



ESTABLISHED 1992

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND

NON-PROFIT • NON-POLITICAL • NON-SECTARIAN

An affiliated member of Welcome Clubs International, Inc.

The aim of the club is to foster friendship and understanding among people of different nations and to support charities that assist women and children.

NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1992 by Anna Kristina Sawtelle

VISIT OUR WEBSITES - WWW.IWCNE.NET - WWW.WELCOMECLUBS.ORG

Volume 18 / Number 1 / January 24, 2009

Message from the President

As we begin this new IWCNE year, please bear with me, and permit me to reminisce a bit about my initiation to fundraising, IWCNE style. It was late summer, 2002, and the upcoming event was the Holiday Fair.

Shortly after I had become a club member our then President, Pearl Somaini-Dayer, called to welcome me as a new member and to invite me to the next meeting of the Holiday Fair Committee at her house. I was delighted to be invited and immediately accepted. When I arrived at Pearl's on the day of the meeting I soon realized that although the room was filled with strong personalities, each and every person shared the same goal-to make this Fair the most successful Fair to date. I think I'd say enthusiasm, cooperation, and optimism reigned. It was an impressive group. They knew what they wanted to accomplish and just how to go about making it all happen. Most important, you knew there would be a good deal of work involved, but you sensed there would be fun as well.

About half way through the meeting the question came up as to where everyone would meet to arrange and make the "greens" for the Fair. As I listened to the location requirements, I realized that my cellar would pretty much fit the bill, except for one thing. My cellar was an absolute disaster area. We'd moved into the house exactly seven years before. It was easy and fun to organize the house. It was easier to forget about the half empty boxes and crates cluttering the cellar. I don't know what came over me, but in a moment of what had to be temporary insanity, I heard myself saying, "Oh, come to my house. The cellar should be just fine!" Of course the offer was accepted. When I returned home later that day and stepped into the cellar, my heart dropped to my toes.

Fast forward a week or so-no need to elaborate on the gruesome clean up details. When the "greens group" arrived everything was ready, and in no time at all boxwood trees were being made, wonderful holiday arrangements were being created, and bows were being made for the wreaths. All of this was being accomplished under Gwen Knowlton's leadership. It was a great day-we've repeated it every year since, with one change. Gwen and her husband moved to Virginia a few years ago, and Rachel Gowen is now the "leader of the greens".

(cont. on page 2)

Today's Program

Our Annual Meeting and luncheon today is the culmination of a year's hard work by every member of the club in one way or another. Despite the economic slump we have managed to meet and exceed our goals. Today we will give that money to the representatives of the charities selected in the Spring by the Fundraising Committee.

Our principle charity this year is the **Southern Maine Agency on Aging Money Minders Program**. Susan deWitt Wilder will be accepting our check. The **SMAA** of Scarborough is an independent non-profit organization which provides many services for the elderly, including Meals on Wheels. The Money Minders are a group of around 80 volunteers who assist elderly people (mostly women) who need help sorting through the confusion of their financial obligations. With our grant, the coordinator will be able to expand the program to offer counseling to help individuals avoid crisis.

Two secondary charities were also selected to receive our minor awards. One is the **York County Shelter Programs** in Alfred, ME. Joan Sylvester will be accepting our check. This organization not only provides shelter for the homeless 24 hours a day, but also gives them the opportunity to have gainful employment and a chance to make a contribution to the community. York County Shelters also distributes more than a million dollars worth of food throughout the county yearly. The other secondary recipient is **New Heights of Portsmouth** for their "**The Whole Thing**" program. This program is directed toward middle school girls and provides them with a sounding board, "girl talk", directly in the school as well as a weekly program at the center teaching them holistic healthy mind and body concepts. They also have special programs and role model guest speakers. Tracey Tucker and Becca Pawling will be receiving our check.

This awards luncheon is the last act of the Fundraising Committee for 2008. I would like to thank the women who joined me in the gratifying task of choosing worthy charities. It is a difficult, but heartwarming task because there are so many people working for non-profit organizations which benefit others - just as we all do. It has been a great honor for me to head this committee and to be involved with many other IWCNE activities. I continue to support all you do, ladies, albeit from a long distance. Keep up the good work!

