



HOT POTATO

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Rotary Club of Wayland, New York, D7120

Robert Oswald, president

Thomas Quinlan, secretary

August Kicks Off New Members Drive

Fourteen members ignored the beautiful weather and came to the meeting last week. Marty started up the A/C for us, cooling down things a little while were eating.

It was back to tossed salad again, so Pat didn't have to fill up on so much melon before the main course, which was grilled ribs. They came with a salad of ring shaped pasta, and sautéed squash. The ribs were prepared in a such way that the meat practically fell off the bones (I wonder how that's done?), so there was little need to resort to finger assistance. Pat was the on only one who made doubly sure there was nothing left on them for the dogs. A sherbet dessert was very refreshing.

George Smith's Rotary Minute continued on the subject of the Foundation. He talked about the South Bend, IN, club's project for rebuilding New Orleans, LA, as an example of matching grants.

We also had a sort of mini program delivered by Deanie Traphagen, who is DG John Hall's Foundation representative. She gave us more information about the Foundation. Despite its huge successes in the past, the Polio Plus program's goal of final eradication seems to remain elusive, but not impossible, we hope.

Business

As a follow up to Deanie, President Bob mentioned that our club would start a "lay away Paul Harris" program, with a voluntary \$2 contribution when you pay for your meal.

The once dreaded Potato Festival (when we had to organize it) is drawing closer. Pat and Bo had delivered the tickets for both days of Cow Flop Bingo. President Bob encouraged our members to grab a twenty-pack of randomized tickets for Saturday's event. The Sunday tickets will be available later, but I don't know when. A sign-up sheet was sent around for service during the two days

President Bob mentioned the district golf tournament, which takes place on September 14 at the Lima Country Club. The fee is \$75 before a certain date, and \$80 later.

Bob also mentioned a Workshop in Rush about Successful Programs.

You may recall that Lou Hazlett proposed that we help improve the "Meals on Wheels" parking lot. President Bob wished to make this a pilot for his newly created CACW form. A committee was formed consisting of Lou, Bob Radell and George Smith, who expected to submit the form in time for next week's board meeting.

According to my notes, we started the evening's program at this point. I can also see that we had some confessions, and then it seems like the program continued again. (If this is kept up, you can look for a new reporter...) I'll start with the confessions.

President Bob asked another Bob (Radell) to determine the fine for an Air Conditioner installation trip to Pennsylvania. Bob's aunt and uncle are now cool. \$2

The Sergeant At Arms (Tom Didas) had to collect his own fine of two bucks for a 30th anniversary after a borderline vocal tribute. We seem to be losing our touch. Janine Miceli had to pay a buck for having two desserts.

New Members Program

Four of our members attended the recent membership seminars in Bath. Considering our club's size, it was an impressive number, suggesting that we are seriously looking to increase our membership.

Deanie Traphagen started by reporting on her findings in the session intended for small clubs under 20 in membership. One thing we aren't doing here is to cooperate with other service clubs, but I missed what that would do to member recruitment. One interesting thing was that Rotary is now recognizing a "Volunteer" classification.

Pat Lysell and George Smith had collaborated on their report, and they "ping-ponged" back and forth. Pat started by giving statistics on Rotary's continually declining membership figures, then outlined the basic three step process to remedy the situation. 1) Search, 2) Acquaint, 3) Keep. (I guess the word retention is out...) She also covered the recommended procedure for bringing in a new member.

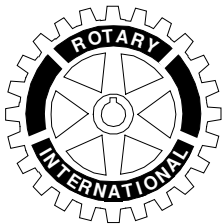
George Smith continued by stating that there are a lot of viable prospective members out there, which may not have thought of. He

mentioned that we can now have as many as 5 members per classification, then proceeded to stress the importance of PR to get our purpose and deeds recognized.

Pat and George, who are the membership committee, then told us of a planned "Bring a Friend" meeting. This meeting would then be followed by continued communications to the "friends," keeping them informed about what is going on. We should also develop a club brochure to hand out.

George finished very eloquently, and inspiringly. I can't give it full justice here. You know how good he is at that. Then, as we were sitting in awe, Art Traphagen put a finishing touch on the performance (he also attended in Bath) by giving a "good cop, bad cop" scene. Starting with his famous line "President Bob," he pointed fingers at what must have been imaginary members of the club, whom he accused of having a firm policy, never to ask anyone to come. Thanks Art! That was an effective way of underlining the importance of good relations within the club. You and George must have worked out the timing perfectly.

Bob Radell was asked again to pull his own winning 50/50, and true to form, - it was his own, - NOT. He revealed how it was done. You simply say your own number instead of the actual number on the ticket. The real winner was Nancy Levesque, and we thank Nancy for donating the winnings to the club.



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