**THE VALE NEWS**

Feb. 12, 2014

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Rotary Theme Topic for February:

World Understanding - a time to highlight our goal of world understanding and peace.

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

Feb. 12 Club Assembly- AM meeting

  12  Evening - 5:30 PM Valentine Party Mad River Barn

 19 Scott Funk Sec. 1 Lending 7:30 A.M. at the Waitsfield United Church

 (Sugarbush is booked up for President’s week)

  26 Jen Fleckenstein of Fayston   - Pure Water for the World, a global safe

 water advocacy group.

Mar.  5  Heather Lynds - & BOB Hefferman  - Mad River Barn &  White Horse Inn

       12  Heather Timins - Vt. Adaptive Ski & Sports

       19  Open

       26  Open

Apr.   2  Amy Schram - Better Business Bureau - Scams & Fraud

No Birthdays nor Anniversaries this coming week

**Meeting News**

It was really cold at 7 A.M - below -10ºF. Only 24 members and one guest, Gordon Hoare showed up at the Inn. The hot coffee was ready and waiting for all the shivering Rotarians.

**Announcements**

Al Barillaro has arranged a Valentine Day Party for our club at Mad River Barn tonight.  Cost $27.50/person.  See ya all later!

YBYI Raffle - Karl Klein and Chris Pierson have been persuading Bartenders to sell our raffle tickets, last weekend the total sales of both indoor and outdoor locations were $457. Also $60 received from member assigned tickets. They passed around a sign-up sheet for this weekend to all the members today. We need to increase our outdoor sales in spite of the weather.  This is one of our big fundraisers. We will get publicity for this event during the next 6 weeks in the Valley Reporter.

Lorraine showed us her list of sponsors and got volunteers to contact every business on the list.

She felt we should display this list at all of our selling locations

Bolton Ski Race:

Dave Ellison has 4 entries to form one team for the  Bolton Ski Race in March this year,  needs 4 more skiers for a second team.  Heli is not racing for the Middlebury club.  People who don’t want to race, could come -  cheer on our teams  and have dinner.  It is another indoor locale to sell YBYI raffle tickets and a fun evening.

Cost of skiing & dinner is $47, for dinner only is $30.  Registration begins at 3 PM, dinner scheduled for 7:30 PM

**Mini Bucks**  - $50 - Wayne Foster drew a low heart from the new deck for $5.  Appropriate for Valentine’s Day but no cigar.

**Happy Bucks**

Betty - Happy

Ken Nadolny  - Back in Vermont

Marv Ginzel -playing in golf  tournament in Georgia

Brian Crandall - snow & lifts

Leo - sunny and snow

Dinsmore - snow  and sunny conditions

Al B. - coming for weekend - Both kids and their children

Tom Byrne - happy to be in Vt. and longer days

David E. - sun on Steins’ run

Doug Stoehr - Ski with ?

Gordon Hoare -Happy to be joining Rotary Club

Monk - Happy to race in ski race put on by his prep school alumni

Thanks Judy for taking notes on “happy thoughts”

**PROGRAM**

2013-2014 MRV Rotary Goals and Intent

Get the Word Out

Annual Report to the Community Many know Rotary for the Duck Race and You Bet your Ice, but few know how much we raise or where the money goes. In addition, we should highlight the number of volunteer hours contributed by Rotarians.  I propose that we publish an annual report of sources and uses of funds.  I have begun to develop an annual report for 2012-2013 and will discuss it with the board.

Rotary Meetings on channel 44. The speaker committee has been bringing in interesting speakers.  We should set a goal to get more of our meeting videoed and available to the public.  I will ask for a volunteer to learn how to video for local access TV.

One Article per month in the VR

Invite the public to meetings where we have a high profile, provocative or particularly interesting speaker.

Community Service (continuation from 2012-2013)

One community service project per quarter.  Rotary contributes about $35000 per year to the community, but we also have the opportunity to contribute time, experience or muscle.  We need an organized approach to identify projects and determine where we have the ability to make a difference.  I have spoken with Bruce Bertholon, our new VP, and he has agreed to lead this effort.

Member Involvement

Invite members to attend board meetings.  This will expose more people to the scope of the MRV Rotary and perhaps encourage some to take a leadership role.

Seek and encourage new ideas.  Take some risk.  Many of us have been out of the workplace for some time and that is where we were exposed to more current approaches to problem solving and new ideas. An example is use of Square to process CC.  This new technology was initially met with skepticism and there may still be issues to solve, but it is essential going forward.  We need more of this. It's easy to criticize, much harder to do.  So let's embrace new ideas…even is some don't make the cut.

Tolerance of Each Members Point of View.  We are a diverse group with many different life experiences.  Everyone has something to contribute.  We want to encourage each member to express their opinion or make suggestions.  Perhaps 5 minutes at each meeting should be devoted to one member's assessment of what we can do better.

Encourage Leadership.  Members of the MRV Rotary have accomplished a lot in their working careers; we need their experience and leadership.  With a group this strong, we should not rely on 40% to drive our projects and fill our leadership positions.

Youth

Rotary Speech Contest.  There are really bright, articulate students at Harwood and the GMVS.   Let's see if we can engage the schools through the Interact club to partner with us and participate in the Rotary Speech Contest.  Perhaps participation can become an extra credit opportunity in a related class and potentially help a student to win a cash award for their post high school endeavors.

International Commitment

Identify a project appropriate for our organization which we can sponsor or participate in with another club.

Global Health Media Project - Deb Van Dyke?

Membership and Recruitment

Establish a small team mentored by the membership chairman to identify and recruit younger members.  Experience has shown that young members drop out if they do not have peers in the organization.  Jack Miner has agreed to mentor this effort.  I propose to approach 3 or four younger member to develop and implement a plan to address recruitment of working age members.  In the next year, we should goal ourselves to add 4 new members.

June, 2013

                         **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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