

## **THE VALE NEWS**

10/28/09

Vol. 34 Issue No. 18

Vocational Service - A time to highlight Rotary's contribution to the 2nd Ave. of Service

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

|      |    |   |
|------|----|---|
| Nov. | 4  | Gene Scarpato - classification speech     |
|      | 11 | Betty Maguire - Mad River Cancer Support. |
|      | 18 | Audrey Witschi                            |
|      | 25 | no meeting (day before Thanksgiving)      |
| Dec. | 2  | Wini Thorsen                              |
|      | 9  | Christmas Party at Timbers 6 PM           |
|      | 16 | Restaurant Raffle Drawing                 |

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; Heli Hietzker 10/28; Bob Holden 10/31

No anniversaries this week (Nobody chose to marry on Halloween)

Rotary Anniversary:

Rosemarie and Art Conway (14 years) and Wini (13 years)

### **Meeting News**

Small group this rainy morning, only 35 people including guests: Elias Thomas, from Maine (former Governor of District 7780); John Daniell, (last visit this year) and Anna & Benjamin White.

### **Announcements**

Anna asked us to sponsor a trip for her class in the Warren School and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Restaurant Raffle- tickets will be available by Friday at Jim Leyton's office. Ralph asked members to sign up for ticket sales at Mehurons on Fri. and Sat. evenings. He promised that tickets will go as fast as hot cakes.

Dave Koepele gave us an update on polio shots. Workers immunized 1.3 million children in one day in Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan last week.

Rotary convention in Montreal. It is necessary to register before Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> (you can do it online). Also Tom Byrne has made reservations for hotels. After that prices will go up. Also daily bus trips are planned from Burlington to Montreal during the convention.

Bob Holden really made a pitch today for the Harwood Union Bond Vote on Tuesday, November 10, 2009. He says the money is desperately needed to replace worn out equipment, building infrastructure, potholes, crumbling pavement in parking lot and another athletic field

Dave told us that we will be moving back to the Inn sometime in November.

Mega Bucks - \$875 - only 19 cards left in deck. Heli's ticket got him only \$5.00 for his birthday gift.

Happy Bucks (comments came too fast today for all of them to be reported)

Larry - now on substitute teachers list.

Joe Klimek - said something about Jack Simko

Ron Geren - 1st haircut this year.

John Basile - Forgot what he had to say

Len Rubin - Rescinded all good things said about Al Barillaro

Karl-Happy

Art Conway - Glad that Heli did not draw the joker.

John Crump - leaving Vermont for the winter

John Daniell - Leaving Vermont for the winter

Ralph - Thankful that tickets are available for sale on Fri.

Sissy - Had a great birthday party in Marblehead with info from Scooter store - hearing aids, etc.

Al Barillaro - (another person just happy)

Audrey - stuck with taking Happy Buck notes today.

Stan - Enjoying all 4 season sports occurring now.

Adam- 1st time all 3 children home sick at same time

Dave Koepele - Thankful not running in NY marathon.

Stan introduced Elias Thomas to tell us about his experiences working for R.I. in India, especially polio eradication.

Elias said on his first trip to India, it took the people a long time to warm up to him. He was the first white person the village people had seen. Rumors spread that the polio eradication program was meant to sterilize the children. His team had to explain they were saving the kids from death.

In 1987 there were 55,000 cases per year, now there are only a few hundred. The world is almost polio-free except for 4 countries, Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The wars slowed their immunization progress.

In 2001, on National Integration Day the Rotarians were mobilized to concentrate on 1 country - India and immunized 145 million.

Clean water is another big problem in underdeveloped countries, causing many children to die from dysentery. In one village the women drew clean water from the well and then washed their clothes allowing the filthy water to drain down the well. The Rotary team built washing platforms far away from the well, allowing the well water to become clean again.

The best way to introduce population control is to educate the women and get them to understand that it is better to raise 2 children and take care of them properly than to have 15 who are all malnourished and unhealthy.

If the immunization program is stopped, polio will return. Every year, the Rotary teams return to give shots to kids under 5.

Another Rotary project is working with the locals to prevent floods caused by monsoons in order to improve crop production.

The people trust the Rotary teams now. Last year the team was invited to tea with some of the local women. In another instance, they sat with a family who had lost a child - held hands with the mother, shook hands with the father who actually embraced Elias. They were also invited to a wedding. Gaining the trust of these people is an amazing achievement.

The Vale News  
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**Club Officers**

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

**Committee Chairman**

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Community        | Heli Hietzker   |
| Vocational       | Jack Mansfield  |
| International    | Al Molnar       |
| Club             | Al Barillaro    |
| Foundation Chair | Jim Leyton      |
| Sgt. of Arms     | Lorraine Keener |
| Editor           | Wini Thorsen    |

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