouts gathered with their families to receive earned merit badges and rank advancements. John and Matthew had earned 21 specific merit badges required for Eagle Scout as well as an abundance of interesting and fun merit badges along the Trail to Eagle. They planned, organized and supervised a community oriented project required for leadership. Matthew created a new nature trail located at Freedom Center in Lucketts and John renovated a kiosk in front of the community center. Troop 1910 was chartered in 1998 by the Lucketts Ruritan Club and has had 23 young men achieve Eagle Scout since then. —Matt Quitter, Troop Committee Chairman, Troop #1910



Photos at bottom by Matt Quitter

Mark your calendar for the big basement cleanout!

Boy Scout Troop #1910 will host the Annual Lucketts Spring Yard Sale at the Lucketts Community Center on April 30 from 9am-1pm. The Scouts will be collecting your serviceable donations during Saturday trash collection April 2, 9, 16 and 23.



Lucketts Photo Album



CHRISTMAS IN LUCKETTS

Christmas came to Lucketts spreading good cheer and a warm sense of community. Santa was greeted by families as he navigated the back roads of Lucketts in mid December. Open to all, Christ Episcopal Church held Christmas Eve candlelight services.



Photos by Steve Hillebrand

Donations That Lift

Faith Chapel Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a bicycle donation campaign. This project benefits “Bikes for the World” and “similar charities in Africa and Central America. On Saturday, April 9th, area residents are encouraged to drop off bicycles, bicycle parts & accessories, portable sewing machines or cash at the church located at 14188 Chapel Lane, Lucketts between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. Receipts for tax purposes will be provided to all donors. For more information Contact: Barbara at pbkn@aol.com or go to www.bikesfortheworld.org



MISSION

Assist poor people overseas—empowering them to become more productive through providing affordable bicycles for personal transport to work, school, and health services. Secondly, provide satisfying community service opportunities to Americans—collecting bikes and spare parts—towards realizing this primary goal of helping others overseas.

Temporary digs for Community Center staff and programs



It has been a long time coming! The temporary trailers, cottages as they are called, that house the staff, daycare and after school care are now up and running. The cottages are pleasant, light and accessible. It is deeply appreciated all the work that went into making the move. We turn now to the next chapter in the continuing story of "Renovations to the Old School".



Photos by Steve Hillebrand

- Mar 5-
Apr 30** **Lucketts Bluegrass**
7pm-10:30pm at Lucketts
Elementary School;
admission \$15. at the door.
- Mar 8** **Lucketts Ruritan meeting**
7:30 at SkillsUSA
- Apr 9** **Bikes for the World** bicycle
drop off. 9am-12noon at
Faith Chapel Church. See
article on page 7.
- Apr 9** **The Egg Hunt** Community
Center grounds. 10am
featuring photo ops with the
Bunny and bunny nibbles!
(rain date April 10)
- Apr 12** **Lucketts Ruritan meeting**
7:30 at SkillsUSA
- Apr 30** **The Annual Lucketts Spring
Yard Sale** on the Community
Center grounds; 9am-1pm;
free admission; vendor/
selling space \$10.
- May 7** **Have Tea With Mom and
My Barbie** on Mother's day
at the Lucketts Community
Center 11am-1pm; admission
for two is \$15.
- May 10** **Lucketts Ruritan meeting**
7:30 at SkillsUSA

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