**THE VALE NEWS**

January 28, 2015

Vol. 30 Issue No. 27

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. 28th Melissa Baath - Vt. Interfaith Action

Feb.  4th Ali Smith &  Geof Bergen classification speeches

       10th Valentine’s Day dinner - COMMON MAN 6 PM

11th No meeting

       18th No meeting - President’s Week

       25th Chris Pierson - MRV Rotary Club Web Page

No Birthdays nor Anniversaries   this coming week

**Meeting News**

Nice day considering we are still in the path of arctic air from Alaska.  Attendance under 30 with only one guest, our speaker Melissa Battah, a Central Vermont organizer from Vermont Interfaith Action organization.

**Announcements**

\*Gary welcomed Tom Emory into our club as our newest member

\*BOD meeting must be rescheduled (both time & place) as we do not have a regular meeting scheduled on Feb, 18th

\* The slate of officers for our fiscal year 2015-2016 was approved unamimously.  The list included all the officers, committee chairmen, project leaders and anyone responsible for any Rotary function.

\* Valentine’s Day Dinner at the Common Man,  6 PM   $42/person 2/10/15

NO MEETING ON THE 11TH OF FEB.

\*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. Tom Emory (he was put to work as soon as he became a member) passed around an announcement for the sponsor’s program

\*Gordon still looking for BAILEY, the family dog who has been missing over a week

\* Dave Ellison told us the annual ski race at Bolton is scheduled for March 13th. We need 8 skiers to volunteer for two teams.  It is a fundraiser to give money for heat assistance. (We will miss Heli this year, he was always on the team who won the Oldest skiers award)

Skiers will carpool from Waitsfield.  People can attend the dinner even if they don’t ski.  It is a good place to sell YBYI Raffle tickets.

Jim Leyton - EREY - gave us a spiel on why every member should be a Paul Harris fellow and support the Rotary Foundation, as 92% of donations go towards charity activities.  Also there is a benefactor’s program. Our club matches the Paul Harris payments when the member reaches $500.

**Mega Bucks**--$417.00 to the winner. Jack Miner - 6 spades for loser’s $5

**Happy Bucks**

Jim Leyton - just happy

Tom Byrne - Happy to get ride to Burlington next Tuesday

Carol Hosford - Spent last weekend in Brooklyn, where grandson was recording for a dance group

Jack Miner Happy to return the $5

Bob Holden both sad & happy - clutch broke down on his truck & bought a new truck

Monk - great day at MRG- roll-back day and there were no accidents. (Patrol had easy day)

Dave E. Sugarbush became a powder day by the afternoon.

Gordon Hoare - Happy to have Tom Emory join our club

Karl Klein - Happy Gordon repainted the outhouse red

Dave Koepele - skied on his new skis

Editor’s note:  Thanks to Susan Snider for note taking.  She writes a lot faster than I do. Wini

**Program**

Melissa Battah told us that the Vermont Interfaith Action is a faith-based grassroots coalition of congregations that transforms ordinary people into empowered and engaged citizens.  Their goal is to create the hope, power, knowledge, and political will needed to make compassion and social justice a reality for all Vermonters.

They have 18 groups throughout Vermont and help people with medicaid issues and other problems.

VIA is a member of the PICO National Network.  PICO changes lives, strengthens families and revitalizes communities across the country.

Example of their work - When a medical facility moves from the center of town to a location beyond the town limits, where there is no public transportaion, VIA convinces them to arrange for transportion for their patients who need it.

They plan to have a location in MRV and have had conversation with Nancy McHugh to help the homeless.

Their funding comes from grants, fundraisers and scholarships

Susan Snider 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, Susan Snider