

# Ernstraud Magazine

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happiness sharing as a way to peace

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## §1 Pumping Gasoline

Oregon has required motorists to employ attendants to pump motor fuel. While I welcome increasing employment, especially when it includes interaction between people, this particular interaction is very difficult because under "full service" in Illinois, attendants used to top off my tank--a practice that is totally unacceptable. My knee-jerk reaction is to tax the motor fuel to provide more beneficial jobs, like playground supervision or parks beautification.

However, in the Oregonian setting, I should support the majority program if my suggestion does not carry the day. If my heart is in the right place, I will make the best of my situation. Instead of idly complaining that someone might spill gasoline on my fender, I will seize the opportunity to hop out of my car and see how well I can charm the attendant's day without micromanaging. The car will survive, I will be significantly happier, and the attendant will pass on the feeling of peace and well-being to other customers during the day. My cooperation will not only increase the peace in the legislature, it will also increase the peace in the mundane local world.

In case you missed it, please note that this allegory might be just the pattern we need in the heat of the current budget battles.

§ 2 Positive Relationships for Success

## Survival Guide

The **will to live** in harmonious fullness

*It takes a community!*

Success coaches teach us that  
millionaires do not feel they have *enough*.

Survival (happiness) is our  
*positive relationships*  
with other people.

(This happens to be the fundamental rule of business success.)

If you put something into the common pot  
(frequently called "friends"),  
later you will not find it empty.  
Let it include everyone you meet.

The need to be social is fundamental within us.

We practice our **empathy skills** in family, workplace, neighborhood, and community. Transforming **our** hearts will transform the government because we will choose leaders who represent what we are--people who can work together constructively.

### § 3 Throwing Family to the Wolves

You cannot outrun the wolf. No deer can do that.  
All you need to do is to outrun the slowest deer.

\* \* \*

We do not apply the above maxim to the human family. We do not throw our family members to the wolves in order to preserve ourselves--or do we?

Instead of encouraging the elite few to survive, humans think about how all of us might survive. We try to build shelters, grow crops, control threats, and overcome disasters for the preservation of the whole family.

We don't have to put the slowest deer on a stretcher to be carried by the other deer. We develop more sophisticated response techniques so that the slowest deer can run at its modest best and still survive. We learn to identify and manage the wolf for the benefit of our whole family. Both the pain and the glory will touch all of us.

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The pages of this magazine stimulate you to think about differing approaches to some of mankind's affairs. The substance of the Ernstraud content is positive attitude, not final solutions. Positive attitudes lead to cooperation in action.

## The Prophetic Promise

Happiness is not so difficult:

When you have rooted greed out of your own heart,

Here is enlightened sharing:

Realizing you are not the only wise person in the world,

We project ourselves onto others:

You will envision that other people can do the same.

We bond with mankind:

By then you have made the Ernstraudian beginning and the rest is history about to be lived anew.