



## Letter from our Board President



Hello Neighbors:

This is just a note to let you know what the Board has been working on for the past couple of months. In November 2015, the Board, the Committee Chairpersons, and MSC held a Roundtable discussion to:

- Increase the communications between the Board, the committees and MSC; and to foster communications between committees.
- To get all committees on the same page when it comes to conducting meetings and issuing minutes.
- To review Virginia Laws that govern the Board and the committee.
- To discuss things that the Board can do to make the various committees' jobs easier.
- To discuss Board Liaison functions.
- Discuss Committee Charter updates.
- Discuss working with MSC.

In my view, the meeting was a great success. And while no minutes were kept or issued, we did issue a list of action items. The main action for the Board was to produce a document to standardize committee guidelines concerning committee: size, elections, chairperson term limits, minutes' distribution, and to conduct a secretary's roundtable. The main action item for each committee was to review their committee charter responsibilities and to make recommended changes if necessary.

In addition to producing a document to standardize committee guidelines, the Board, led by Larry Miller, is working to revise the Association's Bylaws to bring them up-to-date and to delete all references to the Declarant. The new committee guidelines will be incorporated into the Bylaws.

It is the Board's intention to issue the updated Bylaws and revised Committee Charters in March 2016.

Regards,

*John Normand*

## Restaurant Reviews

### Romano's Italian Bistro

*Reviewed by Marty Cavanagh*

We have been going to Romano's Italian Bistro in McGaheysville since we moved here in 2007. As they say, "Come taste the flavor, freshness and exceptional quality of our Italian Cuisine."

Not around the corner, Romano's is located at 42 Island Ford Road in McGaheysville. Heading west on Rt. 33, go over the mountain toward Harrisonburg and make a left at the diner.



They have the best Italian food around these parts. Take it from a guy who grew-up in Brooklyn with a number of Italians for neighbors! My favorite is the Spaghetti (New York style) w/ Sausage. The owner is from Napoli. Tell him "Marty from Ruckersville" sent you!

For more information, visit [www.romanositalianbistro.com](http://www.romanositalianbistro.com) or call 540-289-5770.

### The Greene Eatery

*Reviewed by Cory Ryan*

Jack and I recently had lunch at The Greene Eatery, a café at 76 Main Street in Stanardsville and highly recommend it. They opened last July.

The Greene Eatery believes in celebrating the farming community of Greene County. They do this by paying attention to what is in season and offering local food sources when possible. "We enhance community by sharing a meal," they say.

The Greene Eatery's "thoughtfully prepared food" includes soup served with fresh baked bread; large salads; seven different specialty sandwiches (most offering half-sandwich options); desserts; a variety of drinks including wine and beer; and even feature a child's menu—all very good. They even roast their own turkey! You can view their menu on their Facebook page.

They are open Wednesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. And they will be open on the following dates for Friday night casual dinners: Jan 22nd, Feb 5th, Feb 19th, March 11th, March 25th. Open these evenings from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. to take out or eat in.

Janet, the owner with her husband Tom, is also a nurse at the free clinic in Stanardsville. A very caring and energetic lady!!

For more information, visit [www.theGreeneEatery.com](http://www.theGreeneEatery.com)

or call 434-985-2444

# Greene County Chamber News

The Greene County chamber held its annual meeting and social December 16th at the Rosebrook Inn in Dyke, VA.

The business meeting consisted of acknowledging the many sponsors who had provided breakfast meetings, social events and a special "thank you" to Alan Plyes of the Lafayette Inn for inspiring and chairing the committee for the Parade of Lights in Stanardsville for ten years. The Treasurer's report was read by Matthew Woodson, Treasurer, and approved.

Board president Darla Rose introduced the current board and reported there were no new positions to fill. Changes to the by-laws previously had been e-mailed to chamber members. The one major change was changing board officers to a one-year commitment as opposed to the previous two years. Following a hearty response from those in attendance that they had received and read the updated version, the president called for a motion and the by-laws unanimously were accepted.

Rose asked Gary Lowe, mayor of Stanardsville, and Loren Shetler of Capitol Sheds, to join her. They announced the 2016 Fourth of July celebration would be co-sponsored by the town of Stanardsville, Loren Shetler, and The Greene County Chamber of Commerce. Lowe made a brief statement about how excited the town and the Parade Committee are to be working with Shetler and the Greene Chamber on the 2016 event. Shetler, who has provided the fireworks for many years for the Chamber celebration, is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work in conjunction with the Greene Chamber and town of Stanardsville's Parade Committee to make this the premier 4th of July celebration for the residents and visitors to Stanardsville.

