**THE VALE NEWS**

April 5, 2014

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MAGAZINE - a time to recognize the contribution made by THE ROTARIAN and 27 regional Rotary magazines

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

April 2  Amy Schram - Better Business Bureau - Scams & Fraud

      9  Honduras Team Report

    16 Gov. Schumlin

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

    30 Jim Reagan re: Senior Housing

May 7 Will Flender, Exec. Dir. - MR Path Assn.

     14 Rob Williams - Vermont Public Bank

     21 Jeb Spaulding - VT Sec’y of Administration

     28 No meeting - Rotary Person of the Year Dinner

**Birthdays** - none this week

**Anniversaries** - none this week

**Meeting News**

Has spring really arrived?  Or is this a cruel April Fool’s joke?  In any case it is a gorgeous day today - make the most of it.

We had a good turnout this morning including 3 guests:

Martin Locke, invited by Gordon as a potential member.  Martin is the new owner of the Elusive Moose Restaurant. Trish brought in Mary Cole and our last guest was our speaker Amy Schram from the Better Business Bureau (BBB).

Doug conducted our meeting today as Manny is out of town.

**Announcements**

Gary Plewak -  my announcement was regarding the golf tournament.  I am in charge of raffle prizes.  Last year we had around 28 prizes, we want to have between 30 and 40 this year.  Anyone that can help by finding businesses that will donate a prize should let me know.

Trish - Dave Hartshorn could use temporary help in the Hydroponic Greenhouse a couple hours / week in exchange for fresh greens.  All work is at waist level- no bending or heavy lifting!  Flexible hours to match your schedule.  Text/call him directly at 279-8054.

Lorraine updated the group on our 2014 Corporate Sponsorship drive. Thus far, we have raised $6,300 (see list below), a little down from last year's amount of $11,000(ish). We still have not heard from several businesses, and it's never too late to follow up with them. See 2nd list below outlining businesses that have given in the past and Rotary member assigned to follow up with them. Thanks everyone for all their hard work!

Amann Fine Leather $250.00

Bourne's Energy $250.00

Brother's Building $250.00

Clearwater Filtration $250.00

Waitsfield Telecom $250.00

Irasville Country Store $250.00

Jamieson Insurance $1,000.00

Mad River Garden Center $250.00

Mad River Massage $1,000.00

Maple Sweet Real Estate $500.00

Moore Design Builders $150.00

Neill Construction $500.00

Olenick & Olenick $250.00

Sugar Lodge $250.00

The Store $250.00

Washington Electric $100.00

Westport Funding $500.00

Wood & Wood $50.00

Total $6,300.00

Businesses to follow up on that donated in 2013:

Baked Beads - Audrey

Eiler's Financial - Dinsmore

Gillespie Fuels - Jack Mansfield

Mad Marathon/Mad Triathlon - Vicki Walluck

Northfield Savings Bank - John Hale

Paige & Campbell - anyone have a contact there?

Peoples United Bank - Jim Leyton

Suburban Propane - Jack Miner

**Megabucks**: approx $75   Joe Klimek won the chance to draw a card from the deck but we still don’t have a deck, so he wll have to stand in line to get his turn next week.

**Happy Bucks**

Gene - 1) got outhouse covered 2) End of  diapers since surgery

Lorraine - happy for sunny weather

Marv - Headed south

Stan - spring arrived

Clayton-Paul Jr. - Happy for Gene

Gordon - Happy for food & service at Elusive Moose

Monk - Epic skiing yesterday

Al B. - Is Gene happy?   “Depends”

Karl K. - Happy to be away from Chinese food

Chris P. - going to island off Granada (Caribbean Sea)

**Program**

Amy Schram informed us that BBB (Better Bisiness Bureau) is a non-profit public service organization which provides free business reviews to the public. With more than 400,000 accredited businesses and more than 113 offices in North America, BBB is one of the largest member supported organizations in the world

Their Mission: To be the leader in advancing marketplace trust.

Their Vision:  AN ETHICAL MARKETPLACE WHERE BUYERS AND SELLERS CANTRUST EACH OTHER.

They are located in Malborough, Mass.  508-652-4800

BBB standards for trust include:

Establish & maintain a positive track record in the marketplace

Advertise Honestly

Tell the truth

Be transparent

Honor promises

Be Responsive

Safeguard Privacy

Embody Integrity

When businesses fail these standards, they lose their accrediitation.

Accredited Businesses are recognized as trustworthy and reliable businesses to work with.

BBB is constantly reviewing businesses to ensure they will continue to meet the highest standards.

BBB checks on advertisements for truth,

When BBB receives a complaint, they investigate the business and will discredit a business if the complaint is found to be true.

They are advocates for both the consumer and business.

 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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**Club Officers**

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