

## **Raise the Sparks Newsletter #23- Anonymous Service**

### **Who was that Masked Man?**

I was talking to a friend recently who told me an interesting story. For the point of this article, let's call him Steve. We were talking about doing service and Steve spoke about the fact that there are different levels of helping people. He felt the highest level is where you help someone, and they don't even realize that you are involved in assisting them. This is the purest level of service. You don't get the thanks of the person for whom you are helping. You don't get the recognition from others or from the community for your act of assisting another person(s).

### **A Roll of Quarters**

Steve told me that another person had introduced him to this concept of anonymous service. He directed Steve to buy a roll of quarters and carry it around with him in his car. Whenever he parked and put money in the meter, he was directed to look around and see if there were any cars in the surrounding spaces whose time was expiring. When that was the case, he was told he should put money in the meter and then walk away. In this way he would not have the desire to tell the person who he had "rescued" or wait around for accolades from the person who he had helped.

### **Challenged by a German Luxury Car**

The task was not as easy as Steve had supposed. He dutifully got his roll of quarters and placed it in his car. Things became challenging on the first day of his new found service commitment. He parked his car to go shopping and saw a car with an expired meter. That car was a brand new Mercedes Benz. Steve said to himself, "I can't believe the arrogance of this driver. He owns a brand new Mercedes, and he can't put a quarter in the meter. Forget about helping him." Steve told me that if it had been an old beat up Taurus or Civic he would have done his meter service. For a Mercedes owner, no mercy!!!

### **Taking the Right Action**

A few days later, Steve was out shopping again. He dutifully, took his trusty roll of quarters and placed one in the meter for himself. As he scanned the street, for potential beneficiaries, he realized that G-d has a sense of humor. The only car with a nearly expired time was a brand new shiny BMW. Steve once again had some judgments about putting money in the meter for someone who could well afford it. He walked away and briefly did some shopping in a store. When he exited, he saw one of the traffic officers walking down the block. In that moment Steve made a decision. It really didn't matter if the person drove a BMW or a Dodge Dart. We really don't know people's financial situation. Beyond that, he really didn't know why money wasn't placed in the meter. Perhaps the person didn't have any change. Perhaps they ran into the drugstore to get a prescription filled. Or perhaps they just plain forgot. Whatever the reason, Steve quickly walked to the meter and put in the quarter as the meter officer from the Department. of

Traffic approached. The meter officer said, “You’re lucky, YOU just saved yourself from an expensive fine”. Steve just smiled, and said, “Yes I did” as he walked away with his roll of quarters.

### **Pass it On**

So I would like to pass on this challenge of anonymous service to each of you. Choose a simple task where you can do anonymous service for another person, group or the community. You might take a walk in the park and pick up the litter that is along the pathway. On a windy day, gather up the lids that have blown off from the garbage cans of your neighbors. If you have an elderly neighbor, get up early in the day after a snowfall and shovel his or her walk. The possibilities for anonymous service are endless. Or when all else fails, carry around a trusty roll of quarters. Whatever you chose to do, at the end of the day, like Steve, you will have a smile on your face.

I hope that you have enjoyed this article Check out my website [www.raisetheparcs.com](http://www.raisetheparcs.com) for scheduled events and additional articles to help in your personal transformation. Please feel free to share this newsletter with others. You can place someone’s name on our e-mail list by sending their address to [moshek@aol.com](mailto:moshek@aol.com) Once we receive it we will make sure they receive all of our future mailings. You can also contact us on the [www.raisetheparcs.com](http://www.raisetheparcs.com) web page. Please e-mail me with any comments or questions. Finally, I am available to work one on one as a personal coach in these and in other areas which will help your personal, spiritual and emotional growth.

Yours in peace,  
Moshe Kessler