## Craft Group Meetings

Wonder what creations are made at the Craft Group Meetings? Here's a picture of the December craft group creations!



Snowflakes! Everyone learned the technique to make the snowflake so when they went home they could create more on their own and teach others in the family!

The February craft group will meet on Monday, February 1st at 1:00 p.m. in the clubhouse.



The February craft will be three-dimensional heart hanging decorations, pictured here, made from string, scrapbook paper and beads.

This is a fun and easy craft you can learn and make many more with your friends or grandchildren.

Please email Cory by January 25th if you plan to attend so she brings enough supplies. The cost will vary depending on how many decorations you make. Small ones will be about \$1 each and larger ones will be about \$2 each.

The email address is [coryryan1106@gmail.com](mailto:coryryan1106@gmail.com).



## Need Shoveling Help?

As a reminder, and to our new neighbors, this is the list of walkway and driveway shovelers. The charge last year was \$35.00.



### The Alignment Shop

[434-985-7074](tel:434-985-7074) cell [434-985-4067](tel:434-985-4067)

### Dave and crew

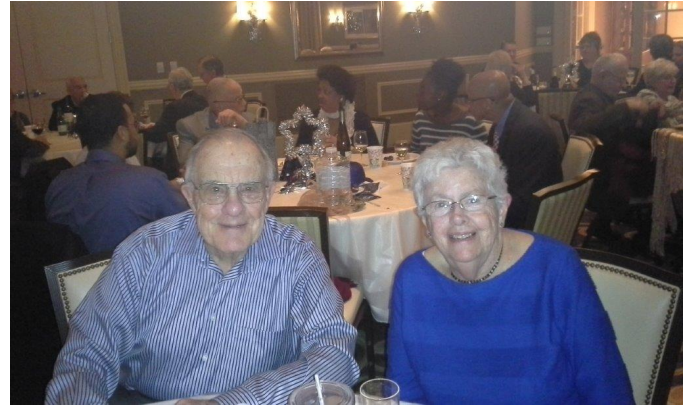
[434-760-3570](tel:434-760-3570)

### Bud and crew

[434-985-4903](tel:434-985-4903) cell [434-270-1172](tel:434-270-1172)

## Happy 60<sup>th</sup>!!

Heartfelt congratulations to two Four Seasons couples that celebrated monumental wedding anniversaries in 2015.



Barbara and John Ringle marked their 60<sup>th</sup> on June 13. They met on a blind date while she was a senior at American University in Washington D. C. and he was a brand new Army 2nd Lt. at Ft. Belvoir VA, fresh from U. of Colorado. They were married three months later, spent two years in Germany, and one year in Charlottesville before settling in Northern VA. They enjoy their family of two children, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. Travel, reading, and watching sports events have been favorite things to enjoy together. After living 30 years in Springfield VA, they lived on the Outer Banks of NC for 20 years before moving to Four Seasons eight years ago.

We also wanted to acknowledge Arthur and Sandy Cohen, who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on December 24.



# OUR CONTINUING PROPANE EXPERIENCE

by Vince Donnelly

My experience with propane may be similar to all of you. When Mary and I bought here in April 2008 we had never used propane gas for anything but our outdoor grill. To expect to heat our entire house during winter was a real eye opener. But, we bought the house and the education process began.

Then the winter of 2014 arrived with its harsh, colder than normal temperatures. As many of you recall, this led to higher than normal propane gas usage and seriously high propane bills, with some prices reaching as high as \$5 per gallon. A few neighbors began discussing these prices and wondered whether we were locked in to only one propane company.

In April 2014, this small group of residents successfully identified the fact that there were four companies—Amerigas, Foster, Quarles, and Tiger—that were doing business in the Four Seasons area. We interviewed each company personally in an effort to learn more about each of the following issues: pricing; discounts available; delivery charges; customer service (including billing); and tank ownership. Once all of the interviews were completed, a full summary of the findings was prepared and distributed to all Four Seasons residents. We explained that all the information, particularly the prices charged, was for educational purposes and that each resident was encouraged to read the information provided and contact the companies as desired.

Since that summary was published, there have been two issues that have remained of high interest: tank ownership and company pricing.

## Tank Ownership

The early residents actually purchased their propane tanks as part of the home ownership process. Subsequently, residents chose to let the propane companies maintain ownership of the tanks. Currently, none of the four

companies have any stated policy on tank ownership. Any resident choosing to own his/her tank has two advantages: He/she can switch from one propane company to another at any delivery; and all companies provide a lower price. The major disadvantage that comes with tank ownership is that all tank maintenance will be provided at the residents' expense.

