



# Lucketts Ruritan

**Board of Directors:** Peter Gustafson, President; Al Menendez, Vice President; Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary; Don Stanley, Treasurer; Jim McKenzie, Pat Logue, Mike Dunn, Gary Mears, Directors

## General Membership Meeting Minutes—August 13th, 2019

**Attending:** Benjamin A and J, Dunn, Falk, Gustafson, Hart, Heykoop, Johnson, Logue, McKenzie, Mears, Menendez, Penaranda, Quitter, Sackman D, Stanley

**Guests:** Eric and Michelle Rubright, Hilary Cooley, Jody Ruth

CTO: 7:30 pm

Pres. Gustafson welcomed our speaker, Hilary Cooley, Director of the LCC, and guests Eric and Michelle Rubright from Little Spring, and Jody Ruth, CEO of Redstones Opportunity Partners, a corporate turnaround firm).

Pres. Gustafson welcomed our guests and thanked the ladies of Furnace Mt. Church for preparing the dinner. G. Mears gave the blessing before the meal.

**Minutes:** July minutes accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:** D. Stanley presented the interim financial report for August. We have \$19,838.12 in our checking account and \$216,708.12 in our T. Rowe Price account, for an assets total of \$236,192.24. Dues owed: \$971 at the start of the third quarter. Treasurer's Report was accepted.

### Program:

Hilary Cooley, LCC Director, spoke about the upcoming Lucketts Bluegrass Festival, to be held on September 14th on the Community Center grounds. This is a fundraising event for the LCC, presented by the Lucketts Bluegrass Foundation and the Lucketts Community Center Advisory Board. The festival will run from 10 am to 6 pm, rain or shine. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the gate. Four bands are scheduled to play throughout the day on a stage set up against the back of the Community Center building. The stage and new sound system were paid for by Loudoun County Parks and Recreation. Hilary stated that festival organizers expect 1,000 to 1,500 attendees. Our Ruritan Club will park cars for the festival free of charge! There will be a police presence for parking and crowd control, and golf carts to carry

## Next Meeting

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 7:30 P.M.  
**Furnace Mountain Church**

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Program:** The speaker for our September meeting will be Dabney Kerr, of Wayfinder Fundraising, who will educate us on various ways in which our club can raise funds.

handicapped or disabled patrons to and from the parking areas to the festival grounds.

Festival sponsors include Arbor Artist, Valley Energy, Fabboli Cellars, Bridle Paths, Loudoun Now, PRCS, Gladhill Brothers, Farm Credit, and Melodee Music. Hilary stated that this family-friendly event will include Fun with Firemen, ice cream, and a splash day to get people in.

Hilary also announced several changes that will be made at the Community Center in the next few months. The County plans to replace all the equipment at the playground, build a new cast iron fence, and install a new surface to replace the current mulch under and around the play equipment. These improvements, however come with a price--the loss of several large trees on the grounds. County arborists have evaluated the health of the large ginkgo, Colorado spruce, and white oak trees, which are slowly dying, and have recommended their removal. Community Center directors will discuss plans for replacing these trees in the coming weeks.

In response to a question, Hillary (LCC Director for 25 years) summarized the various programs at the LCC. The Center provides child care for 3-5 year olds, starting at 7:00 am, and after school care for older children until 6:00 pm. A summer camp runs all summer. Also offered are various classes, such as cooking, ballet, and music for children, and Bluegrass and yoga for adults. To answer another question about the building itself, Hilary said that in 1981, the County bought the LCC for \$1 to save it, but it fell into disrepair. A full renovation was done six years ago, which modernized the building but still reflected its historic features. Now the Center also serves as a polling place and a venue for special events and weddings.

**Special Committee Reports:**

***Social Development/Youth Development:*** T. Small updated the club on the progress of our new Grants program. We are ready to launch the program and to post our application and instructions for potential grantees on our website. S. Hillebrand is managing the launch process. Tom summarized the categories of our club donations, which are direct donations to specific organizations, scholarships to college bound high school graduates, and our new grants program for specific initiatives to benefit youth in the Lucketts community. We have a separate fund for emergencies. He also noted that the County gives \$1.7M a year in grants, partly through the Community Foundation of Loudoun and Fauquier Counties, which serves as an umbrella organization to administer funds given by various organizations. The Rust family also established the Rust Program, with young people serving as evaluators, on which we have modeled our program in terms of scope. Our grants will vary in amount, depending on the specific program requirements. We began with \$5K in our budget for grants for this year, and now have about \$3100 left, as we expended some funds for the deer fence project to benefit the Agricultural School run by D. Fabbiosi. We will accept grant applications through January 2020 and make awards by the end of March, as we want to stay in sync with other grant programs. We also plan to advertise our program at our upcoming Sip 'n' Social event in September.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

***Fellowship:*** Our Awards Banquet will be held on December 7th. Our picnic in July was a great success, and now other local clubs are interested in continuing to hold this event jointly. P. Gustafson noted that the Aldie Club has also expressed interest in participating next year. Since our club has hosted for the past two years, we will ask other clubs to take the lead next year.

