

THE VALE NEWS

MARCH 17, 2010

Vol. 34 Issue No. 33

MARCH - ROTARY & INTERACT MONTH: AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE SERVICES TO YOUTH & ADULTS

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

March 24 Wini Thorsen - John Lynch - Driver Education

31 Ken Friedman - something interesting

April 7 Beverly Kehoe - Summer Festival of Vermont

14 Rotary Person of the Year Dinner at the Terra Rosa. This year we will honor Delbert Palmer, retired Fire Chief of Waitsfield. Dinner \$35/person. Bring your spouse for this festive occasion.

21 Jim Groom

28 Dave Ruane

Editor's Note: Please inform Wini (496-6710) of the name of your speaker at least 2 weeks in advance. If you can't get a speaker for that date, please try to trade with another person on the list.

Birthdays: Jim Groom & Karen Winchell - both on March 18

Anniversaries: Jon Jamieson 3/18/96

### **Meeting News**

Another beautiful sunny day, the outhouse is still standing but is starting to lean. Our guests this morning were Anna & Benjamin White and our speaker Sue Frechette, president of the MRV Health Center.

Our three newest members received their badges today, Manny Apigian, Trish Hopkins and Gary Plewak. Welcome aboard!!!

Dave Koepele congratulated Wini on passing her driver's exam. Wini thanked all those who were driving her around while she was without a license.

Carol Hosford - I am asking for your on-line VOTE to help Waitsfield win a grant for an orchard at the Flemer Field. The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation will award 5 grants each month for the next 5 months : <http://www.communitiestakeroot.com/Plant/Index>.

The Flemer Green municipal orchard is on 7 acres of former pasture, across the road from the Medical Center. Many organizations have collaborated to ensure the success of the orchard. It will provide a hands-on horticultural classroom for the elementary school and provide fresh fruit for the Valley Food Shelf.

Please visit <http://www.communitiestakeroot.com/plant/index> and vote as often as once a day between March 15th & August 31st.

Congratulations to Lorraine who has a new house. The building was just delivered.

Gene Scarpato - has got a deputy guarding the outhouse against foul play. Some suspicious characters were seen with tools to hurry the plunge of the outhouse. Al Barillaro was seen lurking in the woods, Sissy Walker had a blow dryer and an extension cord - She claimed her home had lost electric power and she needed to dry her hair, finally a big guy resembling Art Conway, wearing a wet suit, mask and holding a crowbar - loitering near the outhouse - claimed he was in a contest for the best costume of the day.

If the outhouse is still standing by this weekend, it will be our last sales effort. So far \$8,069 collected, not counting money handed to Gene this morning. 24 members still have not turned in their stubs and money. If the weather cooperates, Gene predicts sales will top \$10,000 or maybe even \$11,000.

Thank you notes received from Joslin Library for our \$1,000 donation and the Vt. horse assistant program for autistic children.

BOD meets today after regular meeting.

MRV Senior Citizens Organization needs more volunteers for their Meals On Wheels program- especially in April as they are shorthanded at this time.

Rich Reisner asked us to support the Nancy Allen (G.M.V.S. Race) on March 22nd at Sugarbush

Henri Borel (Chez Henri) Race at Sugarbush on Sat. March 20th. Racers win medals, hats and attend a great party afterwards. Lots of fun. This is a fundraiser for our Medical Center.

The Rotary Leadership Institute. Guy Babb urges our club to get at least 2-3 or more of our members to attend the upcoming sessions either at Rutland on March 20 or Lebanon on March 27 (or both since there are three levels) Call Dave K. if interested (see e-mail for details)

The Russian GSE team will be coming to Vermont this summer. We need a leader and a committee to host them and plan the activities.

EREY - Jim Leyton. - Asking members to support the program by making out a check to R.I. for \$100 sometime this year.

MINI Bucks - \$331. to the winner. John Basile drew the 2 of clubs for the usual \$5.00 (Note it is slowly building up again)

HAPPY BUCKS

Bob Holden. Happy that Wini got her driving license back again. Relieved that the March 15th deadline for Corporation reporting has passed. Both Norwich men and women hockey teams doing well.

Manny Apigian - going south again next Tuesday

Jack Miner - Son and family coming to town

Ken Friedman - Safely back from Nigeria

All Barillaro - Praise for the Adaptive skiers  
Dave Ellison - Glad to have guest here from the Medical Center  
Gene - Thankful the YBYI Fundraiser coming to a close very soon.  
John Hale - Wini on the loose again  
Art Conway - recited an Irish poem  
Jim Leyton - Irish Quote for today: "May you live as long as you want and never want as long as you live."

Editor's note: Remarks are skimpy today, as Wini did not have any help taking notes and can't write fast enough to keep up with all of you.

## **PROGRAM**

Dave Ellison stated that Adam Greshin and he are on the board of the Health Center. Rotary is a major donor. Sue Frechette is the head of the board of directors for our local the Medical Center

Sue gave us a brief history - remember the yellow house on Main St. and the corner of Old County Road? When Dr. Saire left the Valley in the early 80's, the Valley no longer had local health care. A group of residents raised \$150,000 and hired Dr. Cook.

In the late 80's they sold the practice to Dr. Cook but continued to own and operate the building. By 2000, the health center was bursting at the seams and the BOD discovered it was cheaper to rebuild than renovate the ranch house.

Waitsfield zoning required a 2 story building. In 2003 they decided to lease the 1st story to Dr. Cook and evaluate options for the 2nd floor. A Capital Campaign raised nearly \$1 million in 13 months, thanks to Rotary for serving a leadership role in the campaign and sponsoring the waiting room. A survey was conducted to determine what should be done with the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. They found the Valley needed: More mental health services, urgent care, more alternative health care, and health education.

They used the findings to tailor the initial tenants for the 2nd floor. The new health center opened Dec. 2005, leasing space to: Primary care - Dr. Cook's office, 2 psychologists, PT, massage and Yoga. (eventually these 2 businesses moved into an alternative health practice)

Changes: Early CVMGP purchased the MR Family Practice. The community still owns the Health Center run by a board of directors. CVMC does not own the health center - part of long term planning for primary care in the community. Unfortunately Dr. Wargo passed away and Suzi Heinzerling retired, creating a shortage in primary care. At present they have a part time NP, but need more primary care.

The recession has left empty spaces in the health center and a shortage of primary care and mental care. Thus they started on 2 separate projects:

1st floor- recruit a primary care provider, renovate 1st floor by expanding internal space for 2nd physician.

2nd story - Three Moons Wellness Center will move in on April 1st. Renovate 2nd floor to accommodate new tenant and space for a community meeting room. Improve mental health suite for a new psychologist. This project will start in 3 weeks.

The Vale News  
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**Club Officers**

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