Lucille Gentsch
Fundraising Chair.

Executive Board of Directors 2009

President: Ellen O'Toole-USA/Ireland/Scotland
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IWCNE Founder: Anna Kristina Sawtelle-Sweden
(207)361-1508

Deadline for the February 2009 Newsletter is Monday, February 9, 2009. The Newsletter will be mailed the week following the Saturday luncheon. If you cannot attend and do not receive your newsletter in the mail, please leave a message for Ellen O'Toole at 207-439-3172. Items submitted are subject to editing, due to space.

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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President's Message (cont.)

The greens were only one part of the 2002 Holiday Fair. The corner café was-as it always is-a major attraction. Who could ever forget Jean Willcox's holiday aprons for all the café workers! It's safe to say that the Fair of 2002 had something for everyone and was a definite success.

When I walked into the Fair of 2008, I was absolutely thrilled by what I saw. The small but successful fundraiser of 2002 had, under the leadership of Rachel Gowen, Charline Ludgate, and Pat Dateo grown into a major holiday event. It was not a destination merely for locals-people had come from NH and Massachusetts. Most important, they not only attended-they bought! Quite an accomplishment.

For the past seven years every fundraising activity has "grown and prospered". Last year's Fashion Show, chaired by Lee Regan-Jacks, was our most successful show ever.

We've grown and are succeeding, and throughout the years have managed to retain the principles on which the club was founded-friendship and understanding. May we continue to succeed and to hold fast to these principles.

Thank you, Merci, Vielen Dank, Tack sa mycket

A year is past with many happy memories behind us of Friendship and Understanding among people from different nations. A year of laughter but also of sorrow, as we have said Good Bye to some of our dear longtime member friends. Bess Makris (87) on January 12 and Pearl Somaini- Dayer (80) on April 16.

The new year has barely awakened and already we are experiencing sadness with the passing of dear Betty Dixon (99) on January 6. These Lady Members have served the Club well and graced us with their presence for many years. May they rest in Peace.

A new IWCNE Executive Board is entering at a time when our country is facing enormous difficulties on many fronts.

I humbly give my very sincere **Thank You** to the outgoing Board who under the leadership of Charline Ludgate has so successfully supported our aim to assist in charity giving to those in need. It takes a village and I firmly believe that IWCNE can be referred to as that village as each and everyone in their own way and time permitting has been an inhabitant of this the unique IWCNE village.

I also have no doubt that the Incoming Board under the leadership of Ellen O'Toole will follow in the footsteps of previous Presidents as we continue to build our village one cobble stone at a time and one friendship at a time.

May you lend a hand to **this** village - a gesture you will probably never regret.

Anna Kristina Sawtelle , Founder of IWCNE 1992

IWCNE Activities

Please note: We are asking that members give a call to the hostess or facilitator when an event is in someone's home, by no later than the day before for **all** scheduled activities, including **Book Club and Foreign Film Discussion** evenings, so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Also in case of poor driving conditions, we are then able to telephone those expected if it seems best to cancel an event.

Foreign Film Discussion Evening

(1st Monday of the month)

Barb Poulin, Coordinator

Date: Monday, February 2 Time: 6 pm

Place: Yorkshire Commons Community Room in York (just off Route 1A)

Film: Winter Light - This is a 1963 film, directed by Ingmar Bergman, the first of his trilogy of faith, which also includes Through a Glass Darkly and The Silence.

In Swedish with subtitles in English, 80 minutes in length.

A parish priest can't offer spiritual guidance when a suicidal fisherman comes to him for help. He can't find passion — only ridicule — for his mistress who longs to marry him. His apathy reaches its apex when he delivers an oration in front of an empty church abandoned by his parishioners.

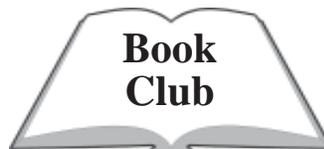
Date: Monday, March 2 Time: 6 pm

Place: Yorkshire Commons Community Room in York (just off Route 1A)

Film: tba in next newsletter

Light refreshments will be served. Please call/leave message for Barb Poulin at 207.363.8731 or her cell 207.337.2623 if you plan to attend. All are welcome to bring friends, neighbors.

