

THE VALE NEWS

August 11, 2010

Vol. 35 Issue No. 6

Membership & Extension - a time to highlight membership development and extension

Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments

August 18 Assembly Meeting
25 Jim Leyton -Amy Cunningham & Jen Petterson
Sept. 1 Vicki Walluck
8 Joe Klimek
15 Joe Koch
22 Karen Winchell - Hal Cohen (CVCAC)
29 Dave Koeple

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: Joe Klimek 8/13

Anniversaries: none

Meeting News

The fog disappeared when the sun came out this morning helping 45 people to find their way to Sugarbush this morning including guests: Walter Brink, a local service Manager and Harry Van Dyck, a Rotarian from the Sunrise Club in California. The crowd was so noisy, Audrey almost had to hit the gavel 3 times to start the meeting.

Announcements

Helmut reminded us that on Sunday, August 15th, at 4 PM. The Warren Public library will View the new "Life in Washington County" documentary and share a Community Potluck with neighbors (our club is considered a neighbor) Reservations suggested, call 496-3913.

Leo Cohen, BFD gave his weekly report on the Duck Race Sales:

We sold \$620 in Duck Race tickets this past weekend.

Mehuron's	165
Shaw's	104
Warren Store	60
Farmer's Market	291
Total	620

I am currently projecting net proceeds of \$10,500 if we are able to maintain a sales pace of about \$400/week

Gary was pleased to say that all the members who signed up to sell Duck Race tickets showed up at their appointed times and hopes this occurrence repeats itself this weekend.

It seems that Al Barillaro who puts up the tent at the Farmers Mkt. was being referred to as a "Tent Monkey". Al did not appreciate this appellation. Therefore please refer to him as the Senior Erection Engineer when he does this job in the future.

Peter Laskowski: The Waitsfield Historical Society Barn Party will be on Sunday Aug. 15 from 4-6 pm at the Wait House in Waitsfield. There will be light refreshments in addition to music by guitarist James Kinne. This event is free and open to the public.

Mega Bucks

\$881 to the winner. Although Jim Leyton got down on one knee, he did not locate the joker, but received \$5.

Happy Bucks

Dave Koepele - no extra people at his house this week.
Joe Klimek - grapes have turned purple
John Hale - Joe has sign up
Harry VanDyck - Enjoying our beautiful Valley
Bob Holden - Son won young musicians award
John Mansfield - just happy to be here
Tom Byrne - Walter Brink will keep Rotary going another generation
Art Conway - mumbled something
Monk - beat both son and grandson in tennis and golf
Jim Leyton - noted 2 guys with ties today
Walter - Thanked Tom & Jim for calling him a "snot nosed kid"
John Crump - Saw "Animal House" - gave him idea for Rotary Party
Betty & Judy - happy
Dave Ellison - Heard heavy rain last night
Karl - Happy driveway held up under the rain
Ken Friedman - Cooking class at Huntington house
John Crump- Happy Hour at his house Friday. BYOB

PROGRAM

Since Ron Geren missed most of last year while undergoing treatment for cancer, he decided to do another classification speech to help us to get to know him all over again.

Born in Queens, NY during the depression in 1937, his parents named him Ronald Geren- they were too poor to give him a middle name.

Attended PS#94, didn't have TV., cell phones, video games, computers- kids made their own toys. He was the singing cowboy on a TV show every Saturday.

He always had money because he and his friends hustled. They knocked on doors and asked to mow lawns, shovel snow, wash cars etc. He also caddied, set up bowling pins, collected newspapers for 1¢/#.

Attended Bayside HS for 2 years, parents moved to L.I. where he attended Hempstead HS, met his future wife, Hilda.

Threw discus, thought he was pretty good until he competed against Al Oerter @ Sewanhaka Meet. Al became the gold medalist in discus throwing in 56,60,64 and 68 Olympics.

Attended Cornell (where he played/practiced football) the team played against Syracuse with Jimmy Brown and lost 55- 0.

He graduated in 1959. Was in ROTC. Had wife and child and no job. Army did not want him until 9 months after graduation and General Foods was the only company to offer him a job.

Army - Was a ship-to-shore and beachhead command officer in the Army Marine Corps. Although this was a dangerous job, he was never shot at during his entire stay in the army from 1960 - 1962.

Looked for a job on the West coast, but General Foods made an offer he could not refuse

General Foods- Sales, administration and DM. Moved from NY to Detroit to San Francisco. Then back to White Plains to work on Birds Eye vegetables- met and worked with Chris Kirchen.

While in NY, went to night school at NYU and earned an MBA degree.

1969 Morton Frozen Foods- Div of ITT- kept climbing the ladder

1978 - Started own business - Food Brokerage business in Mid-Atlantic states. HQ in Baltimore. Reached almost \$100 million in sales, employed 49 people and built 25,000 sq.ft. office building.

1997 Watershed Year. Both parents died, Sold everything he owned and simplified his life, but paid huge capital gains tax.

Children - He has been blessed with 3 wonderful children: Jay is a dentist in Alexandria, Va; daughter Pam has her own business designing clothes (she is the one who makes our shirts and hats); son Greg is a photographer in Proctor, Vt.

Ron is now semi-retired; lives in Savannah in the Spring and Fall, at Sugarbush Winter and Summer. His best friend (since childhood) convinced him to move to Savannah and 41 years ago he fell in love with Vermont. (long story)

Rotary - Rena Chernick introduced him to Rotary. Last year was the year from hell for him, but cards, phone calls, e-mails from our club kept him going. Once again he thanked us and is indeed proud to be a part of the Mad River Valley Rotary Club.

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?

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