



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—November 12th, 2019

Attending: Adams, Cleland, Dunn, Fabboli, Falk, Frankenfield, Gustafson, Hart, Hillebrand, Logue, Menendez, Penaranda, Price, Quitter, Rubright E, Stanley

Guests: Jim Hobbie, Rachel Reeves, Dan Burciaga, President and CEO of TRI, Inc,

CTO: 7:30 pm

Pres. Gustafson welcomed our speaker, Dan Burciaga, and our guests. He thanked the ladies of Furnace Mt. Church for preparing the dinner.

Minutes: October minutes accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley presented the financial report for October. We have \$17,348.78 in our checking account and \$216,182.86 in our T. Rowe Price account, for an assets total of \$233,490.64. Dues owed: \$360. Don urged members to pay dues owed before year end. Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Program:

Vice President Al Menendez introduced the speaker for the evening, Dan Burciaga, President and CEO of TRI, Inc. (Thermochemical Recovery International), a firm that has developed a gasification process to convert organic waste into gas and synthetic fuels. Founded in 1996 in Maryland, the company was funded by DOE to address issues of pollution, climate and waste management. Municipal waste is expected to double by 2025; global temperatures are rising; landfills are emitting greenhouse gases; and breaches are occurring in landfill liners, contaminating the surrounding soil and water. The firm provides a socially responsible technology to handle high volume waste streams and produce valuable energy and fuels on a commercial scale. One installation can handle about four tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) per day.

Dan noted that other countries such as the U.K. have tried large scale incineration of waste, but this process results in unhealthy emissions and a large quantity of discarded materials that must then be managed, such as recyclables and biomass, which includes food and yard waste.

Next Meeting

January 14th, 2020, 7:30 P.M.

Lucketts Community Center

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Program: The speaker for our January meeting will be Richard Weaver, who will discuss his book, *That's One Small Stamp for a Man: The Philatelic Journey of Apollo 11*.

The TRI gasification process mixes steam with the biomass at 1400°F to break it down into its chemical components, with no resulting emissions. Dan stated that plastic has two to three times the energy content of biomass material; the TRI process breaks down plastic into carbon and hydrogen to form gasoline and contains the contaminants to avoid pollution. The TRI gasifier can also make other chemicals from a variety of feedstocks as well as generate power, thereby making it even more versatile and commercially viable. TRI's Commercial Steam Reformer can process 500 tons a day of garbage to produce 10 million gallons of jet fuel a year. Dan noted that the process can handle anything organic and carbon-based; waste items such as heavy metals, zippers, buttons and other such material are contaminants, but sellable.

Several cities in the U.S. and the UK are installing TRI's gasifier and will use it to convert MSW to power and fuels. TRC licenses this technology to others, but does not build the plants themselves; private developers own and operate the plants and equipment and manage the process after installation. <https://tri-inc.net>

New Business:

Membership: The club voted in new members Eric and Michelle Rubright! Welcome!

Ad Hoc Committee: J. Adams moved to accept the slate of club officers for 2020. President: A. Menendez; Vice President: P. Logue; Secretary: Liz Penaranda; Treasurer: Don Stanley; Past President: P. Gustafson; 1-year Director: G. Mears; 2-year Director: M. Dunn; 3-year Director: D. Fauber. Motion passed; slate of officers accepted.

Standing Committee Reports:

Finance: A. Menendez reported that the chairs of the Standing Committees are preparing their budgets for 2020. J. Adams, Chair of the Environmental Committee, has submitted a budget so far.

Fellowship: The Awards Banquet for 2019 will be held at Skills, USA on December 7th. Food will be catered by DJ's Catering, of Buckeystown, MD. This year, we are charging \$30 per person to defray the cost of the dinner. Patty Stanley and Cheryl Hillebrand are in charge of decorating the venue—volunteers are welcome!

Program and Entertainment: The speaker for our January meeting will be author Richard Weaver, who will discuss his book, *That's One Small Stamp for a Man: The Philatelic Journey of Apollo 11*.

Public Relations: Our website has been updated, but is still a work in progress. We still need help with our social media presence and are looking for a volunteer website/social media manager. We also need a new club photographer.

