



# HOT POTATO

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Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Don Griffing, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

## Budgetary Wrangling at WCCS

Eleven Wayland Rotarians and five guests were in attendance last Tuesday. It was a beautiful evening to end a most unusually nice day for the season. I don't know if I ever saw so many days in a row with clear blue sky.

Jim Burns' from Dansville persistence paid off finally. Tom Quinlan was finally back to award him his makeup tickets. The federal trial was over, and it was about what we had speculated, child pornography. Ellen Stephens from Hornell was also making up.

One guest was introduced by Art, Tim Costello from Gunlocke, and the two remaining guests were introduced by Don. Dave Mastin, business manager, and Mike Wetherbee, WCCS superintendent, here to present the 06/07 school budget.

We had chicken cordon bleue with a rice and broccoli medley in cheese sauce. Gravy was poured over the chicken. For dessert we had chocolate cake with a pink frosting of undetermined, good flavor.

Before he started to probe the club's members for confessions, president Don admitted to celebrating his 13<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary over the weekend. Past president Marty Kimmel thought two

bucks would be enough, in spite of the very pretty song we performed, asking Don to remember this leniency for later.

Tom Quinlan was very happy to give his next confession, we could tell. After many years of golfing, he had hit his first hole in one earlier in the day at Conesus Golf Club, hole #6 I think it was. Three bucks, said Don, but I think Tom would have paid more.

After this, we had a number of happy dollars. As I mentioned before, Jim Burn's temporary job as federal court juror ended earlier in the day, and he was understandably happy about that. Thanks Jim for all the fines, hope you come back!

Bob Oswald experienced a good wind from the south, his mother in law came back for the summer and he was looking forward to "driving misses Daisy" around the area in shopping trips.

George Smith's daughter is getting married in North Carolina. He will officiate himself, of course, so will be gone for a few weeks. He tossed in a happy buck.

Pat Lysell was so inspired by this, she offered one of Bo's dollars for expecting Anna-Lisa back from Spain next weekend.

## Appreciating Gunlocke

Our club wished to show our appreciation for Gunlocke's generous support of the Potato Festival in the past. Art Traphagen has been our main contact man at Gunlocke, so he had invited Tim Costello (sales and marketing) and the human resource manager to come for our presentation of awards and plaques. Only Tim was able to come. Art presented him with a personal award and then President Don gave a plaque to Gunlocke.

Tim accepted the awards graciously and expressed his admiration for the hard work we had performed in the past. They would continue to support the Wayland Fire Department in their effort.



Art and Tim Costello



Tim Costello and President Don

## WCCS Budget

This was supt. Mike Wtherbee's first encounter with the Wayland Rotary Club. He didn't seem too intimidated and he came well prepared with highlights of the new budget on handouts. More detailed information is due in our mailboxes soon.

There is going to be a tax hike this year. The reason for it is what Mike concentrated on. From what I gathered, the main thing is that the incitement subsidy that WCCS has enjoyed for its merger 14 years ago has been fading down to only a small fraction of the starting amount, and it's all over next year. Another big factor is declining enrollment. From over 2000 14 years ago, it's down to 1750 now, and predicted to go to 1500 in a few years. This affects state aid, among other things.

Among the cuts in personnel, we noted the School Resource Officer. There was some grilling during the Q&A session, with Bob Radell most notably calling the per pupil cost a "bunch of crap." When you do the math, I find he is right, but it's NY State that puts out those figures. Mike and Dave didn't know how! Thanks Mike and Dave for a fine presentation.