Barb Poulin, coordinator
home 207.363.8731
cell 207.337.2623



Book Club

(1st Tuesday after club luncheon)
Around the World with Women

Coordinators: Julie Stathoplos and Barb Poulin

Date: January 27, 2009

Time: 7 pm

Place: Charline Ludgate's home (439-8884)

Book: A Year by the Sea by Joan Anderson

Date: March 3, 2009

Time: 7 pm

Place: Ellen Farber's home (646-8666)

Book: Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen

Please call the hostess if you plan to attend Book Club Meetings



Les Chanteuses

Les Chanteaux met on Thursday, January 8th at the home of Ellen Farber followed by a night out on the town for dinner.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 5th, 2009 at the same location. All are welcome and you need not sing like Pavarotti.

Upcoming Luncheons

The luncheons for the next three months will be:

Sat., Feb. 28th: Cape Neddick Inn, Rt. 1 Cape Neddick, ME.

Sat., March 28th: East Oriental Restaurant, 636 Post Road (Rt. 1) Wells, ME.

Sat., April 25th: Beach House Grill, Route 1, Wells, ME.

The selection for the winter months is predicated on light traffic and least icy roads.

Micky Robinson, Luncheon Coordinator

WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

A film and tea in celebration of
International Women's Day

Plan to join us for a wonderful film, discussion and tea.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2009

1:00 PM TO 4:30 pm

Wells High School

Cosponsored by Wells Adult Community Education and IWCNE. Further details will be available in the February newsletter. There will be a small fee to cover costs.

If you would like to serve as one of the IWCNE tea hostesses or for further information, please call Priscilla Schwartz-207-361-4097. More details will be available on the website www.wocsd.org/adult

November 22nd Luncheon

Franco-American Community and Culture in Maine



Our November luncheon was eventful! The minute we arrived at Mahalos it was clear that there was a heating problem! What an adventuresome group of women we are – we bundled up in our coats until our host passed around complimentary wine to accompany our lunch and warm us up! Actually, by the time we had had lunch there were few complaints.

The very first order of business was to honor Betty Dixon who was to celebrate her 99th Birthday on December 25th. Wasn't it a good thing that we all sang to her and she glowed with pleasure that cold day in November.



Gwyneth Wykes, Betty Dixon and Anna Kristina Sawtelle

Mary Kinnear introduced our speaker, Norman Beaupre. Dr. Beaupre is a native of Biddeford, Maine and a leading authority on the Franco American community there. So many of our members speak French and many have grown up in bilingual households.

It was interesting to hear Dr. Beaupre talk about the various French speaking populations and how they share the common language – Franco Americans and French Canadians but have distinctly different cultures and often times different pronunciation and idiomatic expressions.

How many of us were aware that 40% of Biddeford's population is Franco-American? They are the descendents of 17th century explorers who settled Canada. In 1713, France ceded Acadia to England and many of the Acadians began to migrate — some back to France, some as far as Louisiana (New Orleans) and Haiti. Their search was for ethnic survival – of their French language and Catholic religion. Other Acadians remained in rural Quebec and New Brunswick. They made a meager living farming in a harsh climate under a restrictive English government.

In the 19th century, French-Canadians began to head south to logging camps and farms and then to mills and factories. Over one million French Canadians flooded into New England

and Biddeford's newly established textile industry became a magnet. By 1880, one out of three Biddeford residents claimed French heritage. They settled close to the mills and the Saco River in a neighborhood known as *Petit Canada*.

Dr. Beaupre not only champions the French language but is a cultural activist and supporter of the French culture. Biddeford has an annual La Kermesse Festival – the big, social gathering for Biddeford's Franco-American community. The festival is a three day celebration in June featuring music, food and rumor has it, lumberjack competitions. Genealogy and history are included as the French community gathers to celebrate its heritage.



A few of us gathered after the luncheon and decided that we should gather our IWCNE French community (and those that wish they were) and go to La Kermesse in June 2009.

Watch for the specific dates and for more information in the Spring.

Warmth and Wildlife in the Middle of Winter

February 28, 2009

Cape Neddick Inn and Restaurant



World traveler Ann Adjutant has been to just about every corner of the globe, from the North Pole to the South Pole. On February 28, she will share with us the highlights of her 2008 African Safari.

