

# The Roundtable

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## **A Digressive Road from Corinth... and Back Again**

*“The nice thing about a vacation is that you can do nothing, and you can do that all day.” President Doug Townsend, in closing today’s meeting.*

**I**t wasn’t exactly a vacation trip that new member **Trudy Darling** described in her classification talk. She and a friend were on their way to help an ailing relative in West Virginia. The motorcycle that her friend drove gave Trudy a relaxed panorama view on I-64 as what she described as “the most beautiful country” she had seen.

Then, BAM! That was the moment when a buck jumped from the median onto their motorcycle which was going 70 mph. Skids, rolling, road rash, broken teeth, concussion, blood, broken hip and months in recovery led to one strong admonition during her talk: if you ride a motorcycle, wear a helmet.

Trudy didn’t need a helmet for many of the journeys on her roads less traveled. The 54-year-old Corinth native currently is Admissions and Outreach Coordinator the Woodlands Senior Living of Brewer. She became pregnant while she was in high school; her parents supported her. Even through jobs that took her away from home for long periods, she was able to raise her daughter, now 34, and she enjoys her two grandsons.

She loved her first job, at the Osteopathic Hospital on Stillwater Avenue in Bangor, but the pay could not support her. A position with Levi Strauss trained her in marketing that led to working for Exxon/Mobil. She worked with truck dealerships in a territory that covered Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Alabama. “This was grass roots marketing,” Trudy said.

September 11, 2001 was the date when she experienced a life-changing event. She was on an American Airlines flight from Boston to Ft. Lauderdale. Her flight took off one minute after the other American airlines flight that was diverted to the Twin Towers,



putting Trudy and the terrorists in the airport at the same time. Her enthusiasm for flying landed very quickly.

Trudy's desire to help people led to her application to the American Red Cross. She was on a fast learning curve to know about blood needs and, in her position, how to effectively supervise RN's. She was with the Red Cross when Hurricane Katrina hit; long lines formed with people anxious to give blood.

After taking a year off to help care for a friend with cancer, Trudy fulfilled her desire to help people by taking her present position at Woodlands. Another learning curve entailed working with the elderly, Alzheimer's and dementia. She also helps families find homes for elderly parents

A gift of land from her father enabled Trudy to return to Corinth. Her whole family-siblings, daughter and grandsons - live there.

Trudy gave some encouraging news about research into Alzheimer's and dementia, reporting that the government gave \$8 million to The Jackson Lab. "There may be medications (in a few years) that will slow the growth of dementia in people."

There will be a walk in October to support Alzheimer research. **Greg Urban** said that the muscle car show at the Maine Veterans Home last weekend benefited Alzheimer research.

"Every day when I go to work, I hug the elderly," Trudy said.

### **The Rest of the Clean Plate Club Meeting**

Bits and pieces: The Club bade farewell last week to **Erich Herbert**, who moved to Portland to continue his career with the Bangor Daily News.

**Kendra Speed** said the Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast is already marching with the need for members to help sell ads. She said it is important to get the word out that we will be at Jeff's Catering this year.

Doug Townsend said we have one application for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. Staffing the beer tent at the Folk Festival is August 27, with training the day before. Our Rotary district will host a brew fest in Bar Harbor on September 2. Doug invited all to the club's board meeting next Wednesday at 7:30 am.



**Paul Miragliuolo** fined Greg Urban for his appearance on TV for the Maine Veterans Home's 4<sup>th</sup> annual car show. **Caroline King** gave details for the Salvation Army luncheon. She said they can use a few more hands to help chef up the Mac and Cheese in the morning, she wrote. Salvation Army, Park Street Bangor, August 31 – 8:30 AM – 2 PM or some portion of that. Folks can also contribute to the cost of the lunch. Caroline praised **David Wheaton** who went to the Salvation Army to volunteer on the wrong date last week, but he did a great job pitching in and helping out, regardless. He should be commended for his great service, she said.

**Judy Horan** reported another farewell. This time to Chris Facchini, who is taking a public relations position with Eastern Maine Medical Center. "No more early/late hours, weekends off, and we are very happy for him," said Judy. A search for his replacement is in progress.

**David Zelz** took a sentimental journey when he heard the Glenn Miller Orchestra at Gracie Theater. A couple of members reported a week of fine vacations. **Karen Schaller** was in company with her niece, and Greg Urban's parents visited him. **Les Myers** returned from Grand Manan Island, and heads back there on the weekend. This accounts for the erratic publishing of the coveted Roundtable newsletter this summer.

*Les Myers- August 3, 2017*



Pudge Harrison and Bob Leavitt hold a meeting post-mortem