



# HOT POTATO

Number 15, Volume 9

November 29, 2005

Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Don Griffing, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

## Wear Work Clothes Next Meeting for Surprise?

President Don was back in the saddle again, as they say. We had a decent gathering last meeting, and a lot of fun. My reporting really can't make it justice, - you just have to be there.

We had a great meal last time, starting with French Onion Soup. Then we had a kind of Thanksgiving primer with a slice of turkey, stuffing, Miller House special mashed potatoes and carrots. For dessert we had a chocolate cake at the bottom of a bowl, covered by ice cream, then chocolate sauce on top.

I don't know if Art Traphagen kept his dessert with the intent of entrapping a member into having an extra dessert. Normally, he asks Kelly to take it away. It was a shame to let such a dessert go to waste (instead of waist), thought Tom Quinlan, who devoured it. The matter was brought to El Presidente's attention and a fine of \$1 was levied. Well worth it, in my opinion (and in Tom's too, I think).

It was good to see Bud StGeorge back. He had gone to Florida to oversee repairs after the hurricanes. This time, he didn't do much of it himself, so there was time for beach and golf. After lengthy deliberation, Don levied \$5.

The hurricane damage started some discussions on the relative merits of palm trees compared to leafy trees, many of which may not have been native to Florida. Some of these trees, like the fast growing "garbage tree" poplar, shed whole branches in the storms, which fly like missiles and hit stuff. The sandy soil in Florida doesn't offer enough support in the root system, so sturdier trees than poplar just fall over.

Tom Didas had also missed a few meetings. He had once again helped to move Colleen, this time to somewhere in New Hampshire. He didn't bring a violin section, as he usually does, to back up his story how miserable everything was. As it turns out, he didn't need it, just \$2.

Bob Oswald delivered the best (from a fun point of view) confession I have heard in years. He went down to the Hazelton, PA, area with his dad and a son, - three generations, in other words. He started by mentioning visits to three cemeteries. Oh boy, I thought, this guy is good. There can't possibly be a fine for this. He went on to talk about scrapple. Wow, now we have to pay him instead... Then he changed to all the positives.

They stayed for two nights, and they enjoyed some good cooking down there. Bob particularly liked something I think he called "Schmutz," which I have heard about in conjunction with chocolate cookies or brownies. Schmutz means dirt in German. If I'm wrong, then we'll have another topic of conversation next time. We have to get the "dirty" about this Schmutz. Bob also brought a 12-pack of White Birch Beer, which isn't beer but some kind of pop. It was offered to the members. Clever move, - only dollar one, which even Bob thought was low, and added some voluntarily.

## Business

There wasn't too much business to go over at first glance, but we managed to find topics. First we start with some of the lighter fare, i.e. we don't have to do anything.

The Interact club is soliciting donors for the Christmas Light Contest. NYSEG has not sponsored the event for some years now, but local merchants have stepped up to the plate.

Another project the Interact club takes on is the Candygram. This is very popular, and they aim to sell some 1,000

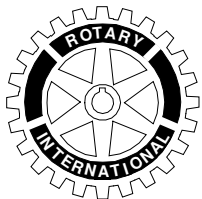
this year. Pat Lysell already had her order ready but she has to wait until next week to place it.

According to the experts on the Potato Festival, we are already months late with whatever it is that has to be done. Just when we were ready for the "To Be Or Not To Be" question, Marty Kimmel came up with a suggestion, which made a lot of sense. The Community Chest has been struggling to reach their canvassing goals. A lot of organizations depend on the Chest for economic support. Why not ask them and the organizations to join in the PF. Split profits, etc. This will be investigated.

Tom Quinlan offered to take over the Golf Tournament after Art, who was tapped out. It probably means more work for us, but it appears to be a worth while effort.

I forget who moved that we should donate \$1,000 to Community Chest, but it was done and passed with no discussion as did a motion to support the Noyes Hospital expansion project with the same amount.

Bring work clothes next meeting. It's not hard work, but something unusual.



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