

## THE VALE NEWS

MARCH 24, 2010

Vol. 34 Issue No. 34

ROTARY & INTERACT MONTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE SERVICES TO YOUTH & ADULTS

### Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments

MARCH 31 Ken Friedman - something interesting  
April 7 Beverly Kehoe - Summer Festival of Vermont  
14 Rotary Person of the Year Dinner at 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** Dave Ellison 3/25, Ken Friedman 3/24, Dave Koepele 3/30, Ralph Walker 3/26

**Anniversaries** Bob & Sandra Grant 3/30

### Meeting News

Cheerful crowd this morning in spite of dismal weather - cloudy and just around freezing. There were 36 attendees including guests: John Lynch, the driver education instructor, Louisa Tripp, pres. of the Northfield Rotary Club and Robin Foster, guest of Jim Leyton.

As Dave Koepele is away on a trip, Audrey Witschi conducted the meeting today. She informed us that the BOD voted to give \$200 to the Nancy Allen Ski Race and \$200 to the Harwood HS graduation Party (to keep the kids from drinking and driving)

Carol Hosford - I am asking for your on-line VOTE to help Waitsfield win a grant for an orchard at the Flamer Field. The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation will award 5 grants each month for the next 5 months.

Please visit <http://www.communitiestakeroot.com/plant/index> and vote as often as once a day between March 15th & August 31st. We are in 5th place and need votes to remain in the top 10.

Louisa Tripp told us her club is hosting the GSE people from Russia and is looking for suggestions on wining, dining and entertaining them as our club has a lot of experience doing this. Call her (802)479-1436 or internet:

<http://www.trans-video.net/~rotary/> e-mail - [louisatripp@yahoo.com](mailto:louisatripp@yahoo.com)

Gene Scarpatto - Received a request to put a shower in his YBYI office. He attached a portable shower to the rear i.e. a curtain hanging from a circular rod on the outside.

He requested that a user bring a towel, as Wini was seen exposing her butt after showering.

When they were selling tickets at Mehuron's, on Saturday, March 20th, a bus driver drove up and yelled the Outhouse fell in. Gene immediately drove over and checked the time of the collapse- it was 4:27 PM. The winning ticket at 4:31 PM was bought by Dave Koepele, second place went to Andrew Winter at 4:15 PM and third to Peter Fortier who guessed 4:42 PM. All were within 12 minutes of the actual fall.

Gene thanked all of his helpers. Jon Jamieson turned in another \$1,100 from donors bringing the current total to \$11,367. Still to come are payments from 13 members for their assigned tickets. The final total is expected to be over \$12,000.

Now help is needed very soon to remove the outhouse from the pond before it sinks completely.

The club gave Gene a big hand of applause for all his efforts and Audrey presented him with a gift in appreciation for a job well done.

Honorable mention: Jack Simko sold over 100 tickets.

Al Barillaro asked the club for volunteers to help get the canoes out of the water during the Triathlon on April 1st. That will be our Club's part of this fundraiser.

Our dinner honoring the Rotary Person of this year will be held at Terra Rossa on Wednesday, April 14th. Happy hour 6 PM, Cash Bar, free appetizers. Cost \$35/person. It will be open to the public after next week.

Dinner choice: Chicken, Shrimp Scampi or New York 5 oz strip steak

Dessert: Homemade Cannolis

Coffee or tea included. Get your paid orders in ASAP either to Jim Leyton's office or Edward Jones (Mike Kelley is there Mon. thru Fri. office hours)

EREY - Jim Leyton. Still looking for more members to join. Doug Stoehr sent his check directly to RI, but if you make out your check to RI and give it Jim Leyton, our club will get credit for the new member.

Mini Bucks - Jack Simko had the opportunity to be a winner, but drew the 10 of diamonds. \$5 is better than nothing.

## **HAPPY BUCKS**

Carol Hosford: Please vote for the orchard by e-mail. We are in the top 10 and need your daily votes to stay there

Betty: Outhouse sank, thanked Virginia for helping Gene run the project.

Bruce - passed test to become a R.E. broker

Leo - successful trip to Wash. State. Glad doesn't have to go again.

Tom Byrne - Fireplace renovations complete

Ken Friedman - Co5 today??

Jack Simko - Removed snow tires yesterday

Ralph - happy

Jack Miner - Skied with 2 sons all week

Monk - Son of Ski Patroller won world ski championship Dillan Crossman won NA free skiing

Dave Ellison - Wife and daughter taking cruise to Bahamas

Gene- Relieved and thankful it's ALL OVER

Stan Needleman -Happy Health Care passed. Hope Wini gets it right this time.

Editor's note-to Stan Needleman -Sometimes the note takers can't see or hear clearly the person making the Happy Buck remarks. For accurate reporting, we need the person to stand up, speak slowly and distinctly and have the room quiet, otherwise we may even miss you altogether.

## **PROGRAM**

Wini explained that when she failed the Vt. driving exam the first time, she had a good driver's discount from her insurance and she felt the exam was not about driving as much as following Vt. rules to the letter. Yielding on left turns to oncoming traffic, and the 3 procedures: Parallel parking, a Vt. U-turn and stopping on a hill, list 4 - 7 possible errors each. An error scores a minimum of 2 demerits. Thus you can fail on even one bad procedure.

To pass you are allowed 21 demerits. It is so easy to acquire demerits on any of the procedures, that she decided the only way she could pass was to take lessons in Montpelier with an instructor. She contacted the John Lynch Driving School and John turned out to be her savior.

John explained that he usually teaches teenagers accompanied by their parents. He distributed plastic steering wheels, with numbers arranged like a clock. The proper way to hold a steering wheel is to place your hands on the 3 & 9 positions, thus if an airbag goes off, it won't hit your hands.

He said there is a transportation bill coming up in the legislature related to using cell phones while driving. He demonstrated that a cell phone blocks your vision and its difficult to signal while holding a cell phone. He feels there is too much multi-tasking going on when people drive.

He called his grandmother and was shocked to learn that she was talking to him on her cell phone while driving. If an accident occurs while the driver is using a cell phone, the penalty is doubled.

He wants people to use "yoga" technique - i.e. looking around while driving. He showed a chart on how to use the mirrors a lot to check blind spots when turning. He noted that [www.seniors.org](http://www.seniors.org). (AARP) has driving tips and he recommended that people read their owner's manual when buying a new car to learn how to use all the new gadgets.

As we age, things change, such as flexibility, night vision, reaction time; we may have to change driving habits, do more car pooling, cut down on long trips at night for example.

For everybody, keep windshields clean, check tire pressure (low pressure causes increased gas consumption as well as increased risk of accidents). In summary, pay more attention to your driving to avoid accidents.

**The Vale News**

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**Club Officers**

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