A native of Maine, Ann grew up in the York area and currently lives in Yarmouth. She has taught science in Maine and Texas over the years and worked as a researcher for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals in Connecticut at one time. Now, Ann travels every chance she gets. She has delighted audiences for years with slide shows of her many trips to exotic places. So come join us in the middle of a New England winter as we travel vicariously to a warmer climate and view animal life in Botswana and South Africa.

Betty Dixon



Friends in IWCNE and throughout the area were sad to learn that Betty Dixon passed away on January 6, 2009. She had celebrated her 99th birthday on Christmas Day and remained active up until her final illness.

Betty attended almost every luncheon, dressed fashionably, and always wore a hat. Anyone fortunate enough to sit with her enjoyed lively, informed conversation. Besides being a founding member of IWCNE, Betty was active in other organizations, especially the DAR. She was an inspiration to all who knew her, and she will be missed.

Charity for 2009

The Fundraising Chairman for 2009, Jeannine Kolb, will be in Africa January-March. Until her return, if you have charities you would like to have considered for our 2009 charity donations, please send the charity names with addresses to: Charline Ludgate, 2 Barbers Creek Road, Kittery Point, ME 03905, ccludgate@comcast.net, 207-439-8884.

Pot Luck Dinners

In Retrospect

The pot luck brunch was supposed to be held at the home of Ellen Farber on Sun., Jan. 11th at High Noon. John Wayne wasn't there, neither were the IWCNE ladies. Because of the storm the brunch had to be postponed to Sat., Jan. 17th at 3 P.M. We feasted on home made goodies and sang the oldtime oldies at the baby grand.

Tastefully submitted, Ellen Farber

For Future

- Feb. 8th at 1:00 pm - Pat Dateo's home. The theme is Sunday Dinner with Roast Pork.
- March 22nd - St. Patrick's Pot Luck - Charline Ludgate's home. Corned Beef Dinner and York River Ramblers entertaining with Irish music.
- April's pot luck will be at Kristine Slater's home in Portsmouth. Date to be announced.
- Watch for a BIG ACTIVITY in April.



Birthdays



February 7 - Kristine Slater
 February 8 - Pat DuBois
 February 9 - Polly Coletti
 February 12 - Jackie D. Connerty
 February 16 - Johanna Mangion
 February 26 - Eileen Robert

Holiday Party

Coming out of our cold houses and the piles of snow around them, we really celebrated at the postponed party on December 20th. Regina and Al Godfrey were heroes to welcome us a week late in their beautifully decorated home. Just communicating with everyone was a huge additional job.



Everyone enjoyed swapping their power outage stories. The medal for valor must go to Anna Kristina! With directions her daughter sent her on her cell phone, she drained her pipes and waited out the cold with

no source of heat. The smartest move was made by Barb Poulin. She had lunch at Panera's, viewed two movies, then had dinner at Panera's and returned home to find power had returned. Pat Dateo's husband Bob tracked down a CMP truck and told them if they would bring a "bucket", he had everything needed to restore power to his neighborhood. They came, and I'm sure he was the hero of his street!

Diana Duhaime did her usual superb job of creating wonderful food for our celebration. It was especially amazing, because she had been up in the wee hours of the morning plowing snow! Regina supplemented with her wonderful deviled eggs and other additions.

Some members extended the evening with a sing-a-long led by Ellen Farber and Ray Demarco. It was really a celebration of the season!



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The Honor of Your Presence

The invitation to Saran Lucy's wedding to John Shaughnessy arrived on a rather warm and sunny November day. It was to be a Christmas wedding, December 20th-what could be better. Group hotel reservations were all set, minutes from the rehearsal dinner location, the church, and the country club. Could anything be more convenient? Now we all know what happened the week end of December 12th. We all know that lightning never strikes twice-right!

Monday the 14th was a beautiful day. The long range weather forecast wasn't the best. An "iffy" storm late in the week was possible, but it was too early to make an accurate prediction.

