



DECEMBER 1999

CHAMBER CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Waynesburg Area Chamber of Commerce

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

There will be no General Membership Meeting this month.

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At the November General Membership Meeting the following individuals were elected to three year terms on the Board of Directors.

Steve Barrett – Greene County
Messenger

Connie Clark – Kyowa America

Suzanne Huffman – Communications
Development

Charles Perrine – Waynesburg College

Karen Zalom – R.A.G. American
Coal Company

They will begin their terms on January 1st. The Chamber thanks all those who accepted nominations for the Board of Directors and would also like to thank the following members whose terms expire this year. We appreciate their willingness to serve and have enjoyed working with them:

Linda Corfont – Linda Corfont,
C.P.A.

Pauline Crumrine – Nova Care

John Owen – Greene County
United Way

Catherine Shultz – Hospice Care

Shirley Stockdale – Clerk of Courts

Members in the News

Sheila K. Barger, who has 17 years of banking experience, has been named assistant vice president and manager of Laurel Bank's Waynesburg office. Previously, she was employed by National City Bank in Waynesburg. Sheila is a member of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and served as Vice-President during 1999.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2000 OFFICERS

At the December meeting of the Board of Directors, the following individuals were elected into office for the year 2000:

President – Suzanne Huffman,
Communications Development
Company

Vice-President – Susan Stoy,
Representative H. William
DeWeese's Office

Secretary – Robyn Riggs, Cellular One

Treasurer – Richard Scott,
Scott Enterprises

Family Business of the Year Award

The 2000 Western Pennsylvania Family Business of the Year Award Program is just around the corner. This is the sixth year for the program and each year it gets bigger and better. Last year the University of Pittsburgh received numerous nominations and over 540 people attend the awards dinner at the Westin William Penn. In the early part of 2000, nominating brochures will be available. If any member is interested in nominating a family business for this award, please contact the office.

WAYNESBURG COLLEGE NEWS

On December 6th, Waynesburg College granted the first Paul R. Stewart Award to Profession Emeritus James D. "Fuzzy" Randolph in recognition of his 40 years of service to the College. Professor Randolph is a beloved ambassador to the community and shares his passion for learning with school children and adult groups alike. He delights audiences with the mysteries of the ancient world and is a passionate preserver of Greene County artifacts and history. He is a story teller, musician, artist, curator and above all, an educator. Congratulations "Fuzzy!"

Annual Christmas Parade

Once again, on the first Saturday in December, Santa arrived in downtown Waynesburg along with Mrs. Claus to bring the Holiday Season in to full swing. This event continues a long tradition of Christmas Parades sponsored and organized by the Chamber of Commerce. This years parade consisted of over 100 entries and lasted just over one hour. Waynesburg College's Television Station, WCYJ, filmed the event which will be broadcast on December 22nd, at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 19 in the Borough and Franklin Township. The list of people to thank is quite long and hopefully no one is overlooked:

Rev. David Barrett, 1999

Distinguished Service

Award Winner

Co-Grand Marshal

Katie Wilson, Miss Rain Day 1999 -

Co-Grand Marshal

Members of Co. C 1100th INF(M)

Pa. Army National Guard and

Recruiter Shane Cole

First Baptist Church and

Rev. Richard Visser

Greene County Assistance Office

WANB Radio and Doug Wilson

Waynesburg College T.V. Crew,

Bill Molson and Rob Weibel

(continued on next page)

JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Noon

Wednesday, January 12th

Groovy's

WAYNESBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 24, 1999 – Golden Corral Steak House

MEMBERS PRESENT: Connie Clark-Kyowa America, Jim Porter - Kyowa America, Amber DeBolt - McDonald's, Carol J. Howard - McDonald's, Mary C. Parkinson-D.S.A. Winner, Richard Scott - Scott Enterprises, Mary K. Pruss - Peacock Keller, Suzanne Huffman - C.D.C., Sheila Barger - Laurel Bank, Susan Stoy - Rep. DeWeese, Andrew Corfont - Community Bank, John W. Alrutz - Professionally Yours, Inc., Ruth Enci - Area Agency on Aging, Inc., Charles Perrine - Waynesburg College, Kathleen Gregg - School-to-Work, John Owen - United Way, Ralynn Lund - G.C.I.D.A., Jeanine Henry - Small Business Administration and Robyn Riggs - Cellular One.

President Mary Pruss called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. On a motion by Carol Howard, seconded by Richard Scott, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented with the clarification of the spelling of two names. The Secretary's Report was approved on a motion by Sheila Barger, seconded by Suzanne Huffman. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by John Owen, seconded by Susan Stoy.

