

March 2022 - General Meeting

Dinner: 7:00, CTO: 7:40 PM

This month's Membership meeting was held in the Lucketts Community Center Auditorium.

Attending: Adams, Baker, Cleland, Dunn, Falk, Fauber, Frankenfield, Gustafson, Hart, Johnson, Kohler, Logue, Maruca B, Maruca F, McKenzie, McLain, Menendez, Moffett, Neeley, Penaranda, Scott, Small, Stanley,

Welcome: Guests: Chezia Calloway

Convocation by M. Dunn and expression of hope and support for the people of Ukraine.

Minutes: Minutes from earlier meetings will be circulated and posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley reported that we have \$17,947.28 in our checking account and \$323,884.95 in our T. Rowe Price Investment account 343,071.65, for an assets total of \$341,561.23. Don noted that as a result of our transfer of funds from our checking account to our investment account and our separation of our investments into several categories, our investments now show: Scholarship Fund (44% of investment) \$142,509; General Fund (45.3% of investment) \$146,720; Opportunity Fund (10.7% of investment) \$34,655. P. Baker reported that we have moved our investment account to Vanguard.

Program

Our speaker, Paul Kreingold, Conservationist for the Izaak Walton League, gave a presentation on Potomac Marble and its significance in the restoration of the Nation's Capital building after the War of 1812 and information about the Virginia Master Naturalist Organization. Paul began by reviewing the difference between "rock" vs. "stone," explaining that a stone refers to a gem or a rock wall, for example, and that a rock becomes a "stone" when it becomes useful. Benjamin Latrobe was the architect for the U.S. House of Representatives after the War of 1812 and designed the Capitol with a glass ceiling and sandstone columns. However, in 1814, the British burned down the Capitol and Latrobe returned to redesign the building to be more beautiful and less vulnerable to destruction. He knew of deposits of Potomac marble in the Leesburg area and convinced President Monroe to visit the quarries all along Rt. 15. Eventually, the decision was made

to use Potomac marble for the Capitol columns (which Latrobe believed to be more beautiful and durable than the previous sandstone columns).

Paul then explained that nearby rivers deposited a sedimentary rock in a matrix of calcium carbonate conglomerate in an alluvial fan 1.5 miles wide and 3,600 ft. deep in an 18 sq. mile area of Loudoun County. These formations were eventually termed Potomac Marble. He pointed out that agriculture here in Loudoun is especially productive because of the lime in the soil from these deposits. The stone used for the Capitol came from quarries near the Old Isaak Walton Park, Point of Rocks, and Leesburg. For more information, see www.candocanal.org/potomacmarble.

BUSINESS MEETING

President's Report (from Pat Logue)

- Pres. Logue and A. Menendez attended the District Meeting on Feb. 21st. Many Ruritan clubs are experiencing reduced activity during COVID. Aldie and Stonewall clubs celebrate 70th anniversaries this year.
- Ag in the Classroom: A Virginia Non-Profit wants to conduct a pilot project at LES and has asked for our support. We introduced Brian Walsh and Abby Hemby to principal Clement at LES. The long-term objective is to expand this curriculum/club approach to the middle and high schools. D. Fabboli has agreed to be the club's liaison to this program.
- As a follow-up to the Village of Lucketts meeting in February, Sofia Saiyed from the New Virginia Majority contacted the club about developing a relationship with residents of the Lucketts mobile home communities to become advocates for their needs.
- A nursing student at GW in Ashburn, Katie O'Hern, is working on a class project to write a Community Medical Assessment for zip code 20176. She recognized that Lucketts is a very different community from Leesburg and reached out to us for help in making local connections. We will receive a copy of her team's final report.
- Mr. Patrick Ambers has purchased the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church on Bald Hill Rd. and plans to restore the building and preserve the cemetery. He is looking for a community

purpose for the building. Gem Bingold from the Piedmont Environmental Council contacted the club to ask for help to the new owner in making a local connection to support.