All travel plans were confirmed. Carol was coming to "cat sit" for the week end. Everything was just fine. Thursday couldn't have been a better day-until I tuned into the Today Show. That "iffy" little storm was barreling down on us, and most likely would hit on Friday. But there was some good news-it wouldn't arrive in the Boston area until 3:00 P.M. Carol called in late afternoon to reassure me that she would head over when she saw the first flake on Friday. By Today Show time on Friday the ETA had moved up a bit. The storm would arrive by 2:00 P.M., but would end earlier in the evening. Good news.

I had two speeds getting ready to leave that morning-faster and faster-and by 11:30 I was on the road. It was an easy drive, not very much traffic, cloudy, but not a snowflake in sight. By the time I reached Winchester there were occasional flurries. As I exited 128 the snow began to fall a bit heavier. As I drove into the hotel parking lot it was falling a great deal faster, and by the time I was settled in my room visibility was zero, total whiteout. I had a message from Marion Lucy. I would be driving to the rehearsal dinner with friends from Connecticut. All was well.

The normally twenty minute drive to Marion's brother and sister-in-law's home took about forty-five minutes. We could just barely see where we were going, but since we were the only car on the road we weren't terribly concerned. Once we reached our destination we were part of a great rehearsal dinner party in full swing. Shortly before the party ended Marion came over to me and said "...the priest cancelled the rehearsal!" That was a first for me.

There was one other problem, and it would be resolved...eventually. One of the guests, who was flying in from Puerto Rico and had been scheduled to land at Logan at 5:30 had been diverted to Philadelphia and wouldn't arrive in Boston until midnight. Someone would pick her up at Logan and bring her to the hotel. Problem resolved.

Back at the hotel I listened to the news. The storm was here to stay. There was only one thing to do-order breakfast in and settle down for a long, refreshing sleep.

Mary Ann had arrived-exhausted and hungry at 1:00 A.M. only to find out that no food was available at that time. She was the first one in the dining room when it opened Saturday morning.

By one o'clock we four were ready for the wedding, dressed

(cont. on back page)

Reminders

For all of the activities we enjoy, everyone needs to remember to do their part to make arrangements easier for the coordinators.

Luncheons - Luncheon reservations and payment should be made by the date listed on the sign up sheet. Refunds cannot be given. The luncheon coordinator has to give the number attending to the restaurant, and the club has to pay whether you're there or not. No reservation can be made without a check.

Potluck Suppers

Hostess - The hostess chooses the date and the number she can accommodate. She is not expected to cook, but does provide water, coffee, tea, and dishes and silverware. Pot lucks are buffet style. Guests do not have to be seated at tables. Most of us do not have space for this, and we're all very flexible!

Guests - Reservations are made with the potluck coordinator, Betty Williams, and she needs to know what you are bringing. If you are unable to come, she should have at least 48 hours notice in order to find replacement food. If you have to cancel at the last minute, you should try to send your dish-she's counting on it as part of the meal. Also, you should still pay the \$10-our charities are counting on it! We often have a waiting list, and if you call in time someone else has the opportunity to come.

Spouses or other guests are welcomed, but each one is expected to bring food or wine and to pay the \$10. Remember, pot lucks are a lot of fun, and also one of our best fund raisers.

WCI Corner

Taking over as the Liaison from Kristine Slater I would like to thank her for carrying out the job so skillfully. I will do my best to keep you informed of the happenings in WCI.

Most of you probably know the role of WCI (Welcome Clubs International) but for those of you, who are not familiar with the organization, I will give a short resume.

WCI began in 1986, when it became apparent that an 'umbrella organization' was needed to provide support to individual clubs it was formed on the same principle and philosophy of reaching out to women of different nationalities. Member Clubs share a common commitment to cross-cultural knowledge, friendship, understanding and education There are currently 30 member clubs of WCI located in 16 countries. WCI is also affiliated with Fiwal (Federation of Women's Association in London), an organization representing 33 international clubs based in London. WCI has approximately 18,000 members worldwide.

The individual clubs are all autonomous, non-political and non-religious and many have additional goals including community activities and charity work.

The WCI Board of Directors is the governing body of WCI. The President and Liaison of each membership club are the members of the WCI Board of Directors. The Executive Committee carries out the ongoing administration of WCI and executes the policies and decisions made by the WCI Board of Directors.