OLD BUSINESS: A tentative financial report for the Membership Banquet was reviewed. A final report will be given at the December or January meeting. Only one issue remains to be resolved regarding some meals that are unpaid at this time. Once again, Mary Pruss asked members to volunteer to help sell Christmas Bulbs. They are selling but quite a few remain. Charles Perrine from Waynesburg College volunteered to help with this project. Suzanne Huffman reported on the Revitalization Committee. She attended the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance Meeting recently. The P.R.A. is a group made up of individuals from the private sector to market our region. The focus of the marketing is to showcase the advanced technology available in our area. She also attended the annual meeting of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Their focus is workforce development, economic development and education for our region. This group is also a private sector movement. Kathleen Gregg reported that the Conservancy is looking to complete a site study in the downtown area, possibly the small park next to the Court House, for a planting project next Spring. They planted 800 daffodils bulbs at the First Federal area with the help of the F.F.A. at Waynesburg Central a few weeks ago. Mary Pruss encour-

aged members who were interested in these projects to please contact the office to be placed on the mailing list for meetings.

NEW BUSINESS: Susan Stoy announced that a bus trip to the Capital has been planned for December 6th There will be lunch with Representative DeWeese, a tour of the House Floor, the State Capital and Museum. She has 4 seats left at a cost of \$20.00 per seat. Melody Longstreth reported that as of today we have 69 entries for the Christmas parade. Volunteer helpers are needed for the line-up. WANB Radio has been announcing daily asking for entries to please register with the office. Discussion was held on Santa who is the grand finale of our parade. The floor was opened for additional nominees for the Board of Directors. There were no nominations from the floor. The nominations were closed on a motion by Richard Scott, second by Robyn Riggs. Mary Pruss reminded members who had two representatives present today that they only have one vote available to them. John Owen tallied the votes and announced the winners as follows: Steve Barrett - Greene County Messenger, Charles Perrine - Waynesburg College, Connie Clark - Kyowa America, Suzanne Huffman - Communications Development and Karen Zalom - R.A.G. American Coal Company.

Mary Pruss introduced the guest speaker, John Alrutz, Vice Present of Human Resources from Professionally Yours, Inc. He reviewed the team of energetic individuals who operate the firm. They recruit employees to fill the needs of their clients. Skill Builders Inc. is the second component of their organizations which is used for training and development of their employees. There is funding assistance available for employees to attend the training sessions offered by the agency. They opened in 1986 and are located in Eighty-Four, Pa. They occupy a 3,000 square foot building - most of the space is committed to the training agency. They place workers into a wide variety of positions including, clerical, medical, labors, etc. They cover Greene County, Washington County, Uniontown, Southpointe and some of Allegheny County.

On a motion by Richard Scott, seconded by John Owen, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Melody Longstreth
Chamber Coordinator

Annual Christmas Parade (continued)

Chief Tim Hawfield and Waynesburg
Borough Police
Greene County Messenger
Observer-Reporter
Dave and Carol Williams
(a.k.a. Santa & Mrs. Claus)
Mary Pruss, Peacock Keller
Jeannine Henry,
Small Business Administration
Ralynn Lund, Greene County
Industrial Development
Susan Stoy, Representative
H. William DeWeese's Office
Courtney Ackman,
Waynesburg College student
Cortney Rice,
Waynesburg College student
John Glass, Observer-Reporter
Brian and Kathleen Dukate,
Dukate's Lasting Impressions
Sheila Barger, Laurel Bank
Richard Scott, Scott Enterprises
Robin Riggs, Cellular One
Tim & Tom Lemley and
Duck Patterson

ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED
-AND- A LARGE ENTHUSIASTIC AU-
DIENCE

Parable of the Mule

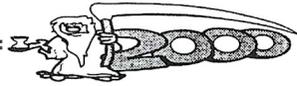
A parable is told of a farmer who owned an old mule. The mule fell into the farmer's well. The farmer heard the mule 'braying' - or - whatever mules do when they fall into wells.

After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathized with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth the trouble of saving. Instead, he called his neighbors together and told them what had happened. and enlisted them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery.

Initially, the old mule was hysterical! But as the farmer and his neighbors continued shoveling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck this mule. It suddenly dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back . . . HE SHOULD SHAKE IT OFF AND STEP UP!

This he did, blow after blow. "Shake it off and step up . . . shake it off and step up . . . shake it off and step up!" he repeated to encourage himself. No matter how painful the blows, or distressing the situation seemed the old mule fought "panic" and just kept right on SHAKING IT OFF AND STEPPING UP! You're right! It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped up triumphantly over the wall of that well! What seemed like it would bury him, actually blessed him . . . all because of the manner in which he handled his adversity.

THAT'S LIFE! If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity... THE ADVERSITIES THAT COME ALONG TO BURY US USUALLY HAVE WITHIN THEM THE POTENTIAL TO BENEFIT AND BLESS US!



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