- Member Hollie McTiernan received a \$5K grant from Perforce Software to support the LES reading program. She is also launching a summer reading program for LES students with adult volunteers from the community.
- On Feb. 7th, P. Gustafson and Pres. Logue attended a virtual meeting with Ernest Brown from the county's General Services/Landfill Operations and Stacy Carey, assistant to Supervisor Kershner. We reviewed the county's interest in adding permanent recycling containers to a site in Lucketts. This project has been tabled for now, with the note that our trash service currently meets current community requirements.
- Services for Evelyn Snooks, wife of Dick Snooks, were held on Feb. 23rd at Colonial Funeral Home. P. Baker, P. Gustafson, P. Hart, J. Tassi, and P. Logue attended on behalf of the club.

New Member

A. Menendez introduced new member Brian Burkhart, who attended two club meetings before COVID. We will vote on Brian's membership at the next meeting after we receive his formal application and contact information.

April/May/June Activities Review

- Community Center: Paige Neeley announced a job fair on March 19th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., a Meet-the-Easter Bunny event, a high energy fitness class on Saturdays, a family field day, and summer teen camps. Further information on the LCC Facebook page. She also noted several changes within the LCC building: the room on the right from the entrance door features Lucketts history and bluegrass concert history and offers a space for playing board games and seating for lunch. The old meeting room is now a work room and computer center.
- Environment Committee: B. Scott reported the following initiatives: *Student Environmental Showcase on April 26th will feature a display on the JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary. *A community walk is planned at the sanctuary on

April 30th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. *Initial plans are underway to establish a community garden in the field to the left of the firehouse; extra food harvested would be donated to the Food Pantry. * On April 19th, Loudoun Wildlife will host a town Hall at the Lucketts Community Center to review their Clean Water for Lucketts project. *There will be a road cleanup in cooperation with Keep Loudoun Beautiful on Stumptown and Wilt Store Rds., weather permitting later this month.

Upcoming Parking Events

Ian Moffett reported six scheduled events in the coming months. Two volunteers are still needed for the the Lucketts Antiques Fair (May 21-22). Sign up to help online through SignUp Genius.

April Membership Meeting

P. Gustafson reported that the speaker for the April meeting will be Kelly Burlinger from the Archeological Conservancy on the new park established on property near the river.

Lucketts News & Notes Spring Issue:

Pres. Logue reported an upcoming meeting of the sub committee to plan the issue, planned for mail out in mid-May.

June Picnic

P. Hart announced the annual picnic will be held at the home of Al Menendez on St. Clair Lane on June 11th from 1-5 p.m.

GiveChoose Update

G. Mears noted this event will open early giving on March 15th and extend to March 29th. Our goal for the Food Pantry is \$24K or \$35/mo. to buy fresh produce to feed 80 families.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary

March 2022 – Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

The March BOD meeting was held on March 29th, at the home of Don Stanley.

CTO: 7:00 pm

Attending: Cleland, Dunn, Fauber, Frankenfield, Hart, Logue, McLain, Menendez, Penaranda, Ruth, Stanley

Minutes: Minutes and those from earlier meetings are available on the Ruritan Club website.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley provided a financial report for March 2022. We had \$23,538.35 in our checking account and \$323,884.95 in our T. Rowe Price account: Scholarship Fund (44%) - \$142,509; General Fund (45.3%) - \$146,720 Opportunity Fund; (10.7%) - \$34,655, for an assets total of \$347,423.30. Funds are currently in transit from T. Rowe to Vanguard, the new custodian, and will be updated with the first Vanguard statement. Because the Mutual Funds have not been changed from those invested with T. Rowe, there is no loss of capital as a result of the timing of the transfer. Income is on track with trash performing flat to a little under last YTD. Expenses are lower than planned because WB Waste Management is two months behind in their billing cycle. Reports to members will note this detail to the Club's cash position. We received a \$1K donation from Bluemont Nursery. The Board accepted the Treasurer's Report.

NOTE: The remainder of this Minutes Report was authored and submitted by Pres. Logue.

- Sec, Penaranda distributed minutes from the February Membership and Board Meetings. The virtual Membership Meeting had a number of technical challenges with audio and visual communication. Pat is correcting a number of items in the original draft and will submit her edits to the Board for their review. Corrections and omissions will be reported back to Pat in this case, who will return a final draft to Liz and the Board for review.
- Pat emphasized the responsibility of Board Members to review the clarity and content of our minutes each month to ensure that Board and Membership actions are correctly recorded in our Minutes.