Community Service Committees:

Environment: The tree planting event at JK Black Oak Preserve Wildlife Sanctuary was held on Nov. 2nd. Volunteers planted 265 trees and shrubs around a vernal pool. Several of our members brought their heavy equipment, which made the job much easier. Thanks to J. Frankenfield for organizing this event! This preserve is now in conservation easement, which will further protect its globally unique vernal pools and other animal and plant species. J. Adams noted that we should work with the staff of Loudoun's regional parks for advice and assistance in managing the property, at least until it is taken over by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy.

Social Development: Coat Drive: S. Hillebrand reported that this year's coat drive was very successful. This was the sixth year of the drive. LES requested 73 winter coats for 38 boys and 35 girls. We collected 226 coats in the drive, 55 of which were the sizes requested by the school. The club bought the additional 18 coats needed, as well as shoes and gloves for all 73 children, at a cost of just under \$1000. Our cash donation drive brought in \$1300, so \$300 will be earmarked for the drive next year.

Grant program: Our new grant program has been launched. We have received 11 applications so far. The committee will meet to discuss and evaluate this first round of applications.

P. Logue reported on a community development block grant program that would provide funding for community and economic development activities for neighborhood revitalization and improvements to community facilities and services. Eligible applicants include local nonprofit organizations and local government entities, who must commit to a 10% match of grant funding. Projects may include affordable housing opportunities, renovation of substandard housing, provision of public services, and expansion of economic development opportunities.

Citizenship and Patriotism: Thanks to C. Bond for placing bunting at the LCC during the recent meet and greet and primary election events.

Announcements:

1. Member Dick Snooks is currently ill and house bound. He would appreciate a call or a card!
2. Theresa McKenzie is home with complications from a medical procedure. Get well soon!

Pledge of Allegiance was said and meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary

December 7th, 2019, Annual Awards Banquet

The annual Awards Banquet, held at Skills, USA on December 7th, was attended by about 70 people, including guests from Ruritan National, our Ruritan district, and neighboring clubs. New club officers were installed, awards were presented, and a good time was had by all. Barbara Scott was Ruritan of the Year; Nancy Waters was Citizen of the Year. No club business was transacted in December.

November 2019 Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

CTO: 7:30 PM

Attending: Dunn, Gustafson, Logue, McKenzie, Menendez, Penaranda, Quitter, Small, Stanley

Minutes: General Meeting Minutes to be sent via email.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley provided a report for the month to date. We have \$19,675.50 in our checking account. Our T. Rowe Price account has \$216,182.86, for a total of \$235,897.36. Dues owed: \$280. We had \$360 remaining after the coat drive from cash donations received over the month, which will be carried forward and used for the 2020 drive. Report was accepted.

T. Small reported on the progress of the Grants Committee in terms of the budgeted amount for grants and scholarships for this year and looking ahead to 2020. The committee asked the Board to provide \$20K for four scholarships of \$5K each, and \$10K for grants, based on applications received so far and the two-phased approach of our grants program. Phase 1 covers November 2019 through January 2020; Phase 2 covers January through March 2020. Board deferred a final decision until the new Board takes office in January.

Standing Committees:

Program and Entertainment: The Awards Banquet preparations are on track.

Membership: The committee will meet in late December to finalize committees.

Finance: D. Stanley reported on the state of the budget at year end. Our budget for 2019 was \$99K; to date, we have spent \$95K, but in terms of balancing the budget, we may spend about \$3K more than we take in. Don stated that the Finance Committee recommends several changes to our planned donations to balance the \$3K deficit. These involve deleting several donations, those for Skills, USA, Tuscarora High School, Smarts Mill Middle School, Bethel Methodist Church, and sponsoring a golf hole through Ruritan National. Board moved to accept the recommended deletions and to reduce the donation to LAWS from \$1000 to \$500. Part of our donation to LES for this year will be in the form of a gift card for use for needy

students via principal's discretion. Board accepted the resulting projected \$400 budget deficit for 2019.

Community Service Committees:

Public Services: The Board agreed that we need a new donations box for use at trash on Saturdays. We will ask Ray Wagner to make a new box.

We will arrange for extra capacity to handle holiday trash with another truck and another recycling bin. The Board discussed the possibility of scheduling a third person at trash to monitor recycling behavior, such as flattening boxes and preventing plastic bags from being dumped into the bins.

Announcements:

1. D. Snooks is currently ill and housebound. He would appreciate a call and/or a card.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary