



Number 10, Volume 9

October 25, 2005

Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Don Griffing, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

## District Governor Eric Parker Visit

Attendance took a severe dive last Tuesday. I hope you will do better next meeting. We can't afford this. Next meeting is going to try to find what can be done to increase the profitability of the Potato Festival.

Earlier in the evening, President Don had called Art Traphagen and asked him to "hold the fort" for a while. He couldn't make it in time for the meeting because he had an area bulldozed for the new barn he was going to build. Don made it in time to get dinner and introduce our guests. They were District Governor Eric with wife Peggy, and assistant governor, also from the Perry club, Jeff Fitch.

We had steak with baked potato and green beans. The dessert was a delicious cherry pie with graham crumb crust.

Art Traphagen confessed to a long lasting trip to areas in the south. They started by visiting son Eric in North Carolina, then continued to Myrtle Beach, SC. Art had made up and related some details from a meeting, featuring a Shriners member. He was amazed at the extent of this organization's donations, which are in the billions of dollars, and all domestically.

Maybe President Don was somewhat beholden to Art, because the fine was only two dollars, a figure Jeff Fitch found amazingly low. In Perry, it would have been at least ten, probably twenty bucks.

Marty Kimmel had made a trip to York, PA, for the annual model train show. He had found a Colorama Kodak banner, or sign, which was from the era. He pretty much had to pay through the proverbial nose for it, because not even Art Traphagen's huge windfall at the Potato Festival would have covered it. It was a good time to confess, since Don couldn't very well fine Marty more for a short two day trip, than the two weeks that Art was gone.

### Business

President Don told us that the Interact club's Ice Cream Social had to be delayed a week.

Tom Didas reported that the supplies had been ordered for the Halloween parade, and that the band was scheduled, etc. He seemed confident that we would be able to pull it off. Judging was the only thing left, and he had half of that crew selected already for the October 29 event.

## Distr. Governor Eric Parker



President Don was pleased to let Jeff Fitch (assistant governor, and to the right in the picture above), introduce Eric and Peggy Parker. Jeff found it a special pleasure to do so. They have known each other since childhood in Perry.

Jeff also mentioned how nice the Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner had been the night before. He found R I president Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar to be a most impressive speaker. It was none of the usual hyperbole. Instead, right down to the nitty gritty of how he thought we could reach our goals. He then left it to Governor Eric to elaborate on them.

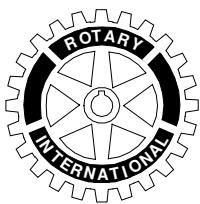
Eric Parker remembers always wanting to be a Rotarian, and after becoming one, it has never let him down.

President Carl Wilhelm wants each of the 32,000 clubs world wide to add just one member a year (no grand drives, just a solid new member). D7120 illustrates the problem with a drop of 600 in the last ten years, - the exact opposite trend.

Eric then touched on all our avenues of service, and what the Foundation can do for us. 10% of our donations come back to the district, which is up for grabs in the form of grants.

The district conference takes place in State College, PA, - less than 3 hours away. It sounds like fun. I found Eric and Peggy very pleasant, and look forward to going to the conference.

Thanks for coming to inspire us, Eric and Peggy. Good luck to your team!



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