



CHAMBER CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Waynesburg Area Chamber of Commerce

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★ GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ★

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1998

12:00 Noon

THE GOLDEN CORRAL

**SPEAKER: JACKIE BRODAK-KINGORA
AND INTRODUCING
MISS RAIN DAY 1998 KRISTIN SZARELL**

Please join us and bring your guests. If you cannot attend please send your representative.

**KRISTIN SZARELL –
MISS RAIN DAY 1998**
*Performs at Rain Day
Festival July 29th!*



Courtesy of Randy Laskody

CONGRATULATIONS GREENE COUNTY

The Chamber, Tourist Promotion, Special Events and County of Greene have worked together to bring Greene County residents some pretty spectacular and successful events in recent months. The weather cooperated to the fullest . . . rumor has it that Autumn Marisa, Miss Rain Day 1997, felt the first drop of rain on July 29th while standing on High Street by our beautiful Court House, at exactly 11:28 a.m. I, for one, thought the Rain Day Festival was the best ever, due in great part to John Owen, the Special Events Coordinator and the very hard working staff who started working on this event soon after '97 Rain Day and endeavored to bring you the "best ever." They always carry it off and we felt this year was particularly well coordinated and enjoyable. The weather cooperated and John found himself taking calls from all over the country, reporters calling to find out if we had our rain! Yep . . . and then some later in the day . . . the Skyliners brought us the grand finale, under the starry skies, we listened to their music and enjoyed the nostalgic rhythm . . . another memorable occasion.

The Rock 'N' Oldies Concert, blessed by wonderful weather, an outstanding

committee and Park and Recreation staff; a local production company ("Wally and the Beav") created by Walt Stout and Bob Evick . . . who brought back to Greene County Will Porter (Stout's brother), a superb performer, along with "oldies" groups The Drifters, The Coasters and the enchanting voice and persona of Barbara Lewis. We also enjoyed our own "Flashbacks" and The Harding Brothers.

Two nights later we were enchanted with the 20th Anniversary Miss Rain Day Pageant at Waynesburg Central High School and watched as 15 contestants vied for the coveted title of Miss Rain Day 1998, won by Kristin Szarell, 16, daughter of Dr. David and Thelma Szarell of Graysville. The Miss Rain Day Court included first runner-up Alissa Fox, 2nd runner-up Lindsay Sheranko, 3rd runner-up Katie Wilson and 4th runner-up Tiffany Burless. Kristin also won the Kelly Smotzer Memorial Award and the personal interview, sportswear and evening gown competition. Miss Photogenic was Lyndsay Sheranko and Katie Wilson won the John O'Hara Award. Kayla Eddy won the Top Talent competition. We were treated to a radiant Crownbearer, Abbe Huffman, the beautiful daughter of our very own Vice President, Suzanne Huffman. The Pageant also brought back some of our outstanding former Miss Rain Day Crown recipients, who assisted in this outstanding production directed by the "one and only" Andrew Corfont along with Linda Corfont. I don't think anyone realizes the months of work that these two outstanding community leaders put into the production of this pageant; however, the professionalism is obvious and it never surprises me when I hear persons who have never attended, voicing their praise and pleasure. Thanks also to choreographers Jackie and Barb Moschetta, the Pageant Committee and Kerry Bruno our creative Pageant Photographer.

VISITORS GUIDE

The Tourist Promotion Agency is collecting dues and selling ads for the 1999-2000 Visitors Guide which should be ready in December for distribution. TPA has exhausted their supply of 35,000 guides that were presented to Greene County in the spring of 1997. All members of the TPA and advertisers in the first guide have received their order blanks. If you are not one of the businesses that has used this guide for advertising your business throughout the area, your state and the country . . . you should contact Tourism at (724) 627-TOUR (8687) as soon as possible. The deadline for being in this outstanding guide is the end of this month. Tourism is the second largest industry in this state and Greene County is beginning to feel the impact of visitors to our beautiful area.

