

## **THE VALE NEWS**

January 20, 2010

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Rotary Awareness - A time to promote the importance of information to club members and awareness of Rotary in the community.

### **Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

January 27          Dave Koepele

February 3          Al Barillaro - Maggie Burke, Prog. Dir. for VASS

10          Monk Bancroft

17          John Basile

24          Tom Byrne

Editor's Note: Please inform Wini (496-6710) of the name of your speaker at least 2 weeks in advance. If you can't get a speaker for that date, please try to trade with another person on the list.

Birthdays: Betty Maguire 1/25

Anniversaries: Dave & Janet Ellison 1/27

### **Meeting News**

Small crowd on this lovely sunny morning. Maybe we should have held the meeting on the ski slopes. Our guests were Anna and Benjamin White

### **Announcements**

Dave K announced there will be a BOD meeting today. One thank you note received from the MRV Community Fund for our club contribution.

EREY -Jim Leyton skipped reminding us that we are not 100% yet.

John Hale suggested that we arrange for members to add their individual contributions to the Haiti Fund and that money will be added to our club contribution.

Several members listed the names of local groups that have formed to send aid to Haiti.

The BOD will make a decision on this matter today.

### **YBYI (YOU BET YOUR ICE) OUR BIG WINTER RAFFLE**

Gene Scarpatto continued to display his improvements to his "Executive Office". He informed us that the volunteers raised \$266 during the Martin Luther King weekend. The committee found the best times to sell were around noon on Saturday.

Ken Amann asked to locate our Rotary Aprons for the volunteers to wear while selling tickets. He felt it would be a selling aid.

Gene passed around the sign-up sheet for volunteers this coming Fri. & Sat.

No one was allowed to leave until the sheet was completed.

Ron Geren was confirmed as an official Benefactor to R.I. (He provided an amount to R.I. in his will)

### **Mini Bucks**

The winner will receive \$157. Judy Reed had a whole new deck to draw from and pulled the 2 of spades for \$5.00. It is the same \$5 she would have received if the pot were still \$1,000, but the disappointment was smaller.

### **HAPPY BUCKS**

Ken Friedman Loved the blue skies

Betty happy to celebrate 76 years.

Dave Ellison happy to celebrate anniversary

Bob Grant - new grandson

Judy - having a happy day

Stan Needleman - Pleased with the results of the Mass. election

Audrey - Ex husband, the surgeon - on his way to Haiti to help out.

Tom Byrne, Jack Mansfield, Jack Miner and Ken Amann all paid a happy buck, but your editor could not hear what they said. Wini forgot to solicit a helper today.

Monk - Skied at MRG again.

### **Program**

It was Gary Plewak's turn to make his "Classification Speech"

Gary started by saying he is excited about joining Valley Rotary Club because everyone has been very friendly and welcoming. He and his wife met Jack and Carol Miner 5 years ago and Jack has been encouraging him to get involved with Rotary ever since, He also plays golf with Dave 3 times per week

In addition, Gary is a Sugarbush Ambassador and is used to standing out in the cold.

He arrived in the cold - born in Buffalo. He went to school in North Tonawanda, NY a city big on football. He played on a championship H.S. football team, but when he played football at Rutgers University, found that he was too small and too slow.

Got a degree in Chemistry from Rutgers.

He started skiing while in college (broken foot story)

Worked for IBM in data processing, ended with AT&T as customer and met Fran. They fell in love, married and had 2 sons.

After 20 years, left IBM. Moved to NJ, bought his first house in Parsippany, N.J. After 5 years, Boeing started his big Apple adventure. Moved to Somers, N.Y.

In 1978, Bought 2nd home at MRG. Spent 7 years at Boeing with Venture companies.  
In 1983, moved to New Cannan for another 4 - 5 year of Venture excitement.

They joined a church in New Cannan and both of them got involved with committees such as: Stewardship, Outreach, Youth, PNC, etc. In 1990 had a lucky situation enabling him to start his own business which kept expanding until he sold it in 2004. He was 100% involved with it.

Now he is only 30% involved and has time for other things His wife is involved with many activities in the Valley - Seniors, library, church etc.

Thanks Gary for your story. Glad you still have some energy left for us.

#### THE FOUR WAY TEST

...of the things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the Truth?
- 2) Is it Fair to All Concerned?
- 3) Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4) Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned?

The Vale News  
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#### **Club Officers**

President	David Koepele
Pres. elect	Audrey Witschi
Vice Pres.	Lorraine Keener
Treasurer	Dave Ellison
Secretary	Audrey Witschi

#### **Committee Chairman**

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Vocational	Jack Mansfield
International	Al Molnar
Club	Al Barillaro
Foundation Chair	Jim Leyton
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