In the following Newsletter I will tell you of the advantage of a club being a member of WCI.

In Friendship, Kirsten Ivancevic

IWCNE Luncheon Registration Form

International Women's Club of New England
Febraury 28, 2009

NAME (S): _____

Cape Neddick Inn Restaurant
1273 US Route #1
Cape Neddick, ME. 03902
207-439-1488

Deadline: February 18, 2009

RSVP: Please send your check for \$20 per person to Micky Robinson, 5 Meadowlark Drive, York, ME. 03909 or call 207 363 8074. Pre-registration only. No refunds. Send someone else in your place.

Luncheon Menu

House Salad

Fish or Chicken

Dessert - Chef's Choice

Coffee/Tea



International Women's Club of New England
Program for February 28th, 2009

Cape Neddick Inn Restaurant
1273 US Route #1
Cape Neddick, ME. 03902
207-439-1488

11:00 a.m. Registration (Coffee available)
11:30 a.m. Business Meeting
12:00 noon Luncheon



IWCNE - February 2009 Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 International Film Discussion Yorkshire Commons 6:00 pm	3	4	5 Les Chanteuses 5:30 pm Ellen Farber's	6	7
8 Pot Luck at Pat Dateo's 1:00 pm	9 Board Meeting 4 Wheelhouse Way Kittery Point 5:30 pm Deadline for newsletter	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Deadline for Luncheon Signup/Payment	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Luncheon Cape Neddick Inn Cape Neddick, ME 11:00 am
Looking Ahead: March 2 - 6:00 pm - International Film Discussion March 3 - 7:00 pm - Book Club March 22 - 5:00 pm - St. Patrick's Pot Luck March 28 - 11:00 am - Luncheon						



ESTABLISHED 1992

The Honor of Your Presence (cont.)

to the nines from mid calf up. From mid calf down we were Nanooks of the north.

Our drive to the church was slower than expected, complicated by the fact that it was the last shopping week end before Christmas. Storm or not-people had to do that last minute shopping. Finally we were at the church and on time, too.

Marion was the picture of serenity as she greeted us. She smiled and said, quite casually, "Did I tell you that the caterers cancelled last night's dinner because of the storm?" We were speechless! Fortunately many members of her family live in Wellesley, and when the panic button was pushed on Friday afternoon-sisters, cousins, and aunts all answered the call and pulled it all together.

The wedding was absolutely beautiful. The flower girls were darling. Oh how they concentrated on making sure that each rose petal dropped went just where they wanted it to go. The maid of honor was perfect, and Sarah, our wonderful IWCNE model these past few years, was such a beautiful bride. I have to say here that I don't think I've ever seen a prouder father of the bride-and with good reason. Outside the storm raged. Inside all was peace, love, and joy-it was a beautiful day.

After the beauty and serenity of the wedding, reality returned mighty fast as we left the church. No one seemed to really care. We arrived at the club, left the storm outside, and enjoyed every moment of the reception.

The musicians stopped playing, Sarah and John were off

to Balize, the party ended, and so, it appeared, had the storm. The sky was that blue/black you see only after a severe snowstorm, just filled with twinkling silver white stars. A perfect ending, you say. Well-not just yet.

The weather forecast for Sunday was more of the same, but a more severe same! Home was my destination. For the first time in a few days I would be driving with a passenger from Puerto Rico. Mary Ann had been in New England during the winter, but never during such a storm.

The drive was not difficult. There were very few cars on the road, plows and sanders paved our way and kept speeders in check. We experienced only a few white outs. Often Mary Ann would say almost in disbelief "...you really stay here all winter?!" As she was leaving she looked around my driveway surrounded by mountains of snow drifts and said, "...Don't stay here all winter. I have a guest apartment you can use any time." The snow had lost its magic for Mary Ann, but the wedding had been memorable.

P.S "Let it Snow" has been scratched from my list of holiday favorites.

Ellen O'Toole

— **Reminder!** —

Please mail your completed Membership Survey to
IWCNE, P.O. Box 351, Cape Neddick, ME 03902.
If you need another copy, email dorothy.healy@gmail.com.
We do appreciate your ideas and comments. Thank you.