

## **THE VALE NEWS**

Oct. 3, 2012

Vol. 37 Issue No. 13

Rotary Theme Topic for October - Vocational Service

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

- Oct.    3    Vermont Legislative Candidates  
      10    Doug Stoehr - Michael Wood-Lewis, with Front Porch Forum  
      17    Gene Scarpato  
      24    Joe Goldstein – Dori Ross of Tonewood Maple  
      31    Gary Plewak - Fran - MRV Gardeners
- Nov.     7    Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom. (at business location)  
      14    Restaurant Raffle Drawing (Winners selection)  
      21    No Meeting (day before Thanksgiving)  
      28    Vicki Walluck - Presentation by daughter on Denmark
- Dec.     5    - Christmas Party - details not available yet  
      12    Open  
      19    Open  
      26    no Meeting - holiday week

Editor's Note: Please inform Wini (496-6710) of the name of your speaker at least 2 weeks in advance.

Birthdays: none this week

Anniversaries: Allen & Ellen Barillaro 10/9; Monk & Jane Bancroft 10/7

### **Meeting News**

Today was the big day to hear from our local Vermont candidates, Adam Greshin, Sal Spinosa and Maxine Grad. As they were allotted 10 minutes each, it meant our meeting had to get off to an early start and cut our normal business to a minimum. Our other guests were: Allen Guano Stettler from Alberta, Canada and Mary Lou Pilder, from L.A. currently staying at the Glades.

\*Doug asked us to wear our name badges at meetings to help our guests and new members get acquainted with our members.

\*Restaurant Raffle - Gene announced that 63 restaurants are involved and we need the members who have volunteered to contact these restaurants to do it before Oct. 9th in order for our club to acquire the gift certificates before we sell the raffle tickets.

\*Ken Amann is lining up help to fill Paula Livingston's wood box with fuel for this winter. Community Fund Organization providing wood, we need pickup trucks to

haul the wood to the Livingston home and unload the wood (with the help of 8 Harwood students) . The event will occur on Oct. 14th from 9 AM to 3 PM.

The propane stove has been donated by Jack Simko, which will heat the house until Paula is able to put wood into the wood stove. A lot of repairs have already been made to the house by volunteers but still more is needed.

\*Vocational - Nov. 7 our breakfast meeting will be at the Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom (at their business location).

**Mega Bucks** - \$440 to winner. Mary Lou picked Jim Leyton's ticket but he blew another opportunity by drawing the queen of diamonds.

### **Happy Bucks**

Gene and his wife visited the Shelburne Museum and he brought in a flyer showing the partially built new building.

Clayton-Paul - his father will be 80 on Tuesday

Jim Leyton - political speakers here today.

### **PROGRAM**

Jim Leyton told us that Vermont now has 150 districts and our district had grown in population to the extent that we were under represented. The state solved the problem by increasing our district to 5 towns – adding Moretown and Duxbury to Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston and giving the new district 2 representatives.

Thus we have 3 candidates vying for these two seats.

He put the 3 names in a hat and had Doug draw the names to determine the order of the speakers: Result: 1)Adam 2) Maxine and 3) Sal .

At this point the photographer arrived and now it will all be on tape.

Adam: 4 years ago he ran for office, he enjoys working for the public and felt he could make a difference. His important core values are:

1) communication: He writes articles in our local newspaper, replies to phone calls and is active the legislature

2) Listening to voters “sucking words from people”

3) Gives his opinion - challenging experience of people who disagree

He has creditability. Most of his work is in committees. Passion is required to influence people 80 - 90% of the time. Many hours are spent in listening to testimony and hours of debate.

Maxine is running for election in the new district after being in the state house for 12 years. Background - came from Great Neck, L.I. Attended Vermont Law School. Practiced law for 30 years in Moretown and spent 12 years in the state house. Was a Vice Chair. of Commerce Committee.

Every issue has many sides and she listens to each one of them.

She also is concerned with domestic violence and has introduced major reforms. She is also concerned with highway safety, domestic abuse and an advocate of victim's rights.

As a parent she is aware of educational problems.

Health Care is another big issue.

Her daughter is a page in the state house.

She gets excited every day she is working in the state house. She will listen to our problems. She is delighted with the effort made by the people of our Valley to recover from the damage caused by Irene.

She needed only 7 minutes to plead her case.

Sal - As a lawyer in Sacramento, CA he made a lot of opening statements and closing arguments

He thanked the people who advised him to run for office and are supporting his candidacy.

He feels the cornerstone of his public service is "Public Trust"

People whom you represent - either clients or voters need to trust you.

In CA he dealt with many career criminals and is well versed in constitutional amendments

He has worked with victim assistant groups, welfare fraud, people who know how to cheat the government - antitrust laws.

Business crime vs consumer protection

He got a Masters degree at Vermont Law School.

He is "immediately conversant" with many topics.

He is also serving on Waitsfield's Select Board and has experience with solving local problems

Q & A session

Act 60 & Act 68 support equal opportunity for rich & poor towns, but results do not accomplish this purpose. How do you assess this problem?

Sal - A major overhaul is needed on the current tax program

Adam - the premise of the state is OK but problem is execution of the act. A large amount of money is taken from the pool before the towns receive their share. This has led to more spending. Legislators are afraid of opening a "Pandora's Box" if they tamper with the education fund.

Assisted Suicide.

Sal - last few hours of life should be made better but is a massive problem and will require an enormous amount of work.

Adam - legislation on this issue died, but he thinks it is a good idea. He would like to see the house take up the issue.

Maxine - 4 years ago she sponsored a bill for assisted suicide as her personal experience was heart rending.

What is the most important issue for you?

Adam – "affordability" - people struggle to live here

Maxine - Health Care

Sal - development of alternative power

Thank you guys for coming and giving us your opinions on many important issues.

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**

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