## Pricing

Since the winter of 2014, prices have moderated. Some of this is the result of the major decline in oil prices nationally. And some of this decline is due to the growing competition for business among the local propane providers.

Recently I requested from residents the price per gallon he/she was asked to pay by their company for recent winter deliveries. Here are the results:

## AMERIGAS

Currently around \$2.39 (no guarantees provided).

## FOSTER

\$1.749 (guaranteed thru March deliveries).

## QUARLES

\$1.849 (residents can purchase a \$2.19 guaranteed maximum price).

## TIGER

\$1.999 (one resident got a Dec delivery @ \$1.70 with tank ownership).

All residents are urged to call their propane company and request written confirmation about their tank ownership. Residents are also urged to call their company and confirm their address in Four Seasons and that they are being provided all available discounts.

Any residents wishing more propane information are welcome to contact me.

# Celebrate Black History Month



Come out and join members of SAG in a Black History Month sponsored presentation on **Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.** Hazel Sykes and Lucille Smith will host the event.

Our presentation will jar your memory and stir your soul, when we look back at the struggles of Black Americans in the 50s and 60s. We will share personal experiences that affected us deeply by forcing us to take a closer look at the world around us and how we fit in such a world as "little colored girls."

Every good, bad, and ugly situation we had to face helped to shape us into the strong, proud, confident, Black women you see today.

We will release our emotions and reveal our true feelings through heartfelt poetry, colorful dialogue, and videos to include spiritual and inspirational songs, and vivid images.

You will be asked to make two portrayals during the video presentations. First, view the videos through the eyes of a child, where you are stimulated by pictures and music, totally innocent and unaware of the struggles that took place in this country. Then view the videos through the eyes of Lucille and Hazel, growing up in the 50s and 60s, struggling to know why their place in life was to be on the outside looking in. Yet, here we are today, grateful for the opportunities afforded us, and for the people who worked so hard to provide us a better life. We now live in a very diverse community with wonderful, caring and loving neighbors and friends.

**Video1:** Remembering Our Struggles – A pictorial look into the Civil Rights Movement.

**Video2:** Pictorial History of the Civil Right Movement and Segregated Schools in Central Virginia.

This video reminds us of the 'Way We Were' attending small segregated schools throughout this country, but the video will focus on public schools in the City of Charlottesville, and surrounding counties. It took the Civil Rights Movement, Pioneers for Freedom, and Social Justice, plus Brown vs. the Board of Education working together to end segregation in public schools, which violated the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. This video is still a work in progress, but is a pictorial look at three years of research completed by Lucille. To shorten the video, 85 percent of the textual history of the schools will be omitted.

So, come out and experience, 'The Way We Were' and 'How We Made it Over.'



## Guess Who???

In our last newsletter we resurrected a fun little game called Guess Who in which we included a photo of a resident (taken at a much younger age). Residents were then asked to guess who was in the photo and the answer would be revealed in the next issue.

Since no one guessed who this cute little 5-year-old is, we can reveal his name now—it's none other than Spencer Crute!



Now it's time to guess the name of this young lady! First one to guess gets bragging rights!



Send your guesses to Joanne Lattiak ([lattiakj@gmail.com](mailto:lattiakj@gmail.com)).

## Holiday Photo Album

### *Highlights of Holiday Events At Four Seasons*

December brought many delightful social events at Four Seasons. The Communications Committee has put together a scrapbook photo album to capture some of the highlights. Terry Pratt created the album; photos are from John Normand and Terry Pratt. To see the scrapbook, just go to the Four Seasons website at [our4seasons.org](http://our4seasons.org).

## Welcome New Residents

Introducing the newest residents of Four Seasons, **George and Janet Wright**. They



recently moved into 531 Four Seasons Drive, coming from the Culpeper area. George and Janet have been married 52 years and have two children and two

grandchildren. George hails from Nokesville, VA and Janet was born in Bristow, VA. George worked in Information Technology, and Janet worked for IBM. George has a long-standing interest in cars, especially classic Thunderbirds and Mustangs. Janet likes to read and go to the gym.

Welcome, George & Janet!



The posted speed limit throughout Four Seasons is 25mph. Please remember to slow down when driving through our community and remind your guests to do the same. Thanks!

**PHONE NUMBERS TO REMEMBER!**

**Club House**  
434-990-2012

**Emergency**  
911

**Greene County Sheriff's Office:**  
434-985-2222

**Identity Theft Hotline**  
877-438-4338

**National Do Not Call Registry**  
888-382-1222

**Better Business Bureau of Central  
Virginia**  
804-648-0016

**The Mountain Breeze  
at Four Seasons Charlottesville**

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