

THE VALE NEWS

August 25, 2010

Vol. 35 Issue No. 8

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

Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments

Sept. 1 District Governor's annual visit
 8 Joe Klimek - Jen McDermott - "Locavore"
 15 Dave Ellison - Tapes from Dist. Mtg. in Montreal
 22 Karen Winchell - Hal Cohen (CVCAC)
 29 Dave Koepele

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: Doug Stoehr 8/26: John Straub 8/26

Anniversaries: Joe & Carol Klimek 8/31

Speakers - Amy Cunningham & Jen Peterson

Meeting News

Attendance was a little off today as I counted only 34 people at the Pub including guests: Walter Hannemann, from Penn. and our speakers from "Everybody Wins Vermont"

Announcements

Mini BOD following the meeting this morning.

Leo BFD:

Sales:

Sponsorships	3,250
Members	5,040
Tickets	5,582
Grand Total	13,872
Expenses	3,484
Projected Net	10,388

PS: The membership sheet with names, numbers and so on is very useful. Do you have it in a spreadsheet file? If so, I would very much like to have a copy.

Gary reminded us - only 2 weekends left the duck race. He also reminded us that a lot of help is needed for the race - set up the race, cut the grass around the race area, number the ducks sold on DR day. etc.

Dinsmore - The Mad River Path Association urgently needs construction help on Saturday, August 28, from 8 AM to 1 PM. Come for an hour, come for a day, behind

the Golden Lion at the foot of the access Road. At least 12 people are needed!!!! Call Dinsmore at 496 - 2638

Betty held up a poster she had made to get everyone to attend the silent auction on Saturday August 28th at Evergreen Place. This is an important fundraiser for them.

Ken- advised us about Photography shows on Sat. and Sun. at the Artisans Gallery 12 - 3 PM and the Warren Library is also putting on a photography show on Sun at 3 PM.

It looks like this weekend is going to be very, very busy and in addition we are still selling tickets at the Farmers Market.

Audrey read again the list of officers and committee chairmen for our current year.

Mega Bucks - \$885 to the winner. Art Conway drew the 3 of hearts - reward \$5

Happy Bucks

I did not have an assistant this week, therefore I will list all the Happy donors and summarize the comments:

Karl, Joe Klimek, Jack Mansfield, Adam, Monk, Ron, Stan, John Hale, Art Gary, Tom, Ken Amann, Dinsmore, Walter Hannemann, Jack Miner, Al Barillaro, Dave Koepele, Ralph, Betty, Sissy, Audrey, Ken Friedman, Jim Leyton and Doug.

Topics mentioned were: Sugarbush will host a golf benefit for employee Yen Kemeng, who fled his native Cameroon due to political persecution on February 16, 2007 leaving his wife and children behind. Kemeng is a teacher in Cameroon and hopes to return to Cameroon and liberate his family.

Others had relative and friends (both coming and/or going), some are going out of state to visit family, one was on a women's team, smiles-beget-smiles, one was selling tickets at the Warren store and looking for help on the Path. See if you match the topic with the speaker.

PROGRAM

Everybody Wins! Vermont

Our Mission

By creating mentoring relationships that foster a love of reading and language, Everybody Wins! Vermont increases children's prospects for success and engages a diverse range of volunteers in their community schools.

The Crisis

One of the most critical problems facing our country today is illiteracy. Our national standard of living and the ability for our country to successfully compete in a global

economy are at stake if American young people are unable to read. Consider the following statistics:

An estimated 80,000 Vermonters ages 18 to 59 lack the reading, mathematics and writing skills to function effectively and find employment at a livable wage. More than one in four Vermont kindergarten students is not ready to participate successfully in school.

According to national surveys, roughly one in five American children grows up functionally illiterate. The effects on the American workforce are staggering, with American businesses spending more than \$200 billion annually to teach remedial reading and mathematics skills to their employees. The social costs of incarceration and welfare are directly related to functional illiteracy.

The Program Is Simple

Once a week, reading mentors go to a nearby elementary school, meet with their student reading partners, eat lunch or breakfast, and read together or share literacy activities. EW! VT takes full responsibility for all administration and coordination by engaging staff to handle recruitment, screening, and orientation. We also hire a school coordinator at each site to manage the daily logistics. EW! VT provides books, training materials, orientations, parent outreach, enrichment activities for the students, liability insurance and other necessary supplies for the program.

The Program's Features

EW! VT's program comprises five elements in line with its mission:

Power Lunch and Power Breakfast (weekly at participating sites): The Power Lunch and Power Breakfast programs pair elementary school children with adult reading mentors. Reading mentors spend about one hour a week at schools with their student partners. Each week, the pairs read, talk about books or share literacy activities. Power Lunch and Power Breakfast provide children with positive role models and foster a love of reading and learning.

Readers Are Leaders (weekly pilot launched in early March 2008 at one site): Readers Are Leaders casts older students as mentors to younger ones. Younger students receive all the benefits of the literacy-based mentoring relationship, while older students develop confidence and leadership skills.

Parent and Mentor Events (once or twice per reading year per site depending upon site needs): These events highlight literature and literacy. Presenters from education or related fields help parents and mentors develop skills in reading aloud to children or lead discussions about literacy topics, such as storytelling or ways to encourage students to write. The events also provide an opportunity for parents and guardians to meet their child(ren)'s mentor(s).

Gift Books (twice per reading year per site): Children who come from homes with books are more likely to pick up a book for pleasure. To ensure students have books to call their own, EW! VT distributes high-quality children's books to participating students twice each school year.

Summer Pen Pals: Student and mentor reading pairs write to each other during summer vacations, allowing pairs to remain in touch while schools are out of session.

The History

Everybody Wins! was founded in 1991 in New York City. In the spring of 1995, Senators James Jeffords (I-VT) and Paul Simon (D-III) along with a bipartisan coalition of 130 Senators and their staff helped launch the program in Washington, D.C. Since then, EW! affiliates have opened across the country in urban locations, including Los Angeles, Boston, Minneapolis, Southern Florida, and other sites. EW! Vermont was the first statewide program in a rural location.

EW! VT's growth has been strong and steady while maintaining high standards. EW! VT's first two sites were launched in October 2000 with just 30 mentors and a handful of business partners; two more sites were launched in spring 2001. By Fall 2002, seven sites were participating with more than 200 mentors from more than 60 companies. At that time, EW! VT partnered with the Upper Valley Business Education Partnership (UVBEP), an alliance that allows more schools to participate in the program in Vermont and in some neighboring New Hampshire communities.

EW! VT has become the state's largest mentoring organization. Currently, 520 reading pairs are participating at our 17 sites in Barre; Barton; Brandon; Burlington (three sites); Claremont, New Hampshire*; Hartland*; Middlebury; Montpelier; Rutland; Shelburne; Tunbridge*; White River Junction; West Fairlee*; West Lebanon, New Hampshire; and Winooski.

*Programs are administered in collaboration with the Upper Valley Business and Education Partnership.

Our Success

Based on feedback from our 2008-2009 year-end program surveys:

90% of students said that their reading mentor helped them read better.

67% of teachers and parents reported that participating students improved or greatly improved their reading abilities.

88% of teachers said that, because of the student/mentor relationship, participating students felt that more adults care about them.

73% of teachers, 62% of parents and 70% of mentors reported improvements in students' self-confidence.

97% of mentors report that the program met or surpassed expectations.

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Club Officers

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