**THE VALE NEWS**

Feb. 26, 2014

Vol. 38 Issue No. 28

Rotary Theme Topic for February: World Understanding - a time to highlight our goal of world understanding and peace.

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

Feb. 26 Jen Fleckenstein - 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  Amy Todesco Pathways for Veterans

       26  Don George, Pres. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vt.

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

      9 Jim Reagan - Senior Housing Options

    16 Gov. Schumlin

       23 William Carrigan, Vt. Dept of Financial Regulation - Fraud Prevention

    30 Honduras Group Report

May   7 Open

       14 Rob Williams - Vermont Public Bank

      21 Jeb Spaulding - Vt. Sec’y of Administration

      28 open

**Birthdays:** Ben Plewak 3/2/76;  Jack Simko 2/27

**Anniversaries:**  - none 'til after St. Patty’s day

**Meeting News**

A large lively group drove thru a windy snow shower to get to the Inn this morning including our speaker Jen Fleckenstein from Clear Water Filtration and two visi†ing Rotarians: Ed Goering from Greater Albany, Oregon and Becky Goering from San Antonio, Northeast, Texas. The adjacent dining room was full of Sugarbush Inn guests all talking at once while Manny was struggling to conduct our meeting

**Announcements**

Manny started the meeting by welcoming Gordon Hoare into our club and giving him a Rotary pin and a club badge accompanied by a handshake (no kiss).

YBYI Raffle - Last weekend the total sales of both indoor and outdoor locations was $1007. (Presidents Week boosted everyone’s sales in MRValley). Karl passed around a sign-up sheet for Sunday.  All the other spots were already taken.

 Bolton Ski Race

Dave Ellison has 4 entries to form one team for the Bolton Ski Race on March 14th of this year, so far he has only one person, needs 3 more skiers for a second team.  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

This a fundraiser - you don’t have to be an expert skier to participate in the race. Ladies are welcome. Consider it a donation to the Heat Assistance Program.

Manny says we have to start thinking about a person to name the Rotary-Person-of-the Year for our annual dinner honoring The Rotary Person of the Year.  Also coming up soon - Our Annual Golf Tournament, The Community dinner we will sponsor at the Waitsfield Church and Change-over Dinner at the end of June.  Those are the remaining events for this fiscal year.

Plus, we must start planning for the Duck Race but that is really an event for our next fiscal year.

**Mini Bucks** - $53 - Audrey dug the 8 of spades for $5

**Happy Bucks**

Jim Leyton - Happy Audrey did not win Minibucks

Gordon - Happy to become a member of our great club

Vicki - all here

Stan - guaranteed Spring will come

Dave Koepele - 10 day trip to Florida coming up.

(Only 5 happies today????)

**PROGRAM**

Adam Greshin introduced Jen Fleckenstein who is employed by Clear Water Filtration and is a class II Water Operator.  In 2013 Jen was appointed as a director of Pure Water for the World, a 501c3 organization dedicated to bring clean drinking water, proper sanitation and treatment for waterborne illness to Haiti and Honduras.

Jen grew up in Warren, Vermont.  Clearwater is a family owned business established 34 years ago. They donate $25 from each new installation for a current total of $13,500. Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western hemisphere.  It’s where 1 million lack safe water, schools lack sanitation and children walk to school with no facilities.

In Haiti, 4 million lack access to sanitation.  Water borne disease causes death in children.  80% live in poverty.  The current project is trying to supply sustainable solutions to bring safe water, sanitation, education and anti-parasite treatment to this island.

The most important is education for the community agents to become leaders.

They have a Bio-sand filter for $75, which takes 1/2 hour to install and will last for years. They want to raise $7/household for this purpose.

Rotary is a big supporter of this project. They are also building latrines to prevent disease and providing a hand washing machine and follow up with latrine tests.

Part of their efforts are going toward increasing corporate sponsorships. They are aware that many parts of the world lack safe water, but they are starting with the world’s poorest.

                         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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