

October 2023 - General Meeting

This month's Membership meeting was held at Faith Chapel.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. CTO: 7:38 PM

Attending: Bond, Cleland, Dunn, Falk, Frankenfield, Hart, Maruca B and F, McKenzie, McLain, Menendez A, Penaranda, Rubright E and M, Stanley

Welcome: Guests: Melissa Fye, Amanda Vila

This month, we did not have a scheduled program speaker, but focused on club business.

Business Meeting

Minutes: Secretary summarized minutes from September 2023. Minutes from earlier meetings are posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley reported our accounts as of September 30. We had \$39,798.13 in our Truist checking account; \$147,264.20 in our Vanguard Scholarship Fund and \$134,571.51 in our Vanguard General Opportunity Fund (General Fund \$103,270.18 and Opportunity Fund \$31,301.33), for a total asset amount of \$321,633.84. Don noted that we are starting the new fiscal year with almost \$40K in cash and over \$300K in our investment accounts. We need ideas on how to spend some of our surplus funds, since we did not spend all available grant monies this year.

Finance Committee Report – M. Dunn

M. Dunn reiterated that we need to use surplus funds on some worthy community projects. He also announced membership approval of the 2024 club budget.

Grants and Donations– P. Logue

Pres. Logue presented a request for funds from the Leesburg Aces (baseball team) which included a request for sponsorship/donations for the 12 team members (aged 7-15). The team, coached by an Army veteran, would like to practice in Lucketts. They also offered to give back by helping the Lucketts community in whatever ways might be

possible and desirable. Any funds received would go toward travel, uniforms, and team projects such as Thanksgiving bags for needy families. R. Cleland stated that this request should go to the Finance Committee to develop a process and recommendation. A safety concern was also raised about children helping at trash on Saturdays. J. Adams stated that we have a ball field in Lucketts (Lawson's Field) on fire company property that needs renovation; that we have the money to do this, and that we should approve this funding. This project could be referred to the fire company and our Board to develop an appropriate process. M. Dunn moved to give \$1,000 to fix the field and for the group to come back to us for other service projects; however, this motion was amended by T. Small to increase the amount funded to \$2,500 with the requirement that the group perform a service project in Lucketts (Lawson Field or other). This motion passed unanimously.

Scholarship Budget – R. Cleland

R. Cleland moved that we increase the scholarship budget to \$25K (from \$20K) in 2024 to fund a fourth scholarship in the coming year. B. Roques noted that the need for assistance to attend two-year schools is great and will increase in the future. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion followed that focused on the difficulty for our club to develop a productive presence at Tuscarora High School. P. Logue noted that there are about 20 booster organizations at the school and an active theater program. The Board has discussed provision of a \$500 donation to the thespian group at the school. Discussion also focused on the Academies of Loudoun, comprised of three schools (English, Science, Math) and various skills programs. If we made a donation to the Academies, we would not stipulate how the funds would be used, but would provide a no-strings grant but require a report on a specific project and its outcome.

Sign-Ups – P. Logue

1. Need additional sign-ups for the Berryville Market this coming weekend.
2. For Meet the Candidates nights, need 19 people over two nights to serve as greeters, timers, setup and tear down help, and parking management. We also need 2-3 Boy Scouts to lead the Pledge of

Allegiance. We plan a 90-minute prep window from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Power Lines Through Lucketts – J. Adams

J. Adams reported the options for the planned Dominion power line project through Loudoun County from the north to Ashburn, either East or West of Rt. 7 and along the Greenway to meet the increasing needs of additional data centers. He noted that a balloon in the air shows the height of the line to be 145 feet. He said that Waterford plans to fight this project and that we in Lucketts need to organize to join other groups in opposition, as Lucketts could very well become the default route. John emphasized that the lines should go underground, but that this is not currently an option being considered. B. McLain stated that we need to support the Piedmont Environmental Council in opposition; this group will hold several educational events in the next two months. The issue is where the lines will go. The default route is through Leesburg through Ida Lee Park, Tuscarora, to Temple Hall Farm, to Selma. Projects extend through 2027 but the data center power needs (and the use of water) will only increase.

