**THE VALE NEWS**

January 21 ,2015

Vol. 30 Issue No. 26

January (Rotary Awareness) a time to promote the importance of Rotary information to club members & awareness of Rotary in the community.

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

Jan. 21st Betil Agell ,MD  - Physicans for a Nat’l Health Program

      28th Melissa Baath - Vt. Interfaith Action

Feb.   4th Ali Smith &  Geof Bergen classification speeches

        10th Valentine’s Day dinner

11th No meeting

        18th No meeting - President’s Week

        25th Chris Pierson - MRV Rotary Club Web Page

**Birthdays** - Betty Maguire 1/25

**Anniversaries** - Dave & Janet Ellison 1/23; Stan & Judy Needleman 1/27

                Judy & Damon Reed 1/27

**Meeting News**

Good crowd on this sunny, cold morning ( that began with a pink sky), guests included: Tom Emory, Ben White, George & Linda Schiayone, our speaker, Betil Agell,  and our 3 exchange students Jose (Brazil), Emily (Taiwan) & Vilmos (Hungary)

**Announcements**

Gary Plewak started the meeting while people were still eating this morning as we had a full agenda.

\*The board approved Tom Emory's application for membership. If no written objection to the proposal is received by the BOD from any member of the club within 7 days, Tom Emory, upon payment of dues, shall be considered elected for membership.

\*Gordon Hoare , the chairman of the committee to solicit sponsors -  told us they have a goal of $20,000 this year and asked all the members who have social contacts with a business executive or technician to inquire if that person’s company  is  willing to become a sponsor for our club.  We can list them as donating a % of one of our regular causes.

\*Karl Klein - Our Rotary outhouse is ready to go (pardon the pun) - He is aiming to install it on Edison’s Pond next Wednesday after our meeting.

\*BOD meeting today following regular meeting

**Mega Bucks**--$392.00 to the winner. John Hale drew 2 of spades for $5 consolation prize

**Happy Bucks**

Jim Leyton - beautiful pink mountain sunrise

Monk - wife skiing with new knee

John Hale - Glad he did not win so someone else has a chance

Tom Byrne - New restaurant in Waitsfield serving good food

Al Barillaro - Just happy

Dave Koepele - Good day of skiing with Ken Friedman at Smuggler’s Notch

Stan Needleman - skiing today

Gene Scarpato - skiing with new pacemaker

Leo Cohen - happy not skiing today

Dave Ellison - Happy wife arrived safely in NJ but not happy to be alone for 3 days

**Program**

Betil Agell, made a presentation for having a Single Payer Health Insurance program in Vermont.

Among the developed countries, we are the only one without national health insurance.  Although our health costs are higher, we have the lowest life expectancy and higher infant mortality.

Single Payer (the government) health insurance costs less because it is  non-profit. Health providers send bills to the government and get paid by the government. They don’t have to get multiple forms from several different agencies.

Our costs will skyrocket in the future because of all the administrative costs in our system and all the people who get between us and our health treatments. Insurance companies are dedicated to make profits and have high-paid executives.  They dictate what procedures and what drugs they will cover and what doctors their system will allow. Thus competition will not lower the costs.

Medicare is a single payer system but covers only the seniors.  The military has a S.P. system

In Vermont all children are covered.

S.P allows budgeting, reduces fraud and allows price negotiation.

Note.  Betil worked with a computer and did not have any written handouts.

Jim Leyton led the 4 Way Test and the meeting was adjourned.

**Club Officers**

President                                            Gary Plewak

President elect                                 Chris Pierson

Past President                                   Manny Apigian

Vice President                                   Wayne Foster

Secretary                                             Bob Grant

Treasurer                                            Dave Ellison

Community Chair                             Dinsmore Fulton

Club Chair                                            Al Barillaro

International Chair                           Joe Goldstein

Vocational Chair                               Leo Cohen

Rotary Foundation Chair               Jim Leyton

Membership Chair             Clayton-Paul Cormier, Jr.

Sergeant-at-Arms                    Ken Amann

Editor Wini Thorsen

Asst. Editor  Audrey Witschi