



HOT POTATO

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Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Don Griffing, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

Plugging the District Conference at State College

After some warm weather, it cooled a bit last Tuesday. Quite a few members absent. Please try to attend. We really have had a lot of fun the last month, and it seems like we are sliding down toward the bad figures we had last spring.

We had two guests, Howard Wood from the Perry club, and Drew Fairbrother from our Interact club.

The Miller House served a cup of coleslaw instead of the salad, which led some to guess that fish would follow. They were wrong. It was fowl instead of fish, fried chicken to be precise, served with mashed potato, gravy and corn. For dessert, there was a cake with nuts and chocolate in it, topped with whipped cream. Good stuff! Made up for the chick.

At the introduction of Howard Wood, and the purpose of his visit, Sharon Vogt revealed that she had already sent in the application for State College.

Then followed a lengthy campaign from Art and Tom, who thought that The Hot Potato had misrepresented their behaviors when acting (up) as presidents. The editor ought to pay a fine. Cooler heads prevailed and this attempt to intimidate the fourth estate was

snuffed. Bo was so happy with this, he threw in a happy dollar.

Bob Radell recited a letter from the "Dear Abby" collection. Hilarious ending, appreciated by all but the most diehard democrats, still hanging on to Bill Clinton.

Business

Art Traphagen asked to address the club, and he offered his hearing aid to Tom, just in case, but the offer was turned down. We were finally ready for the spiel. It turns out that there is a district project aimed at pure water projects for India. He was suggesting that we donate \$500 for the cause, and that as a benefit, this money will count toward a Paul Harris Fellow Award. He continued with some more foundation stuff, simplified grants, etc. This year we have launched a project to give the 6th graders at WCCS a Thesaurus, so we will apply for a simplified grant.

Sharon made a motion that we go ahead with the Water Project, and Bob gave a second. It carried after very little discussion.

We received a solicitation to help send a student to Girls State for \$225. It

was pointed out that we haven't had a report from these students for several years, like we used to. President Don said he was going to take care of this, and asked that the members approve the expenditure. He would then hold this amount as ransom, if you will, and get a program from last year's recipient too. We gave him the authority.

Drew Fairbrother is vice president of the Interact club, and a junior at WCCS. He reported that the Pennies for Patients was on its second week, and that \$310 had been raised so far (about \$75 from Rotary). The Rotary contribution was going to be increased in a very significant way this meeting. Pat Lysell brought in a cookie jar that looked promising, but it was not necessary to even compare, because Bob Radell brought in a bucket (!) of pennies. Bob let us all guess how many pennies were in the bucket, and many of us guessed around \$100 worth. Ellen Stephens "won" with her \$100 exact bid, but when asked how he counted the \$97.63, Bob said, "Are you crazy? I didn't count them." He fooled us again. Bob is hereby appointed official club jester.

D-7120 Conference at State College.

It was finally time to let Howard Wood make his presentations. He started with a DVD about the Wheel Chair Foundation. John Fisher, who has many district committee jobs, spearheads the effort to raise \$21,000 for 280 chairs, to be shipped in a container. With pledges from about half the clubs in the district, we have almost \$19,000. This is not an RI program, but it is run by a Danville, CA, Rotary club. They have done this for many years.

Then it was time for the real subject at hand, - the conference. Howard showed a very cleverly produced DVD by members of the Perry club. It was quite funny, and it promises to be a very nice conference at this Penn State college

town. The "Penn Stater Conference Center" is a newly constructed facility, so we are almost pioneers.

An impressive array of trips, entertainment and programs are planned, but Howard had one disclaimer, the open bar formulation was done by somebody, not very familiar with bar vernacular. In spite of this, Pat and I are looking into going, depending upon timing issues to pick up a daughter in New York that weekend.



Here's Howard Wood from Perry.