**THE VALE NEWS**

March 11, 2015

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Rotaract & Interact Month - an opportunity to  promote services to youth and young adults.

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

March 11th Peter Youngbaer People’s Health & Welfare Clinic

          18th  Brian Kravitz  Central Vt. Basic Educartion

          25th Club Assembly,  MRV Rotary Club

April     1st        ?

    8th Dawn Anderson Vt. Enhanced 911 Board

           15th Linda Gilbert Rotary Club of Shelburne - Honduras

           22nd Susan Snider & Tom Emory

    29th Brian Moulton

May       6th Charlie Brown - Charlie Brown Productions

**Birthdays**  none this week

**Anniversaries**     none this week

**Meeting News**

Big crowd today - over 40 attendees at Evergreen Place this A.M. where we were treated to a delicious breakfast.  Guests included Jim Donahue (prospective member), our 3 exchange students Jose Silva (Brazil) Emile Chen (Taiwan), Volmos Zatric (Hungary) and our guest speaker Peter Youngbaer from the People’s Health & Wellness Clinic.

Gary Plewak led the meeting today

**Announcements**

\*Gordon Hoare discussing Sponsorship Opportunities for our Rotary Club.

There are 180 prospects in the Valley.  Letters have gone out thanking past donors and letters have gone out to possible new donors.  Each member has been assigned to make personal contact with one of these businesses.

If an establishment contributes a minimum of $500, we will put them on our website and we have pins to give our sponsors.

\*Our club needs to select a local person as “Rotary Person of the Year” ONLY ONE PERSON RECOMMENDED SO FAR. (Roy Hadden)

\* Doug Stoehr is hosting a two day event for our most recent 13 exchange students starting Sat. the 14th of March with a party at Doug’s house at 2 PM and followed by skiing on Sunday. He needs help with transportation starting at his house on Sat. at 2 PM to bring the guests to the ski area.

\*  The annual ski race at Bolton is scheduled for March 13th. We have 8 skiers who volunteered. Dave  Ellison would like to have one more as a backup in case one of the team isn’t available on the day of the race. It is a fundraiser to give money for heat assistance.

Skiers will carpool from Waitsfield.  People can attend the dinner even if they don’t ski.  It is a good place to sell YBYI Raffle tickets. Let Dave know if you are coming to the dinner at Bolton. COST OF SKIING + DINNER $47, DINNER ONLY $30.

\*Gordon - YBYI report .Total sales $2,171 so far.  Sign-up sheet passed around for this weekend commitments. The committee has not decided on a final sales date yet.

\* We have been asked to sponsor a Community Dinner around the end of May at the Waitsfield Church. A committee will be needed to run this event.

BOD next week. The BOD voted to donate $5,000 to the MR Path Association.

\*Chez Henri Challenge Cup on Sat. 3/28 $40, party after the race.

**Mega Bucks**--$490 to the winner. Carol Hosford’s ticket was drawn from the basket, she selected the Jack of hearts for $5.

**Happy Bucks**

Seems like we have a happy group this week.

Jim Leyton - no reason at all

Tom Byrne - happy not to drive Access Rd.

Bob Holden - First time declined extra bacon

Leo Cohen - no idea why happy

Rosemarie White - Taking daughter for driver’s test

Doug Stoehr - Skied MR Glen on 1st day of Spring

Bruce - 1st closing of the year

Monk - can’t think why happy

Dave Ellison - wife coming home Friday

Emily - happy to be an exchange  student

Jim Donahue - No more snow on the roof

**PROGRAM**

Peter Youngbaer told us that we are the largest Rotary club he has seen.

The People’s Health & Wellness Clinic mission is to provide primary health care & wellness education to the uninsured & under insured people of Central Vermont who cannot otherwise afford these services.  Peter lives on a dirt road in Plainfield and he worked at Sugarbush several years.  He landed in a career of executive director of non-profit organizations.

Services for people with disabilities or mental illness.  Peter was also in the Vt. legislature and saw health care from the state (provider) view point.

The clinic has a small staff, only one full time employee, but over 100 professionals give generously of their time.  It was founded in 1993

The clinics are free but they do ask for donations.  Services changed over the years. Originally 11% were uninsured, now only 6.7% and Washington county down to 2% after the Affordable Care Act in Vt.

Now patients can only sign up during open enrollment period, otherwise they are SOL.  There are 3000 uninsured people in Washington County, many are underinsured.  Primary services such as hearing aids not covered.

Vt. has oldest dentists in US accepting Medicaid.

Under new plans, lower amounts are allowed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The Clinic helps hundreds navigate assistant programs.

More people now covered under Medicaid,  30 - 40 people assisted in the Valley.

Funding - 1/4 by the state, they must raise the rest from donors. Town grants and Fundraisers.

Transportation.  Most patients are employed and use their cars.  The Clinic is located on a bus route in Waterbury. Their greatest need is volunteers to make their system work.

Ken Amann led the 4 Way Test and the meeting was adjourned.

**Club Officers**

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President elect                                 Chris Pierson

Past President                                  Manny Apigian

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