

### **"Vermont Everyday Jobs" and specific policy outcomes**

Phil has worked 23 jobs to-date (as of 8/21/12). The 10 jobs listed here had particularly meaningful results.

#### **Green Mountain Club's "Long Trail Patrol" (Shrewsbury) / July 25, 2012**

*Worked with staff and volunteers performing restoration work on hiking trails.*

--Impressed with the amount of work (mostly volunteer) required to keep VT's hiking trails a viable tourist attraction.

--Connected with Shrewsbury Road Commissioner about a road that hasn't yet been repaired since Irene; received information on dispute with FEMA over repair costs & followed up.

#### **IBM (Essex) / July 10, 2012**

*Worked in the "clean room" production facility for 200mm microchips found in cell phones, tablets, high-definition TVs and more.*

--Led to a policy meeting in the LG's office 1 month later, in which many issues were discussed, ranging from transportation, to energy, to healthcare, to workforce education.

--Canadian firm (a personal contact of Phil's) called 3 weeks later looking for a manufacturing facility in northern VT with a clean room. He was aware of IBM's clean-room specifications because of his visit, and connected the Canadian outfit with IBM's leasing manager.

#### **Smugglers' Notch Distillery (Jeffersonville) / February 14, 2012**

*Measured ingredients, operated the still, labeled and bottled their award-winning vodka.*

--Up-close look at a (literal) "mom and pop" family business and the challenges they face keeping up with a very successful product line.

#### **Burlington Fire Department (Burlington) / November 7, 2011**

*Completed a training exercise, checked life-safety equipment, and responded to a medical call.*

--Gained better understanding of training requirements (constant) for pro and volunteer firefighters. Because of this knowledge, Phil was able to respond to a constituent comment about potential problems with the Search and Rescue Bill (too many training requirements pushing capable people out of firefighting.) He added his "2-cents" to Health Commissioner Harry Chen as well. (Health Dept was charged with finalizing training requirements.)

#### **Vermont Foodbank (Rutland) / October 5, 2011**

*Distributed commodity food boxes to seniors and low-income families.*

--Gained better understanding of the at-risk population that depends on these benefits. In response to Vermonters who observed that many who receive benefits drive late-model cars, Phil was able to respond that most of them are disabled or seniors who receive rides from friends to pick up their food boxes.

**GE Aviation (Rutland) / July 26, 2011**

*Worked the manufacturing line for aircraft engine parts.*

--Gained better understanding of the baseload power requirements for Vermont manufacturers, and is able to offer "real-world," relatable examples of why affordable and dependable power is so important in Vermont. (Costs per kilowatt-hour don't mean much, but uses of that power and the products and jobs it fuels is very meaningful to all audiences, from legislators to business people.)

**Breakwaters Café (Burlington) / June 30, 2011**

*Did touch-up painting on the deck and waited tables during the lunch rush.*

--Gained an understanding of what it took this business to rebound from destructive lake flooding that destroyed the restaurant, bar and business offices. Saw restoration work in progress in the offices and heard about owners and employees pitching in themselves to rebuild the bar area.

--Had a lengthy discussion with the owner about the pressures health care costs place on a small business. That business owner (Al Gobeille) later applied and became a member of the Green Mountain Care Board, and the relationship between he and Phil has become a particularly productive one, particularly around the issue of health care reform.

**Beekeeper Michael Palmer of French Hill Apiary (St. Albans) / June 1, 2011**

*Separated queen bees from worker bees to start new hives.*

--Became aware of the need for more bee inspectors at the Agency of Agriculture, because of the threat of non-native bees destroying hives in Vermont, as well as an influx of inexperienced beekeepers who need more guidance. If Vermont's bee population suffers, Vermont agriculture suffers. Spoke to Ag Secretary Chuck Ross about the situation.

**Union Memorial Elementary School (Colchester) / April 11, 2011**

*Taught spelling and reading comprehension to second graders.*

--Became aware of several techniques in early education: use of technology (smart boards & computers) as well as physical activity (trampolines) in teaching fundamentals.

--Worked with both an advanced group and a remedial group in the same classroom on reading comprehension, to see how Vermont's schools are handling the diversity of learning needs and the rise of special education needs in particular.

**Porter Hospital (Middlebury) / February 10, 2011**

*Made rounds with doctors in the Emergency Department, and served lunch to nursing home residents.*

--Experienced the "front lines" of health care in Vermont at a smaller, regional hospital – the future of which is now being debated as part of the health care reform conversation. Phil has discussed the role of regional hospitals several times with members of the Green Mountain Care Board and with other regional specialty doctors, and he is able to bring that firsthand experience to bear in those conversations.