***Programs and Entertainment:*** Our speaker for September will be Dabney Kerr, of Wayfinder Fundraising, who will educate us on various ways in which our club can raise funds. Note: the September meeting will be at Furnace Mountain Presbyterian Church, due to a conflict with Back-To-School Night at the LCC, where child care will be offered during the school meeting.

***Membership:*** P. Logue reported that plans are well underway for the Sip 'n' Social event on Sept. 17 at

Fabbiosi Cellars from 7-9 pm. Note that this timeframe will enable more people to get home from work in time to attend. Pat also stated that she has implemented the Constant Contact email tool for receipt of RSVP responses to this and other club special events. This tool will also help us build a database of email addresses that we can use for press releases, announcements, and other communications.

***Finance:*** A. Menendez reported that the group is preparing committee reports for 2020. They will meet at the end of September to draft budgets for our activities in the coming year.

***Public Relations:*** We have almost completed the upgrade and update of our website and are about ready to go live! We still need a media-savvy volunteer to manage our website, as many of our members are either technology-challenged or do not have the time to devote to this task. One suggestion was that a teenager might take on this task to meet their school requirement for community service hours. We also need a new club photographer!

**Community Service Committees:**

***Business and Professionals:*** C. Heykoop reported that the Business Collaborative group meets at Bethel Church the fourth Wednesday of the month. The group has two ongoing initiatives: welcome baskets for new residents, and a local business directory. The group plans to have a table at the Sip 'n' Social event in September.

***Environment:*** M. Dunn reported that the committee is working with a student environmental association. Activities include the marking of the storm drains in Village Green and the upcoming tree planting event at JK Black Oak Preserve Wildlife Sanctuary on Nov. 2nd (Nov. 3rd if it rains). The goal is to plant 200 trees to help preserve the rare vernal pools on this site. Another initiative is to build a green barrier between the track at the school and the junkard next to it. A local teenager will test the water above and below to determine potential pollution. Another activity is the establishment of a walking/running group to exercise on the track at LES; this activity will begin after Labor Day.

***Public Services:*** A new trash schedule has been sent out, covering October 2019 to March 2020. We also need to reapply to the County for our tipping fee waiver.

***Social Development:***

***Citizenship and Patriotism:*** We will hold our Candidates Meet 'n Greet event on October 1st and 2nd at the LCC. Our Nominating Committee (Adams, Gustafson, McKenzie) is still looking for club candidates to serve as Vice President and Director for next year. Please consider stepping up to serve your club in either of these capacities next year. Note: the Vice President typically moves up to President!

**Announcements:**

1. Club Member F. Nassauer has asked to become an At Large member. He will still be on the trash schedule and will continue to help out with parking events.
2. The Memorial Mass for Carl Siebentritt will be held on August 31st, 2019, at 11 am at St. Luke Orthodox Church, McLean, VA

3. The Walking/Running Group will meet at the school on Saturdays from 8:30 to 9:30 am.

4. Art at the Point, the annual arts and crafts show sponsored by the Point of Rocks Ruritan Club, will be held on September 28th, 2019 at the Point of Rocks Community Commons Park, 3700 Commerce St., Point of Rocks, MD, from 10 am to 5 PM. Live music will include the Gravy Soppers from 10 am to 1 pm; pianoman Peter Roebuck from 1 to 2 pm, and the King Street Bluegrass Band from 2 to 5 pm. Activities include a kids tie-dye booth, a silent auction, and BBQ and homebaked goodies. New this year are plein air paintings, poetry, and yoga! Let's support our neighboring club! This event is always fun!

Pledge of Allegiance was said and meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*

## August 2018 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

CTO: 7:30 Pm

Meeting was held at the home of Pat Logue, 15699 Woodchester Ct., Leesburg, VA.

