

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN THERE? – DOROTHY MCCUBBINS

Dorothy McCubbins down in Louisville, Kentucky has written a few stories for our amusement and pleasure over the past few years. Dorothy sent in a new group of stories – some of which kind of remind us of things that have happened to us (at least to me!).

Dorothy says that she was quite shy as a child and into young adulthood. When her mother took her shopping as a young child, Dorothy was afraid to speak up to order a meal and simply ordered a Coke and sipped it while her mother was enjoying a meal of “German Pot Roast.” Later, her mother berated Dorothy for not speaking up and told Dorothy that she should “Say whatever comes into your mind.” So Dorothy, later on, put that advice to work when she was on the telephone with one of her nephews. Not understanding a word of what the child was saying on the telephone, Dorothy merely answered, “That’s nice, Honey.” A little while later, her sister came on the phone, yelling. “What did you say to him? He is sitting here crying hard.” Dorothy said that all she had said was: “That’s nice, Honey,” because she couldn’t understand a word the child was saying. Well, her sister said, “What he was saying was that he had an earache.” Dorothy says that she was cured of saying whatever was on her mind from that time on.

Dorothy recounts that she had an unusual event happen to her one day when she was a little late getting to work and asked her 18 year old daughter (who was the only one in the family with a driver’s license) to take her to work. Having to go to the bathroom pretty badly, Dorothy rushed through the steps necessary to open the office and then rushed up the stairs to use the restroom. It turned out that there was a loose piece of metal stripping at the edge of the top step and Dorothy had hooked her shoe in it and fell down a flight of marble steps. Thanks to the prompt attention of fellow employees, especially **Betty Kessinger**, to whom Dorothy feels indebted for life, Dorothy was rushed to the hospital with what turned out to be a broken pelvis along with other cuts, scrapes and bruises and a swollen body. Later that year, Dorothy had to once again go into the hospital for an emergency Gall Bladder operation together with a few other “ectomies” and so was absent for quite a bit of the year with an very understanding new boss – **Ezra Stroupe**. At some point in time, Dorothy was presented with a consent form saying that she would never “do that again.” Dorothy says she was not the “sueing” kind of a person and signed the form figuring that they had taken out everything and therefore it wouldn’t be happening again!

FLORENCE CUSACK – TAMARAC, FL

Florence, who is the widow of former Western Union employee, **Edward Cusack**, is also a retired Western Union employee. Florence worked as an automatic operator in NYC, first at Western Union’s headquarters at 60 Hudson ST and then worked at the stock exchanges for WU. Edward worked at the News Division, 60 Hudson ST.

Florence has been enjoying traveling overseas and took both her daughters on a 10-day trip to Northern Ireland in 2008. She describes that trip as “Magnificent!” Then, in August, she took a trans-Atlantic ocean and land trip to Paris, France and London, England with a dear life long friend. *Hope you continue to enjoy your retirement, Florence.*

Yeah!!!!**A story from Ralph Hatke**

George Phillips of Meridian, Mississippi was going up to bed when his wife told him that he’d left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window.

George opened the back door to go turn off the light but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things. He phoned the police, who asked, “Is someone in your house?” and he said “No.” Then they said that all patrols were busy, and that he should simply lock his door and an officer would be along when available.

George said, “Okay,” hung up, counted to 30, and phoned the police again. “Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don’t have to worry about them now because I just shot them.” Then he hung up.

Within five minutes six police cars, a SWAT Team, a helicopter, two fire trucks, a paramedic and an ambulance showed up at the Phillips’ residence and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the policemen said to George: “I thought you said that you’d shot them!”

George said, “I thought you said there was nobody available!”

(True Story) I LOVE IT - Don’t mess with old people.