



HOT POTATO

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Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Robert Oswald, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

President Bob Outlines Plans for New Year

There were 12 members, two make-ups and an invited guest attending President Bob's first meeting. We had Ellen Stephens from the Corning club and Deanie Traphagen from Dansville. Nancy Levesque had invited Paul Smith, who is a realtor she met at work, to meet some professionals.

We had chicken stew with mushrooms and occasional vegetables, served along fried potato wedges and a side dish of corn. It was actually a lot better than my description may lead you to believe. The usual tossed salad had preceded it, and we had a yellow cake with chocolate frosting for dessert. Lots of water, and other beverages were consumed, and the AC was working hard to keep us cool.

Before we got into the confessions, President Bob had a new routine for the club. He had asked reverend George to give us a short talk on Rotary subjects every meeting. This is the stuff you may see in other club's newsletters instead, but since I had enough of writing the same stuff year after year in Naples (so we could win awards), you won't see it in the Hot Potato. Anyway, George is such a good speaker you really can't compare, so our club is going to be way ahead. The first meeting's topic was The Four Way Test, and we were spellbound for a couple of minutes. This is going to be good. Don't miss it!

President Bob had a profitable first session of fines, continuing a trend from Pat's presidency. In addition to the 50/50 income, I would have to think that we are covering the meeting expenses.

Unfortunately, George Smith started with the news that Joann has been hospitalized for severe depression, brought on by her Fibromyalgia and Diabetes. George took time off to attend our meeting, and we hope Joann recovers quickly.

Nancy Levesque had a good old-fashioned confession. She and Milt took two granddaughters to Disneyland, and \$5 was levied, giving us an indication where Bob might go with the severity of the fines. No major change in other words.

I don't know if Lou Hazlett was testing the water too by offering a preemptive happy one for an upcoming trip to California, but it was clear that President Bob was looking forward to a more substantial fine when he comes back.

Sharon Vogt tossed in a buck for the 4th of July observance that Peter started in Dansville, hoping to begin a tradition there.

Roy Robinson put in a couple of happy ones for the 21 people they had over their 4th of July holiday, and then Bud StGeorge did the same. One buck was that he was late coming back from the bar, for which he had (like always) an excuse. He probably appreciated that we didn't sing. He wanted to get an update from Tom Quinlan on the state of the Golf Tournament. Tom was travelling back from Florida, where he and Mary had taken some grandchildren. The other buck was because Sue had asked him what a happy dollar was, and why he was never reported to have contributed one in the Hot Potato. Thanks Sue! (Well, some of us like to be happy, and parting with a dollar would dampen that feeling.)

Past President Pat had traveled to Massena, NY, and Bo quickly added that his role was strictly as security detail and chauffeur (no happy dollars there...). Bo got away with that, or perhaps it was rolled into Pat's fine.

George Smith had traveled to various places in Western New York and Pennsylvania, meeting friends and relatives. I have heard of Tonawanda, but not Big Pond, PA. Two bucks, I think.

President Bob had prepared a documentation package for us all, which contained:

- ❖ Calendar of Rotary events for July.
- ❖ Community Action Committee Worksheet.
- ❖ Wayland Rotary 13th Annual Scramble Golf Tournament at Conesus Golf Club on July 23, Lunch and registration starts at noon, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m.
- ❖ Rotary Baseball Day (August 12).

Before getting into the action items, Bob announced again his intentions of letting the board of directors take on issues of suggested projects and donations, rather than having it all "aired out" at the meetings. To assist in this, he had prepared the Worksheet, mentioned above. (I will put a copy on our website for those unlucky members, who couldn't attend.) This stuff is also covered below.

Oh, I just forgot something else Bob did before the confessions. He appointed Tom Didas Sgt @ Arms, based on his ruthlessness, etc. (no wonder it got suppressed in my memory). It gives Tom some exercise during the meeting, collecting fines, so we get a leaner (and meaner?) Sergeant. I hope he can change to a smiley face when greeting arriving members and guests...

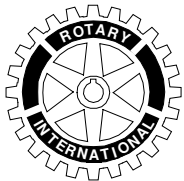
Ok, back on track again. Here are some of the plans that Bob outlined. I hope I didn't miss too much from this fast paced presentation.

1. Bob had constructed a nice folding board with the words "Rotary Shares," this year's motto. That's where we will put pictures, clips from media, etc. As the year progresses, it will be nicely cluttered, we hope. (*Maybe it will have a picture of me in recognition of my first hole-in-one at the Golf Tournament, Bo.*)
2. Club development. George Smith will head up this committee.

3. Fundraising. Bob has picked Jim Burns' brain on the subject, and hopes to receive more help from him and others to develop even more than what we've had.
4. Community Service. We have a couple of them like the Halloween Parade, etc., but Bob (and some members he has talked with) would like to see more.
5. Recognition of accomplishments. Bob would also like to have more communications with the public in the media about what we do.
6. Increased Foundation giving. The Foundation has had a goal of \$100 per member, and Bob would like to meet at least that. He wants to introduce (as I understood) a voluntary extra \$3 per meeting for the purchase of Paul Harris Fellow "Awards." (*My choice of word, calling a spade a spade, Bo.*)
7. Requests for donations go through the board to alleviate possible friction during meetings. There will be quarterly Club Assemblies, where bickering can take place, and we can hold the board accountable.
8. Monthly board meetings on the third Tuesday of every month.

After the "State of The Club" address, there was a minor tweak to Bob's calendar. The July 24 meeting was cancelled. Attend the July 23 Golf Dinner instead at \$15 per person, see above.

As we neared the end of the meeting, we had the famous "President Bob" line again. (*It's going to take some time...*) This "item" suggested that we present the owner of The Bryant House with something to recognize his effort to restore it to a semblance of its former glory. I don't know whether this was relegated to the board or a committee. Stay tuned, but I think it's a good idea.



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