**Attending:** Dunn, Gustafson, Logue, McKenzie, Penaranda, Stanley

**Minutes:** Accepted as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** D. Stanley provided an budget update report for the year to date. We have \$15,500K in our checking account (not including \$1300 from the last Saturday's trash). Our T. Rowe Price account has \$216,700. To date, our investment account received \$889 in interest income and \$30K in unrealized gain. To date, we are \$4,500 under budget for trash; however, there are 18 more Saturdays in the year and four more compactor service bills; accordingly, the Treasurer anticipates that we will collect an additional \$15K or more from trash receipts. We collected \$280 in dues, but outstanding dues amount is \$1,171. All scholarship checks have cleared. Our next funds outgo will be in December, reflecting our donations to our selected charities.

### New Business:

#### Standing Committees:

*Program and Entertainment:* The speaker for our September meeting is Waterford resident Dabney Kerr, of Wayfinder Fundraising. **Note: Our September meeting will be held at Furnace Mountain Church because of a conflict with Back to School Night.** For October, we will have an internal discussion about communication strategies. We need a moderator for this discussion and will approach Abby McMillan, sponsor of Ladies of Lucketts on Facebook. For November, we may invite Richard Weaver, author of a book on the moon landing; or, we may hold an internal discussion and budget review.

*Membership:* Potential new members are Eric and Michele Rubright from Little Spring, and Judy Ruth, CEO of Redstones Opportunity Partners.

*Public Relations:* P. Logue is developing a communication strategy for the club to enable better contact between members and interested friends and neighbors. She is working on a new, expanded email listing, to be managed via

Constant Contact (an email communications application). She asked for \$450 to add this plug-in and PayPal to our website update initiative. We will also use Constant Contact at our upcoming Sip 'n Social event to collect ideas and attendee information.

The Board reviewed our updated website via computer and TV screen and looked at the new pages and information now available. While there is still some work to do on the website update, the Board approved these long overdue and changes and additions.

#### Community Services Committees:

*Business and Professionals:* Committee members J. Benjamin and Deb Sackman held a conference call with M. Gustafson to talk about upcoming organizational needs. Two deliverables are the updated website and a postcard advertising our new website. New website features will include a welcome page, a member directory, information on how to join the Lucketts Ruritan Club, and a calendar of events.

*Environment:* The Committee will meet on Sept. 12th to discuss participation in the habitat restoration event at JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary on November 2nd from 9 a.m. to noon (Rain date: November 3rd or 9th). Community and scout groups are encouraged to participate in planting hundreds of trees at the sanctuary. The Volunteer Coordinator is Kim Strader (email: [kstrader@loudounwildlife.org](mailto:kstrader@loudounwildlife.org) or sign up online at <https://loudounwildlife.org/volunteer/>).

*Social Development:* Our new grants proposal package is complete. A description of our grant program and instructions on how to apply are on our website.

*Public Services:* The Lucketts Bluegrass Festival will take place at the Community Center on Saturday, Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the gate. Food trucks will be on site; there will be a 50/50 raffle and several events for children.

*Citizenship and Patriotism:* Currently, 30 candidates are up for election in our district. We will sponsor a Candidates Meet and Greet, divided into two nights on October 1st (first tier candidates) and October 15th (second tier candidates), to provide an opportunity for the community to hear and ask questions of the

candidates. The committee will meet on September 26th to plan this event. Extra parking will be available at Lucketts Elementary School.

**Ad Hoc Committees:**

*Nominating Committee:* J. McKenzie, J. Adams, and P. Gustafson comprise the nominating committee for officers and directors of the club for next year (2020). We still need a Vice President and one Director. Please consider stepping up to serve our club as a Board member.

*Sip 'n' Social:* This event will be held at Fabboli's Winery. The budget is \$2K. Note that this event has been rescheduled to September 17th from 7-9 pm. The Board agreed that this year, we would scale back the extent of the food offerings prepared by the ladies of Furnace Mountain Church to be finger foods only, as our budget for this year is \$800. We are using the Constant Contact email application for RSVPs. So far, we have received 51 responses. Members are encouraged to invite former club members, neighbors and friends, and officers of other local Ruritan clubs.

**Announcements:**

1. The following funerals/memorials were held for club members who recently passed away:

- Carl Siebentritt, June 16, gathering of family and friends at Carl's home, memorial Mass, Aug. 31st

2. A meeting was held to debrief local residents about the sale or repurposing of the Lucketts Firehouse. Further information available on the Ruritan website.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*