**THE VALE NEWS**

May 21, 2014

Vol. 38 Issue No. 39

SPRING CONFERENCES

**Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

May 27  Rotary Person of the Year Dinner

      28 No meeting

June  4 Susan & Karl Klein - exploring China

       11 Open

       17 Changeover Night (new officers installed)  Tuesday                                    18  no meeting

       25 open

July   2  open

 9      open

       16 Evan Premo & Mary Bonhag (Are they going to entertain us?)

**Birthdays**  - Brian Crandall  5/25,

**Anniversaries**  - Karl &  Susan Klein - 5/24

**Meeting News**

Usual crowd on this lovely morning with summer guest, John Daniell and late arrival, our speaker, Jeb Spaulding, the Vt. Secretary of Administration.

**Announcements:**

BOD following regular meeting this morning.

NO MEEETING NEXT WEDNESDAY.

Rotary Person of the year dinner (honoring Dr. Cook) on May 27th Tues. evening, 6 P.M. at the Gatehouse.

\*John Basile passed away last week.

Joe Goldstein reported: A Funeral Mass for John Basile will be celebrated in Waitsfield on Saturday, May 24, 2014 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church.

There will be a reception at the 1824 House for family and friends following the service.

Dinsmore announced:  1. Please join the Mad River Path for its Annual Celebration at the Mad River Barn on Thursday, May 22 at 5:30 PM. Our speaker is Spencer Chapin of “Local Motion”. There will be appetizers and a cash bar.

2. Volunteers needed for the Green Mountain Opera Festival! To pick up artists at the airport, to staff events, to make snacks for rehearsals. Call or e-mail Dinsmore Fulton at 496-2638 or dinsmore@madriver.com

\*Wayne Foster distributed Registration Forms for the MRV Annual Father’s Day Golf  Tournament which included requests for 7 volunteers to help run the tournament, donate prizes etc. (No limit to no. of donors)

Start forming your teams. It’s 5 weeks away - sooner than you think!

Bob Holden told us that the Scholarship Committee has awarded a 4 year scholarship ($2,000 /yr) to MATHEW FISHER, who is planning to go to Bentley University and major in finance.  Mathew was best in grade average, sports, member of Interact, community service, all-round good student.

\*Mad River Valley Rotary is sponsoring the Community Dinner for May.  The Dinner will be held on Friday, May 30th, at the Waitsfield United Church, serving begins at 5:30 PM. These monthly dinners are free to the public. (Donations accepted).   We can expect to serve 120 people.

There will be sign-up sheets for various areas of service for a large number of Rotarians. Please help in making this dinner happen - and in making it happen in an efficient manner. The areas of service and participations are:

Food Preparation     Cooking    Set-up (tables, chairs, place settings, etc)

Servers and waiters,      KP's (pots & pans - kitchen clean up)

Take down and clean up (dining room and kitchen)   Donation of home baked pies (we will need about 16 pies - of various varieties)

Gordon Hoare announced that he has taken over the job of  “BIG DUCK” for this year and will be running the Duck Race this summer and needs help from all of our members for the various tasks connected to this event

\*Dave Ellison reminded us last week that our fiscal year starts on July 1st and that means our annual dues of $175 are due.

**Megabucks**:   $170 - Jeb picked Joe Klimek’s ticket.  Joe’s happiness ended quickly when he pulled the 10 of clubs from the deck.

**Happy Bucks**

Ken Amann - advised us to plan ahead for plots at a cemetery

John Daniell - here’s to life

Jim Leyton - glad to have the future governor of Vt. here today

Gene - celebrate Memorial Day parade with old friends in Lynbrook, L.I.

Gordon - back in Vt. loves it here

Stan Needleman - Tennis Club opening this weekend

Chris Pierson - Bob Holden gave him $1 for Happy Bucks

Marv -  1) great response on community dinner 2) Leon explained history of Rotary Aprons

Bruno - looking for Rotary aprons.  Club used to sell coffee after the 4th of July Parade

Al Barillaro - has heard of Bentley University

Joe Goldstein - Piano recital is over  (his daughter’s)

Vickie - back from California

Joe Klimek - Grapes made it thru the winter

Dinsmore - hopes to receive calls from volunteers

Jack Simko- trip to Philly and grand daughters

Bob Holden - had lunch at Hogan’s Pub

**Program**

Adam introduced Jeb Spaulding, who has held many government positions, including senator, state treasurer and presently, Administrator to Gov. Schumlin.

Jeb said he was surprised to see so many happy people, as he spends a lot of time responding to complaints.  Putting out “fires” is a big part of his job.

Tomorrow he is going to Rutland to take care of a tragic event.  He often investigates accusations in order to solve problems.  He has experience from being the chairman of the Appropriations Committee in the senate. He enjoys working for Gov. Schumlin.

He compared the two governors Douglas & Schumlin. Douglas - not much of a risk taker, but Schumlin has an entrepreneurial mind.  He is going to try and put in the new health care program and balance the cost to all businesses, make a better plan for the doctors with less paper work.

Schumlin dedicated his first speech to heroin and opium abuse as being a big problem in our state. Cutting down on drug usage is his no. 1 priority.  A bill was passed in 2011 to finance health care benefits.  Peter Schumlin is trying to get a finance plan working by 2015 - needs congress to act -  but not does expect it to happen.

We really need to understand what we are buying as costs are going up dramatically.  Amount of payroll tax?.  The governor has put together a good team to work out finances.  Uncertainty is not good for business.

Another problem is people who are put on medication involuntarily in state mental institutions.  These people need protection.

Teachers’ pension is only 50% funded by the state for health insurance, money is sucked out of their pension fund to cover costs.  Teachers will have 1% increase in premiums

The governor wants to increase the vibrancy of downtown areas of towns and villages.  Barre has a state-of-the-arts building.

The cost of legislation is going up as well as the cost of education.

Editor’s note:  Jeb is a really fast talker - my notes are an approximation of his off-the-cuff speech.

                             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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