



# Lucketts Ruritan

**Board of Directors:** Jim McKenzie, *President*; Peter Gustafson, *Vice President*; Elizabeth Penaranda, *Secretary*; Craig Bond, *Treasurer*; Rich Cleland, Al Menendez, Pat Logue, Don Stanley, *Directors*

## General Membership Meeting Minutes-December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Our December Meeting was our Annual Holiday Party, held at Skills, USA. Cocktail hour was from 6:00 to 7:00 PM, with piano musical entertainment by Kara Fulop; dinner was served at 7:00 PM with short business meeting, installation of 2018 officers, and awards presentations following.

The event was a great success! Everyone enjoyed a lovely evening. Our Citizen of the Year was Ray Sullivan. Our officers for 2018 are:

President: Jim McKenzie

Vice President: Peter Gustafson

Secretary: Liz Penaranda

Treasurer: Craig Bond

Directors: Rich Cleland, Al Menendez, Pat Logue, and Don Stanley

Note: The trash schedule can always be found on our website at: <http://luckettsruritan.org/for-members>, then click on the "[Compacktor/Recycling Assignments](#)" link.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*

## December 2017 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

*Note: December Board Meeting was held on January 2nd, 2018, due to December holidays.*

Attending: Bond, Gustafson, Hart, Hillebrand, Logue, McKenzie, Menendez, Penaranda, Quitter, Sorrell, Stanley

CTO 7:32 PM.

**Minutes:** November Minutes were sent via email, to be approved at the next General Meeting on January 9th.

**Treasurer's Report:** C. Bond provided the monthly financial profit and loss reports. Total income was \$6,305.04 (reflecting trash receipts, member dues, and banquet income); expenses were \$744.05 (reflecting meeting meal costs and

### Next Meeting

January 9th, 2018 7:30 P.M.  
Lucketts Community Center

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Program:** Our January program will be a presentation by club member Stan Sorrell on the recent work of our newly formed Strategy Committee. This group is evaluating various issues facing our club moving forward, such as membership, donations, and fund raising activities.

miscellaneous expenses) for a net ordinary income of \$5, 560.99 Checking account has \$8,549.43; our T. Rowe Price account has \$155,569.76, for an assets total of \$165,954.25. Dues owed are \$947.00. Board accepted the Treasurer's report. Bond noted that our investment account has gained 20% for the year.

The Board discussed waiving the costs of our holiday banquet going forward and treating this event as a member perk; however, the consensus was that members expect and are willing to pay for this catered event. It was noted that such payment leaves more in our total budget for donations to community causes and special needs.

### New Business:

*Rt. 15 Stakeholders Committee:* P. Gustafson reported that Rt. 15 Stakeholders meetings have become somewhat contentious. Local HOAs want a four-lane highway, while other locals homeowners and landowners do not. There is a parallel movement to amend the Comprehensive Plan to include four lanes of Rt. 15 to Montresor Rd. Gustafson believes there is a need to educate neighboring homeowners about widening the road, taking into account our legacy of attracting tourists to a rural western Loudoun and not destroying the unique features of the area before they can form a valid opinion of the various options under discussion. He noted that the Planning Commission and Capital Projects Group are not communicating adequately to the public on the issues being considered. The next stakeholders meeting will be held in February (January meeting has been postponed). Accordingly, Gustafson urged us, as a club, to update our community email listing and submit informational articles and letters to local newspapers, *Lucketts News & Notes*, and local

websites to educate our community on the issues and raise the level of understanding about the various options. He noted that the Stakeholders Committee is loaded with the HOAs who are sticking together to push their agenda. He also noted that M. Polkey of the N. VA Transportation Alliance, has quantified the numbers represented by the HOAs, and that this is a small number.

*Rudy Juniors:* P. Logue reported that the planned historical lecture on local Indians will be held on February 11th or 25th at LES. A meeting with the historian will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13th, to plan this event. C. Bond noted that we need to pay this speaker and the school custodian; the Rudy Juniors will hold a bake sale to raise funds. We will also submit an article to *Lucketts News & Notes* to advertise this program and another article on the recent bonfire held to thank the Rudy Juniors for their efforts on the coat drive. We will also send photos taken at the bonfire to Ruritan National for possible inclusion in their magazine.

*Strategy Committee:* S. Sorrell reported on the newly formed Strategy Committee, charged by Pres. McKenzie to look at our club short- and long-term goals going forward in the areas of Community Needs, Membership, Fellowship, Fundraising, and Business Associates. He encouraged any club members interested in working with this group to let him know.

Sorrell noted that, since Ruritan National is also losing members, another objective going forward is to bring National in line with new initiatives. National is part of the Service Leaders group of organizations. Their statistics show that over 200 Ruritan clubs have fewer than 16 members, which is not in accordance with the charter requiring 24 members. Total membership in national Ruritan clubs is 24,765, some of whom are associate members, business organizations, and At large members (4,190). the average mean membership is 21 people. Nationally, clubs consist of 55% men and 45% women, but membership has been decreasing for the last 20 years. Accordingly, membership should be our major goal in 2018. We will try to engage focus groups such as the school PTA, Rudy Juniors, parents, Ladies of Lucketts, and others.

The Strategy Committee's initial idea is to restructure our club as a "21<sup>st</sup> Century Club," meaning an organization that functions more as a

virtual club or sign up group to address specific community needs. For example, this structure could reflect the way we currently sign up for parking or mowing at LAWS. Such a group would communicate primarily via email and social media.

*Donation:* P. Hart asked the Board for a donation to the Lucketts Bluegrass Foundation, also a 5013c organization. The Board approved a donation of \$500, noting that the bluegrass concerts have long been an integral part of our Lucketts Community.

*Casino Night:* S. Hillebrand presented a report on the plans for a Casino Fun Night. Our guest at our last General Meeting--Steve Ewell--has bought a farm, called "48 Fields," that he has developed into a wedding venue. Our club's team met with Ewell to discuss jointly teaming or partnering with him to sponsor a Casino Night and splitting the profits. After the meeting, our team agreed that the proposed arrangement was not appropriate for our club; however, we would welcome the opportunity to serve their event as we do other events, for a donation to the club. Our team continues to research a possible club-sponsored Casino Night, both as a way to raise funds and to further engage the community.

### **Unfinished Business:**

*Monthly Speakers:* The previously-scheduled speaker for January, club member Al Menendez, to speak on Alaska, has been moved to February. Our January speaker will be S. Sorrell, who will explain the activities and goals of the Strategy Committee. In March, Eric Hillebrand will talk on Civil War artifacts found in our local area.

### **Announcements:**

1. The District meeting will be held on Jan. 8th.
2. P. Gustafson reported that the owners of the 87 acres for sale facing New Valley Church and Stumptown Rds. received bids from three interested parties. The bid from the Loudoun Wildlife conservancy was accepted, and now this group has 120 days to raise the needed funds of \$980K. The group will conduct an environmental assessment to determine the locations of the vernal pools and various rare species environments.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*