



HOT POTATO

www.waylandrotary.org

Number 18, Volume 11

November 20, 2007

Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Robert Oswald, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

A Trip Around The Black Sea

We only had nine members and two of our faithful guests last meeting, - Ellen Stephens and Jim Burns of the Hornell and Dansville clubs, respectively. The rest of the membership regrettably missed out on a vivacious, very nice presentation by Lou Hazlett.

There were rolls with the tossed salad, so we probably were safe from something Italian inspired. Thanksgiving is getting closer and The Miller House started us off with a fully loaded plate of turkey with gravy over it and the mashed potato. Stuffing and corn occupied unused parts of the plate. We had better get Lou started before many would fall asleep. (Personally, I made it until about eight at home, where I fell asleep in front of the TV, waking up at 1 am... What is with turkey dinners that does this?) The dessert was pumpkin pie (obviously) with a dollop of whipped cream on top. All very good stuff, but I suspect we won't have it next week.

Happy Bucks

Lou Hazlett was happy that a son was intending to move to the area, possibly Naples.

Marty Kimmel wasn't happy that his daughter had to go through back surgery, but it had gone well during the day.

We couldn't put our fingers on it, but something was different about Roy Robinson. He gave us the answer when throwing in an HB for successful cataract surgery on his eyes, enabling him to see clearly without glasses. You're looking good, Roy!

Nancy Levesque was happy that the election was finally over. (Milt won by the best margin, I believe. Congratulations!)

Past president Pat offered a couple of HB for having had both daughters home over the weekend, and for a very nice Perry Rotary Show the night before.

Results For The CFFFF Just In

President Bob asked Tom Didas to report on the financial result of the effort. It wasn't as good as the year before, but respectable anyway. We netted about \$3,000 compared to around \$4,100. He speculated that the warmer than usual weather curbed people's appetite, and that the Lions were better prepared with several hundred pounds additional beef, so that they didn't sell out for another couple of hours both days. (Formidable competition with a nicely priced product.)

The girls soccer team will receive about \$20 per member for their excellent help. We applauded Tom Didas for leading this effort.

The Hazlett's Black Sea Travel

Arlene and Lou flew into Athens to start their tour to goals around the Black Sea. Lou had taken lots of pictures, which were available for review after his talk. I could see that they had visited many of the "must see" things in Greece, like the Poseidon and the site of the first Olympic games in 1896.

From Greece they traveled to Bulgaria where Lou actually found a Rotary Club with a big concrete sign. They toured the very poor countryside in that country.

They continued to Constanta in the country of Romania. They saw many signs of the Roman Empire, and Lou let the camera go wild. Constanta sits right on the Black Sea, and I got the impression Lou found it was more prosperous than Bulgaria.

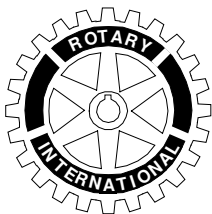
Next stop was the famous seaport of Odessa in the Ukraine. They found much influence of France and Italy there. Lou had acquired a CD after a fantastic music experience they had with a family playing piano and violin. He took a picture of the pianist and an extremely ornate grand piano, dating back to the 19th century. As for the CD, it was a dud with the old man playing the accordion!

Arlene and Lou had also visited the Balaclava, site of the Charge Of The Light Brigade, made famous by Tennyson. The

mutiny of the Potemkin was also checked out. After Odessa, they went on to another famous spot from world history, the resort of Yalta on the Crimean peninsula. Here they enjoyed a winery tour, where they found the products delicious, but on the sweet side, almost like dessert wines. A good time was had by all from the look of the photos.

The tour then continued with a six hour crossing to Turkey. Lou gave a vivid account of a "rug market," where they displayed their famous silk rugs. Since the asking price for a full size one was about \$15,000, Lou settled for a table decoration instead, which he brought for review. It was incredibly soft and very dense. The best part was about a fellow traveler, an 84 year retired obstetrician, who bought one of them for \$5,000. She cleverly waited until the last of several buses started to load, then bid them to take five grand or leave it. (You'd hate to play poker with her.)

The tour finished in Istanbul, from where they boarded a very long 12 hour flight back home. Before that, Lou had a chance to sample the best baclava he ever had. A fellow traveler and he elected not to subject themselves to the bustle of the Istanbul market, but explored other parts of the city, where they chanced upon the very place, which they had seen advertised.



Wayland Rotary Club
c/o Bo Lysell, editor
4535 Rt 21
Atlanta, NY 14808