

THE VALE NEWS

8/5/09

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Membership & Extension - a time to highlight membership & Extension

### **Club Calendar & Speaker Assignments**

August 12 Judy Reed - Ed McBride the Deputy Director of Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont.  
19 Ken Amann (classification speech)  
26 Dinsmore Fulton  
Sept. 2 Frank Rodgers  
9 Dave Ruane  
16 Len Rubin  
23 John Straub  
30 Nancy Spencer Smith

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: Leo Cohen 8/5, Audrey Witschi 8/5, John Hale 8/9

Anniversaries: Bob & Mary Holden 8/5; Dave & Kathy Koepele 8/8

### **Meeting News**

Today started with a drizzle but improved later to a sunny day.

Guests today were: Debra Boyer, our speaker, Mary Kerr, a long time resident of the Valley, Doug Stoehr, who is transferring his membership from Connecticut to our club, George Delanoy, a visiting Rotarian from Calif., Sally Molnar, Brian Lee from Taiwan and Sabrina, our exchange student just returned from France.

Duck Race

Audrey announced that sales are down 50% from last year. We hope to make up some by selling tickets at the Washington County Fair. We will need 9 volunteers. Members also needed to sign up to sell tickets at Mehurons and the Farmers Mkt. as usual.

**MEMBERS PLEASE BRING IN YOUR TICKET STUBS AND CASH, IT REALLY HELPS THE BOOKKEEPER**

GSE visitors on Oct. 9, 10, & 11 need hosts. Call Al Molnar if you can host one or more of them.

Ball Game - Our club received a \$60 refund. Next game - if you don't have tickets, mention Rotary at the gate and you will get a discount. Ask Art for details.

John Crump announced that the International Rotary Convention will be held in Montreal next spring. He felt that now is the time to make your reservations. Tom Byrne can handle reservations and travel arrangements.

Tom Byrne- Informed us that people who sign up for the Mad River Chorale can win a \$1,000 travel voucher.

Sabrina told us that she stayed with 3 different families in France, and met many other exchange students from different countries (only 2 spoke English). She traveled throughout France and also make trips to Germany and other European countries. In other words, she had a wonderful experience.

Eli Holden is getting ready for college and thanked us again for his scholarship. He reminded us that his class is leaving the Interact Club at Harwood and he hopes we will put some time into the new leadership of the club and encourage them to continue their good work in the community.

Mega Bucks \$664 Leo drew the Jack of Clubs, he can put it up his sleeve for duplicate tomorrow. Maybe it will bring him luck - got only \$5 today.

Happy Bucks:

Al Barillaro - Taste of the Valley

John Crump - Enjoyed hosting Brian Lee from Taiwan

Art -Enjoyed the "Taste of the Valley"

Audry - Two reasons to celebrate today

Bob Holden - Anniversary

Sally Molnar - Glad to have 2 friends here today.

Al Molnar - Pleased to have Debbie here to talk about Micro Financing

Judy - Happy to have anyone sponsor Walk against Child Abuse.

Joe Klimek - 11 grand kids here now

Jack Simko - Work on Barn floor almost done

Tom - Met guest who is also travel agent

Karen - Thankful it did not rain for 2 days

Jim Groom - got 1st gleeful laugh from granddaughter

Leo - Mother and grandmother

Monk - Jane celebrated 65th birthday

Mary Kerr - recognized many faces here today

Sabrina's mom - Happy for Rotary sponsoring Sabrina and happy to have Sabrina home.

## **PROGRAM**

Debbie Boyer engages in Micro financing all over the World. Anyplace that is dangerous, she has been there (especially the Middle East and Asia).

She says after talking to many people around the state, that have knowledge about micro financing, it involves women particularly as they are the caregivers and deal with household finances.

Some loans are as small as \$100. This amount would go far in Cambodia for example, but not in Palestine where everything is expensive.

It helps the poor - people who can't get loans from a bank to start a small business, have to pay exorbitant interest to a Pawn Broker or loan shark. Even borrowing from families can cost 25%.

MFI combines social and financial aid. Credit Unions offer larger amounts.

Types of finance are individual loans also solidarity groups of 10 to 30 women who offer training, self-help and guarantee small loans. They evaluate each other.

In Afghanistan, women are not allowed out of the house without a man accompanying them. This makes marketing difficult.

MFI teaches groups how to evaluate a business that has no collateral. Examine its records. Talk to neighbors about their characters - are they trustworthy etc. The client's ability to repay the loan is vital.

Micro loans move people out of poverty; it does make a difference.

Banks can't do micro financing as it is too costly - they are not socially minded organizations, and require a higher profit margins.

To be successful, the Micro Financing groups must be sustainable after 5 years, otherwise they run out of capital.

#### 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	David Koepele
Pres. elect	????
Vice Pres.	Lorraine Keener
Treasurer	Dave Ellison
Secretary	Audrey Witschi

#### **Committee Chairman**

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International	Al Molnar
Club	Al Barillaro
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