Finance Committee Update – Mike Dunn

- Mike reported that the Finance Committee has their next meeting on April 25th.
- Location of the meeting is TBD.

Update on Club Records – Interim Plan for Storage (Don Stanley)

- Club records stored in the past at the Community Center have been transferred to the first bay of the old Fire House.
- Pat, Don, and John Adams have done an initial review and the records are now ready to be moved to secure appropriate storage.
- Options for renting local climate-controlled storage for these records for the near term are being investigated with hopes for finding a permanent location within the old Fire House over time.
- Members discussed that this final transfer should involve a true archive process to ensure that the Club is archiving relevant items while not maintaining unnecessary records.

Proposal to Create an Advocacy Committee (Beth McLain and Pat Logue)

- The local Catoctin Rural Alliance, formed in response to a situation that potentially threatens water supply for private well operators, is struggling to complete a slate of officers. Members of the group approached Pat Logue to explore continuing this type of work within the structure of the Club for the greater benefit of the Community.
- Members discussed the legitimacy of the Club assuming a larger role in matters that threaten the health and welfare of the greater community.
- President Logue entered a Motion that:
 - o The Club create an Advocacy Committee under the direction of Beth McLain for the balance of this calendar year, and that the goals and activities of the Committee be evaluated in December 2022. At that time the Goals and Objectives of the Advocacy Committee will be finalized.
- The Motion was seconded by Jody Ruth and after discussion was approved by unanimous consent.

Request from Jeff Jones (citizen) for Assistance Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church – Jay Frankenfield and Pat Logue

- Pat Logue reported that the Club and members of the community were contacted by Jeff Jones to discuss the status of the property. Mr. Jones lives near the property and is in regular contact with Patrick Ambers.
- Jay Frankenfield, Pat Logue, and Mary Gustafson met with Mr. Jones at the site and learned that:
 - o Last records of the County appear to show Arnold Ambrose (residing in Dumfries, VA) as the current Trustee.
 - o His brother, Patrick (resident of Winchester) maintains the cemetery and may also have Trustee status.
 - o Neighbors (Mr. Jones) are concerned that without a successor Trustee, nothing can be done to preserve the property and no one is currently working to find a successor.
 - o Significant investment would be required to restore the church building for use and/or historic preservation.
 - o There is no request for the Club to become the Trustee or make an investment in fixing/preserving the property.
 - o The property has significant local, state and national historical value that is not well documented.
- It was agreed that the Club would work with Mr. Jones to meet with Patrick and Arnold Ambers to determine if they are interested in assistance in finding a successor Trustee to continue preservation of the property. If there is interest, the Club can take further action.
- The Club will work with Mr. Jones and others in the community to begin documenting the history of the site for preserving this piece of Lucketts history.

Dinner Planning for Membership Meetings

- It was agreed that the April Membership meeting will be held at Fabboli Cellars. Don Stanley and his wife, Patty, have volunteered to plan the food for that evening and will continue to organize if other members of the Club will assist each month.
- It was confirmed that we will continue as planned to host warm weather meetings (April, May, July, August, September, and October) at

Fabboli Cellars or similar local venues and return to the Lucketts Community Center for November, January, February, and March Meetings. June meeting will be the Club Picnic, and December will be the Awards Dinner at various locations.

- A plan needs to be created for dinner meetings at the Community Center.

Update – Picnic Committee – Peter Hart

- The plan for this year's picnic is the same as for last year at this point. The date is Saturday June 11th at the home of Al Menendez.
- Members will be asked at April and May Membership meetings to assist with details.

Update on Fire House Project – Al Menendez

- The Leesburg Aces traveling youth baseball team is meeting with members of the Volunteer Fire Company this Wednesday.
- Al also reported that Loudoun County Public Schools (owners of the sewer treatment plant currently connected to the building) has been in contact with the Volunteer Fire Company about an update to their planning.

Update on Give Choose Donations Received – Pat Logue

- This year's Campaign will raise somewhere over \$7,000 for the Lucketts Community Food Pantry.

Spring Summer Issue of Lucketts News & Notes – Pat Logue

- The Spring and Summer issue is in the works now and will be mailed mid-May to Lucketts households.

Adjourned 8:45 pm

Submitted by Pat Logue, President