Special Thank You

Richard Scott and Frank Pecjak for their contribution of time and energy to the "Dunk Tank" assemblage. Frank was up at 5:30 AM Rain Day morning, filling the tank with water using his "vacation time" to help the Chamber. Richard and Frank spent hours thereafter bringing in the customers to dunk their favorite Rain Day contestants. You two are great! Our favorite dunkee was Andrew Corfont . . . all fifteen contestants took turns pitching the ball and dunking their director. It was great fun for all!!



Courtesy of Randy Laskody

Welcome & Farewell

We are sorry to lose Mort Gamble as a Board Member and neighbor. He resigned from Waynesburg College to accept the chief advancement position at Fairmont State College. We wish him well and will miss him . . . he has been a great asset to our community.

We have welcomed Kathleen Gregg of the Greene County School-to-Work Partnership. The Board unanimously voted her in as our new board member replacing Mort, we are grateful that she has accepted this assignment, and look forward to working with Kathleen.

We would also like to welcome a former board member, back into the fold. Linda Corfont has accepted the position vacated by Christine Gardner. Linda assists the Chamber office in a variety of ways (and has for numerous years), not the least of which is her CPA expertise and work for the Chamber. We are very fortunate to have Linda on the Board of Directors!

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Nominations for this award are being accepted at the Chamber office and the deadline for sending in your nominee is September 11th. You have already received your nomination blank in the mail and we urge you to take the time to fill out this form. There are numerous outstanding citizens in Greene County who are deserving of this coveted distinguished service award and we hope to receive applications with your nominee of choice.

There is someone you feel should be recognized for their outstanding achievements. Don't pass up this opportunity to sponsor the Distinguished Service Award recipient! The Distinguished Service Award Banquet will be held on October 24th to honor this outstanding citizen!

Christmas Ornaments 2nd Edition

We have in stock the 2nd Edition Xmas Ornament featuring the Carmichael's Covered Bridge. We still have some 1st Edition in stock, featuring the Greene County Court House.

SPEAKING OF THANKS . . .

We have some particularly generous contributors to the Miss Rain Day Scholarship Pageant, who will receive recognition in the Pageant Book, but we wanted to acknowledge you here as well, sooooo a special thanks to Alltel, The Observer-Reporter, Greene County Memorial Hospital, First Federal Savings & Loan, Community Bank, Laurel Bank, National City Bank and Cyprus Cumberland Resources, McDonald's Hamburgers, Waynesburg College, NOVACARE, and all of you who responded so generously to our Scholarship Pageant fundraiser. Supporting the Chamber is supporting your community and your continued generosity is heartwarming.

"Business After Hours"

Thursday, August 13th, the Carmichaels Chamber and Waynesburg Area Chamber held a joint session, "Business After Hours" at Brodak's Distributing in Carmichaels, sponsored by Community Bank. Members and friends in attendance were served refreshments and listened to a presentation of **The Year 2000-Welcome to the Millennium**. This was a special program on the year 2000 issue presented by Richard Yanke, Director of Information Technology, S.R. Snodgrass, A.C. An excellent and informative program . . . we look forward to continued gatherings. If you would like to host a program, please call the office and we will continue these informative, networking occasion . . . sharing issues and exchanging ideas. This is the second such occasion and we look forward to many more . . . Thanks for your support . . . and we look forward to seeing you at the next get together.

CONGRATULATIONS *Andy Patel*

Our very own local Econo Lodge recently received the "Ruby Award" from Choice Hotels International, parent company of the Econo Lodge chain. The award is presented annually to the Econo Lodge hotels that exceed the rigid quality assurance standards of Choice Hotels, Int'l. and we are proud that our Waynesburg Econo Lodge run by Andy Patel has received this prestigious award.

WAYNESBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1998 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Owen, President

Suzanne Huffman, Vice President

Jackie Brodak-Kingora, Secretary

Richard Scott, Treasurer

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HELP US KEEP OUR MAILING LIST CORRECT

If there is a mistake on your mailing label or the person whose name appears on the label is no longer with your company, please drop us a note or give us a call. We'll correct it right away.



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