

**Rustic Ridge Annual Meeting**  
**August 7, 2010**

**In attendance (get from Lucia):**

1. Call to Order – Joanna Walker, Secretary
2. Invocation – Marsha Heydenreich
3. Minutes of 2009 Annual Meeting
  - a. Adrienne asked for any corrections or deletions. There were none. The minutes will be filed as originally recorded.
4. Reports & Activities
  - a. President's Report – Adrienne Hawkinson
    - i. Last year's contributions went to the Northfield Recreation Fund and what else? Food Bank? Ask Adrienne.
    - ii. Read the letter to Roy Wright at 20 Woodruff Way. The letter says that the cottage is in great disrepair and that Mr. Wright must submit a plan to repair within two weeks of the date of the letter or court action may occur.
    - iii. Warned us against speeding and rolling stops in Northfield. Said that one of our Northfield neighbors has complained about how fast we come down the Ridge.
    - iv. Lobster dinner has been very popular. Had to turn two people away.
5. Auditor – Ed Burdick
  - a. Financials look fine.
6. Treasurer – Lucia Powell
  - a. Summarized the budget line by line.
  - b. Thanked members for contributions to the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund goes for things like emergency road repair in case of something like a washout.

- c. Said that trash collection is going very well. Showed us a brochure about what you can and can't recycle in Northfield. Members can get their own copy at Town Hall.
- d. Postage and printing costs have gone way down thanks to the Internet. Encouraged any members who don't yet use email to get up to date in order to facilitate communication from the Ridge Association.
- e. Budget approved by the membership

7. Contributions – Lucia Powell

- a. Due to continued difficult economic situation in Northfield, the Board decided to give the entire community contribution of \$600 to the Food Pantry.

8. Memoriam – Elaine Harned

- a. This past year Kathleen C. Denise was called to her eternal rest. A book is being ordered in her memory at the Northfield Library.

9. Signs – Lucy Livingston

- a. Sign Committee consists of Lucy and Phil, her husband. After a 22 year apprenticeship, he was promoted to a full committee member and did all of the sign work this year. They take all of the signs down during the winter, cleans them, and puts them back up.

10. Gardens – Lucia Powell

- a. No report, but Lucia thanked her husband David Powell for his work on the paths. She does the flowers, and he clears the paths.

11. Roads – Alan Abel

- a. Saturday road crew work days have been discontinued since most of the workers are now in their 70s and the younger generations have little time to spend on working on the roads during their short summer vacations. As a result, the Ridge Association is now hiring Steve Wiggins to do our road work.
- b. Marsha Heydenreich brought up the fact that the fire lane is overgrown and needs to be cleared. She offered to host a clearing party. Action Item: Alan said that he will talk to Steve Wiggins and get an estimate for what it would take to get that fire lane cleared.

- c. Wendy LaVallee thanked the Road Committee for their work. Also expressed distress about the stumps that have been left on town property and are accross from their cottage. Action Item: Alan said that he would try to get in touch with Tommy Walker and ask him about it.
  - d. Colin Walker asked about brush collection. Brush can be left on the side of the road to be collected by Steve Wiggins. No leaves and probably no bigger than 6 inches around (must be able to go into a chipper).
12. Trash – no official report but Betty Stafursky made a point of asking everyone to please not put their trash on Friday night because of animals.
13. Ridge Beautification – Carol Ziegenhagen (Can you get this from her?)
- a. They started out with six cottages which were in less than desisrable condition 4 years ago. The beautification committee contacted each owner and I am thrilled to report that 3 of the cottages are in much better state. Thanks to Wendy Lavallee and Vin Catania who purchased the Jacob property on Woodruff Way and had it torn down, Kurt Nelson and Leslie Krichko Townsend who purchased and fixing up the Wills cottage on Ledge Rdand one other one which the owners have found time to use and care for their property on East Lane.
  - b. The committee will continue to keep track of such properties. We would like you to encourage your friend to think about an investment in some of the available properties.
14. Ridge Representative – Sue Ross
- a. The big news this year is the purchase of the campus by Hobby Lobby. Northfield is going to be a college town instead of a prep school town. Very different. She talked about going to Williamstown and dreaming that this is what Northfield could be like in 100 years. The college is in the expensive process of trying to get licensed by the state.
  - b. Sidewalk project has really revitalized Northfield. It has given people the sense that things are happening in Northfield. It was a “shovel ready” project that has been funded by stimulus money.
  - c. For now, Northfield remains an agricultural town. Some fields have been replanted with new grains and they are attempting to get this farmland protected under some agricultural protection measure.
  - d. Talked about trail and forest preservation. Need more detail about this.