J. Adams noted that in Adamstown, MD, lines are underground through Frederick down to Rt. 15 and that the issues in Loudoun are the result of poor planning. A point was made that underground lines often cause electromagnetic issues and that large diesel engines also use a lot of power and water. P. Logue noted that the ownership of Whites Ferry by C. Kuhn is also a contributing issue. B. McClain stated that our BOS has no interest in changing current policies of by right development. P. Logue noted that we can also align with other groups and organizations (such as Lansdowne) to fight the line route along Rt. 7.

Announcements

1. Trash Roster: K. Price has initiated Sign Up Genius as a way to schedule your own trash shift. This self-select option will only be available for two weeks; after that, assignments will be made for you.
2. Awards Banquet December 12th at 6:30 at Raspberry Falls. Cash bar.
3. Amanda Vila announced a five-concert series at Faith Chapel in 2024. Also hosting Christ Church activities during renovations of their church

- building. Other programs include Odyssey of the Mind, other concerts, violin classes, art workshops.
4. B. Roques delivered hundreds of pounds of food to the food pantry over the past several weeks.
5. The picnic in September at A. Menendez' was successful!
6. P. Neeley of LCC announced that pickleball is now available at the Center at 6-8 indoor courts. Drop-ins welcome. LCC is also partnering with the library to issue library cards through a vending machine. LCC is also offering video game machines and a ping pong table.
7. J. Adams and R. Cleland both thanked the club for concern and assistance during recent family illnesses.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary

October 2023 Board of Directors Meeting

CTO: 7:00 p.m.

Attending: Dunn, Hart, Logue, Penaranda, Ruth, Stanley

Minutes: Sec. Penaranda summarized minutes from the October General Membership meeting. Minutes are available on the Ruritan Club website.

Treasurer's Report: D. Stanley provided a financial report as of the end of October, 2023. We have \$40,024.58 in our Truist checking account; \$143,834.28 in our Vanguard Scholarship Fund and \$131,474.44 in our Vanguard General Opportunity Fund (General Fund \$100,893.49 and Opportunity Fund \$30,580.95), for a total asset amount of \$315,333.30. Don noted that our Vanguard Scholarship and Opportunity accounts are each down by \$5K. Trash is on budget. Coats to LES have been delivered. We need tax letters for donations to us via check.

J. Ruth reported discovery of a scam that affected a Truist account for another not for profit organization that involved Positive Pay. We need to be vigilant about our accounts. Don stated that

he is aware, monitoring, maintaining a good relationship with local Truist Bank staff.

Update on Troop 1910 – P. Logue

A new Treasurer, Terry Prevost, is now in place. Don has purchased a new laptop for troop use and is working with Terry on the use of Quickbooks financial software. We are still researching insurance requirements. M. Johnson and D. Fabboli will continue to support the troop, and a new adult committee chair has been identified. We have opened a line of communication with the district organization about the re-chartering procedure, which is ongoing, and have drafted a letter to the current troop committee chair outlining our re-charter support. The Board approved a motion to accept the submitted MOU that addresses the resolution of issues and the terms and conditions of re-chartering the troop.

November Meeting – P. Logue

1. Agenda issues include update to membership on Troop 1910 re-chartering and other issues.
2. Review and update of committees for 2024.
3. Ruritan District Governor will swear in new club officers at our annual party in December.
4. Madeleine Skinner will talk about the Small Area Plan.

Finance Committee Report – M. Dunn

Mike provided an update on the Opportunity Fund and suggested establishing a link on our website that explains the process, who is eligible, and how projects affect the Lucketts community. This link would be available to club members only. He also updated the Board on the status of year end donations and suggested leasing Firemen's Field for a Lucketts League (sport(s) to be determined), and/or sponsoring or partnering with a Little League Aces team.

Meet the Candidates Debrief – P. Logue

Our club should plan to participate in Small Area Plan meetings with interested citizens and County Planning and Zoning staff.

LES PTA Grant – P. Logue

Before the playground slide can be installed, the ground must be surveyed by the County to identify any karst issues. This process will take about 10 to 12 weeks.

Ruritan National Community Service Report – P. Logue

Pat reported that our club gave 4,943 volunteer service hours to our community in 28 projects, at an estimated value of \$106,230.85. Something to be very proud of!

Adjourned 9:10 p.m.

