

## **THE VALE NEWS**

Nov 28, 2012

Vol. 37 Issue No. 20

Rotary Theme Topic for November - time to highlight our commitment to the work of the Rotary Foundation

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

- Nov. 28 Vicki Walluck - Presentation by daughter on Denmark
- Dec. 5 Christmas Party - At the Round Barn \$40/person 5:30PM  
12 Deb, Van Dyke - Dir. Of Global Health  
19 Restaurant Raffle Drawing (Winners selection) Linda Gilbert from the Shelburne-Charlotte Rotary club will make a presentation on the Honduras Rotary Project. This will be in addition to the Restaurant Raffle drawing.
- 26 No Meeting - holiday week
- Jan. 2 Assembly Meeting  
9 Robin Foster photography  
16 Sissy Walker  
23 Joe - Goldstein - Jay Kearns to speak about the Mad River Interfaith Council

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

Starting in February the new committee will select the speakers

Birthdays: Al Barillaro 12/6, Chris Kirchen 11/30

Anniversaries: none for the next 2 weeks

### **Meeting News**

All of our guests this morning were young people - our 3 current exchange students (Pablo de la Vega from Argentina, Nicolas Cordova from Chile, Vjera Krasek from Croatia), Tara Walluck who went to Denmark last year as an out-going exchange student and Benjamin White (Rosemarie's son who is still too young to leave home yet)

\*Restaurant Raffle -Gene Scarpato- We took in approx. \$700 over the weekend. Most of the tickets have been sold. If you still have not sold your tickets, you can sell them at one of the venues over the weekend. If you have not sold your assigned tickets, you had better get going.

The drawing is scheduled for Dec. 19th. In the meantime, the members are asked to bring the cash from their sales to the next meeting.

\*Al Barillaro - Al asked members to bring non-perishable food for the needy to the Holiday Party at the Round Barn on Dec. 5th. Bring check for total reservations, made out to MRV Rotary Club, The deadline is today!!!

\*Jim Leyton - Pop Concert performed by the VSO on Fri. Dec. 7th at the Barre Opera House, You can be a benefactor of an instrument for \$100.

\*Jim Leyton had 2 tickets for the VSO Pop Concert which were quickly snapped up by Al Barillaro.

\* Doug told us that our BOD voted to donate \$1,500. for flood relief to go to 4 districts in N.Y that had the greatest impact from the Superstorm Sandy.

\*Our club will welcome donations from individuals. Checks can be made out to Rotary and our club will forward the money to the District.

Heli has Cookbooks for sale @ \$10 each . This is a fundraiser for the MRV Seniors - money will go to the MOW program

Also we are invited to attend an evening of Food Appetizers, Lasagna & Chili, (live entertainment included) at the Slidebrook Tavern on German Flats Rd. in Warren at 6 PM Thursday. Dec. 6th. Suggested donation \$20. This is also a fundraiser hosted by the MRV Seniors to aid the MOW.

\*Mega Bucks - \$552 to the winner. Leo drew the 7 of diamonds for \$5.

\*Happy Bucks

Lot of members happy today. I can list their names but could not hear the reason for their joy: Betty, Ken Amann, Lorraine, Joe Klimek, Al Barillaro  
Gene took long trip - over 3,000 miles to visit his 21 grandchildren  
Jim Leyton - annual trip to NYC to visit Jackie's family  
Vickie - Son came from Calif. to visit.  
Dave Ellison - Daughter's flights to Baltimore and back arrived early. He brought his ski gear with him today.  
Doug - Happy to have all the students here today.  
Tara has now completed all her courses at Harwood H.S.

## **PROGRAM**

Doug introduced Tara Walluck, who is here today to tell us about her experience in Denmark as an exchange student. She put on her Rotary jacket with all the buttons she acquired while in Europe.

Tara was really enthusiastic about her experience abroad, she positively glowed when describing the 3 components of being an exchange student - Rotary, families and school. She said all 3 were wonderful .

There were 250 members of the Rotary group. They had monthly meetings, including a Costume Halloween party. Since Halloween is an American celebration, the US kids had the most creative costumes. The European teenagers are allowed to drink alcoholic drinks, therefore her counselor told her to act drunk at parties and she would blend in.

Rotary took the students on a European bus tour. Rotary meetings were on Wednesdays, which included dinner + boat trip.

At the last party, the students dressed up like Vikings and paraded thru the streets to the amazement of the Danes.

Families - It was rough at first before she understood Danish, but they all made her feel at home. One mother insisted Tara eat breakfast as that is considered important. She stayed with 3 families - each one taught her something different, all treated her as a member of their family.

School - Kids allowed to bring their computers and use them for class and exams. Difficulty of learning Danish was a barrier in the beginning

Differences - Even the small things are different . You buy food in kilos - not pounds, liquids in liters (even gasoline is sold by the liter, it makes it seem cheaper since a liter is a large quart). Unit of money is a krone (worth about 15¢).

Distances are measured in kilometers. There are no inches or feet - only centimeters, decameters, meters. Temperature is in Centigrade not Fahrenheit  $0^{\circ}\text{C} = 32^{\circ}\text{F}$ ,  $20^{\circ}\text{C} = 68^{\circ}\text{F}$ ,  $100^{\circ}\text{C} = 212^{\circ}\text{F}$  At least they drive on the right side of the road

You can see how confusing this is at first. Teachers are called by their first names. Children learn to ride bikes at 2 years old (without training wheels). Bicycles are a major means of transportation in Europe and cars are small because the price of gas is so high. Smoking is allowed at school - in fact they have 10 minute smoking "breaks" at school.

Health & dental services are free. They do not have "finger food". The fork is held in the left hand and the knife in the right hand to push the food on to the fork or to cut meat. Only Americans put down the knife and change the fork to the right hand. Hamburgers are eaten by using a knife and fork. They bring packed lunches to school. In restaurants, nothing is free. You pay for water and bread, but Europeans usually do not have bread with dinner. Tara enjoyed living in Denmark, after she got home she saved her money and flew to Denmark to celebrate a friend's birthday.

She thanked our club for giving her this awesome experience.

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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Treasurer	David Ellison
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