- e. Friends of Schell Bridge continues to do their work. They raised the money within the Board to do an economic impact study and are in the process of choosing a firm to do this study. It will also look at the social impact of having a walkway between East and West Northfield.
- f. Said that Northfield is becoming an ever more desirable place to live. She said that our presence every summer makes her Northfield experience richer.

15. School Update – Dave Powell

- a. Gave a summary of the status of the school

16. Nominating Committee Report & Election – Charlotte Martin (There are more...get this list from Charlotte.)

- a. President – Carol Ziegenhagen
- b. Vice President – Doug Denise
- c. Secretary – Joanna Walker
- d. Treasurer – Lucia Powell
- e. Board Members: Margie Connor, Bob Ziegenhagen, Ann Stearns, Scott White, Lucy Livingston, Marsha Heydenreich

17. Announcements

- a. There is going to be a Rustic Ridge Tag Sale two weeks from today. August 21st? It is going to be held in the parking lot near Moore Cottage.
- b. Bring food to church tomorrow for the Food Pantry. Also, Joanna will take food at the end of the season. She will collect and deliver it.  
[joannawalker@hotmail.com](mailto:joannawalker@hotmail.com) or 919-619-9027
- c. Margie Connor let us know that the Northfield Pool needs significant deck work and may need our support in order to stay in business. She is going to write a letter expressing our interest in keeping the pool open and will send it around to us.
- d. Bob Ziegenhagen ran through the website: how to access it and content (i.e. photo albums, road map, weather map, Facebook page). A reminder to please let Bob know if you change your email address. He also offered his technical expertise to anyone on the Ridge who needs it (network and printing troubleshooting).

- e. Adrienne mentioned that all of the food that will be served in the lobster dinner are from “local heroes” (local farmers) and encouraged all of us to support our local heroes by purchasing food locally.
- f. Carol Ziegenhagen presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers to Adrienne and thanked her for her wonderful service as President.

18. Guest Speaker – Dr. Stan Mattson, President, C.S. Lewis Foundation

- a. Introduced his co-workers. What were their names and positions? Find out.
- b. They own Lewis’s home in Oxford. They acquired the home in the 1980s, but they decided that the last thing Lewis (“Jack”) would want would be for the house would become a shrine/museum. It is a working institution and a place for writers and thinkers. If you want to go visit and work on a project, email them.
- c. Lewis had been an atheist, but Tolkien challenged him to read the gospel and determine for himself whether or not they are myth. He did and determined that they were not myth, but more like journalism. He became a theist about two years later.
- d. The idea behind this college is to have students read primary sources from all of western literature (ie. scripture, Marx, Darwin) and form their opinions for themselves.
- e. Why Northfield? There were several other possible sites. They wanted to be near a major research university so they were looking at sites in the five college area, in between Duke and UNC in North Carolina, etc. Northfield does not really fit the bill in terms of proximity. However, they happened to stop by Northfield on a fall foliage tour and fell in love with this town and the campus. But still, it seemed unreasonable due to the size of the campus (30 buildings) and the locations. In the end, NMH decided to basically give the campus to the C.S. Foundation because there were no other potential buyers and because NMH was most excited about the Foundation’s vision for the campus. Dr. Mattson believes God made all of this happen.
- f. They are currently working on accreditation.
- g. Hobby Lobby has been a wonderful benefactor because they have no interest in running a college. They are truly just making a charitable contribution.

- h. Their immediate consideration is getting the buildings patched and ready for winter.
- i. Dave Powell and Mary Snyder have been putting in lots of work to restore Moore Cottage along with volunteers from all over the country – “Vacation with a purpose.”
- j. Bruce who did reconstruction architectural work at the Hotel del Coronado is an old friend of Dr. Mattson and has agreed to work on the campus pro bono because it is so beautiful. Bruce will be choosing the color palate for the buildings. Any new structure that is built will be simpatico with the current structures.
- k. They have agreed to restore the tennis court.
- l. The only sports they will offer are croquet, crew, tennis & golf.
- m. Adrienne gave Dr. Mattson a memento in appreciation of his commitment to restore our campus. She gave him a framed photo of the Northfield Inn. Dr. Mattson said that he has a 5-year vision to build a meeting center overlooking the golf course for leaders to gather. Doesn't know if it will happen, but that's what he wants.
- n. He also has an interest in helping out the library which lacks lacks air conditioning. He talked about Tanglewood and how they got a donation from Emmanuel Ax of collection of Great Books of western civilization worth \$15,000.

19. Adjoined at 11:30 am