

THE VALE NEWS

June 17, 2009

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International Conventions & Club Service

Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments

June 24 Karl Klein - Joshua Schwartz, the director of the Mad River Valley Planning District

July 1 Changeover at Dave Koepele's Home
8 Liz Kelly - Carol & Jim Groom- Mt. Top Removal
15 John Crump
22 Betty Maguire
29 Jack Miner

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: Jack Miner - 6/18

Anniversaries - Leo & Dinesmore Cohen 6/21; Joe & Jane Goldstein 6/17;
Jack & Carol Miner 6/20; John & Harriet Straub 6/19

REMEMBER EVERYONE!!! WE ARE NOW MEETING IN THE CASTLE ROCK PUB

Meeting News

Lovely June morning, but a little cool in the Pub. About 35 people moseyed in including our regular guests Anna White and John Daniell and our speakers from the Waitsfield Telecom Co., Kris Merchant and Richard Pitonyak.

Our newest member, Ken Amann, was assigned a job as assistant to Dave Ellison - that is a great way to meet all the members.

Announcements

The Rotary Club of the Boundary is holding its annual Golf Tournament on July 19th at the Dufferin Heights Golf Club in Stanstead, Quebec. Tournament fee \$15, Cart & Greens fee \$50/person. Early registration required.

Dave Ellison reported:

1) Dues for the 2009/2010 club year are due by June 30, 2009. This year's dues are being held at the same level as the past few years. Dues will be:

Individual \$150

Member spouse \$120

So far approx. 50% of the members are paid up.

Changeover event: Koepeles' Residence - 3400 Center Fayston Rd. July 1, 2009

Cost \$15/person + pot luck contribution. Dress casual. Volunteers needed to bring "finger desserts" such as brownies, cookies, etc. (3 dozen each).

Many garbage bags - 30 gallon size needed

Finally: 1) Volunteers needed for pick up and set up tent on Wednesday
2) Clean up, 3) Take down and return tent on Thursday

As you can see, this is a big event and all club members needed to make this affair a success. Everyone is needed to pitch in.

Happy hour starts at 6 PM

Duck Race - Leo announced that tickets will be available by June 24 so we can start selling them at the parade. Volunteers needed to march next to the float on the 4th.

Dave Ellison reminded us that the annual membership at Sugarbush Health Center is due for renewal. The 30% discount package offered to Rotary last spring is available again this year. We need at least 10 members to sign up to obtain this discount (we had 15 last year). Non-member spouses can get a 10% discount as well, if they sign up with their spouses.

He will be happy to coordinate our communications with SHARC on behalf of Rotary. If you are planning to join or renew your membership, please let him know (by e-mail or at the meeting) so that he can confirm with SHARC that we are interested in taking advantage of this offer again.

Pig Roast--Sunday July 5 at 5 pm. Advance tickets at farmers market or Blue Toad \$12--\$15 at the door. Children under 10 are \$8

"Deacon Dunk" After the parade at Brook Field--Dunk a Deacon of the Warren Church or another Valley participant. Dunkees welcome, you don't have to be a deacon, just wear a bathing suit--person who attracts the most chances to get dunked wins a floral arrangement from Blue Toad.

John Crump believes we should support the Big Picture They have been in business for 3 years and host many cultural, political and community events, benefits etc. They ask us to become members at a fee of \$50 to \$1,000 for a year. Discounts and free tickets are in proportion to the cost of the membership. They need a little help to stay in business.

Mega Bucks \$515 to winner. Stan drew the six of clubs - lots of money left

Happy Bucks

Stan - Market not down in last quarter

John Daniell - Amen to that

Dave Ellison - Hosting opera musicians

Bob Holden - Can hear better at the Pub

Dinesmore - finally free of cast & stitches

Rich Reisner - Got boat into the water

Ken Friedman - ONE MORE WEEK

John Basile - Everyone should go to the Opera - it's getting better and better

Jack Mansfield - Son & grandson here for the weekend

Audrey - Going to the Opera

Dave Koepele - Grandsons here

Jim Leyton - Back from big birthday celebration for granddaughter

Lorraine - Happy to have 2 coworkers here today.

Ken Friedman - Also had grandson here this weekend, and reminded us that the dress rehearsal is in Barre tonight,

Several others happy but not loud enough to be heard.

Program

Lorraine introduced her 2 speakers from the Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom, Kris Merchant and Richard Pitonyak. Both are long term employees of WCVT. Kris discussed "Why Fiber?". He showed us a sample length of their present cable - it is about 2 inches in diameter and can do 600 calls simultaneously, but the new fiber-optic conductor is less than 1/2 inch in diameter and can do 32,000 calls at one time.

The new conductor is a considerable investment for the company and is being installed in new developments, new businesses and will gradually replace the old system throughout the Valley. One marvelous feature is that it is not affected by weather nor lightning. It is also much lighter and make handling it much easier. The company is no longer a mere telephone company, it is now a data exchange.

Rich (the tech guy) took over and explained why more and more electricity is needed to supply all our appliances and why we need the bigger "pipeline", especially for the internet use.

He instructs his staff never to treat customers the way customers treat the staff. (Customers are usually irate because of some disfunction of their computers) Their equipment is reliable, but some of the customers are lacking skill or patience to use it.

They also handed out a copy of their new book "Connecting Family, Friends & Neighbors", the history of Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom.

In 1904 the Waitsfield & Fayston Telephone Co. had 75 subscribers and a central office in McAllister's home. From that modest beginning and thru many disasters, such as floods and ice storms, not to mention financial difficulties, the present modern company has emerged with over 100 employees. It is still a family owned business on the leading edge of technology, reliable, publishing an award winning phone book and looking out for its friends and neighbors.

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:

President	Ken Friedman
Vice President	Art Conway
President Elect	Dave Koepele
Past-president	Jack Miner
Secretary	Audrey Witschi
Treasurer	Dave Ellison
Sergeant-at-Arms	Lorraine Keener

Committee Chairmen:

International	Dave Koepele
Club	Al Barillaro
Community	Helmut Hietzker
Vocational	Jack Mansfield
Foundation	Jim Leyton
Editor	Wini Thorsen

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