



CHAMBER CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Greater Waynesburg Area Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS PROFILE

Special Events Commission

The Waynesburg Borough Special Events Commission is an ordinance of the Borough and was formed in 1979 as part of the Waynesburg Economic Revitalization Committee (WERC).

WERC's main job was the revitalization of two blocks of the downtown business section on High Street, between Morgan and Morris Streets. Among other things they were responsible for the facelifts of many of the buildings along the street, as well as relocating the overhead electrical and phone lines underground.

The Special Events Commission is an ongoing off shoot of WERC. The main purpose of the Special Events Commission is to provide continuity to Waynesburg's annual internationally known celebration of Rain Day. The Commission is comprised of nine people who either must live or work in Waynesburg.

Almost immediately after the July 29th festivities, the Commission begins work on next year's celebration. It is their responsibility to contract for the entertainment, sell and assign vendor booth spaces, make arrangements to close the streets, and many minute details to make the day run smoothly. Since no admission is charged on Rain Day, the only monies that the Special Events Commission makes is from booth spaces and the "Baby Rain Day Contest". The success of this year's Rain Day will dictate the amount of monies that can be spent on next year's. It is the custom for the Special Events Commission to donate a percentage of these monies to Waynesburg Playground Program.

When Special Events began, local talent was used for the entertainment. In later years they have been able to attract nationally known artists, such as the Platters, Vogues, Del Vikings, and this year, the Drifters.

Some of the improvements made over the years has been the addition of a sizable stage for the Courthouse Plaza, and last year stage coverings that helps protect the performers from . . . what else, THE RAIN!

General Membership Meeting & Speaker Wednesday, July 27th at Noon Elk's Lodge

Speaker: Rick Provost
Waynesburg Borough Manager

All Chamber Members are urged to attend and to bring a friend.
If you are unable to attend, please feel free to send a representative.
Meetings begin promptly at 12:15. Please feel free to be seated anytime.

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Pennsylvania

When a family faces the difficult challenge of tackling a life-threatening illness of a child they love deeply, feelings of anxiety, frustration, and guilt may overcome hope. This is where the Make-A-Wish Foundation comes in and helps these children and their families.

In 1980, a boy in Phoenix, Arizona dreamed of becoming a policeman. Thanks to federal narcotics agent Tommy Austin and the officers of the Arizona Department of Safety, the boy received a custom made uniform, helmet and badge and was named an honorary State Trooper. Seeing the joy in this little boy's eyes and wanting to do the same for others, Tommy Austin set out on a mission. In April, 1980, this mission was completed and the Make-A-Wish Foundation was instituted. Since then, there are more than seventy-five chapters across the United States.

In 1983, the fourth chapter to be chartered was the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Pennsylvania. Covering 33 counties in western Pennsylvania, this Make-A-Wish chapter is one of the most active, having

fulfilled more than 1,500 wishes. It's main office is in Pittsburgh with division offices in Johnstown, Erie, and Punxsutawney. The Foundation's goal is to carry on the tradition of Tommy Austin in making dreams come true. The children must be between the ages of 2-1/2 and 18 years and be diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. Wishes may range from computers and shopping sprees to swimming pools and trips to Disney World. These wishes give the children and their families wonderful memories and distract them, if only temporarily, from the frustration and pain of an ill child.

You can make a difference in the lives of these children by asking a Make-A-Wish speaker to join your group at one of your monthly meetings. The Foundation's Speakers' Bureau gives presentations to any group in its territory that would like to know more about Make-A-Wish and ways in which they can help make wishes come true. The Speakers come prepared with a slide show and photographs that bring to life the mission of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Put a little magic in a child's life. To refer a child, request a speaker or make a donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation write or call:

The Make-A-Wish Foundation
of Western Pennsylvania
The Westin William Penn Hotel
Suite 417, Box 124
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1817
(412) 471-WISH

The countless hours of the volunteers on the Special Events Commission are freely given to help promote Waynesburg, but committing to being a member of the Special Events Commission means that you are dedicating yourself to many hours of hard work and fun.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Owen, Special Events, Jack McCracken, McCracken Pharmacy; Pauline Crumrine, County Commissioner; Kay Laskody, Mountainview Gardens; Andrew Corfont, Community Bank; Chad Moore, First Federal; Millie Wonderling, Bowlby Library; Richard Scott, Scott Enterprises; Lisa Mascara, William H. Martin, Inc.; Mary Pruss, Peacock, Keller; John Loeper, Fox Motors; Clark Patterson, Huffman-Whipkey; Mary Parkinson, Greene County Nurses Assoc.; Karen Palmer, WANB; Sheila Barger, Integra Bank/South; Barbara Cole, Greene County Job Center; Marilyn Bish, Greene County Job Center; Melinda Tanner, Bowlby Library; Richard Provo, Borough Manager; Bonnie Umenhofer, Waynesburg College.

President John Owen called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm. He welcomed everyone and asked for introductions around the room. On a motion by Chad Moore, seconded by Mary Pruss, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. On motion by Jack McCracken and seconded by Chad Moore, the Treasurer's report was approved. On a motion by Jim Moore and seconded by Lisa Mascara, the Secretary's report was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Andrew Corfont (Rain Day Pageant Director) introduced the 1994 Miss Rain Day contestants and their guests to the membership. Andrew requested help from parents and/or members to help transport the contestants to WANB. He stated Central Cab Company has once again donated a bus for our Pittsburgh Trip. The contestants will begin the day with a tour of WTAE and then onto Station Square for shopping and following dinner a trip across the river to a Pirate game courtesy of TCI of PA. This year the contestants will participate in the July 4th parade, as well as the festivities at the fairgrounds. This year's pageant is scheduled for July 24 at the Waynesburg Central High School Auditorium at 6:00 pm. Chad Moore (Annual Golf Outing Chairman) reported to date he has fourteen teams registered, and he has numerous sponsors donating prizes. Jack McCracken (DSA Co-Chairman) reported the banquet is well under way and collecting advertisements for the program will resume after the pageant. Clark Patterson (Rain Day Booth Chairman) reported Brian Waychoff will be in charge of the Dunk tank, and Peggy VanSycoc the lemonade stand. He also stated they are looking for volunteers during the day. Anyone wishing to help, please call the Chamber

office.

OLD BUSINESS: Clark Patterson stated he spoke to Commonwealth Securities, and they will cease their telephone solicitation. He also said if anyone is aware of any type of telephone fraud to call the Chamber and report it.

NEW BUSINESS: John Owen introduced Christine Gardner and John Loeper, the Chamber's newest board members to the general membership. John also introduced Sherri Lynn Tucker, 1993 Miss Rain Day. Sherri thanked everyone for being so kind and helpful to her in the past year and wished all the girls good luck in this year's pageant.

Jim Moore introduced Rick Provost, the newly appointed Borough Manager, and he promised Main Street would be looking its best on Rain Day.

SPEAKER: John introduced Bonnie Umenhofer, an Admissions Counselor from Waynesburg College. In opening Bonnie said it is never too early to begin looking for a college, especially for seniors. There are so many colleges that it can be overwhelming if you are not sure exactly what you are looking for. Four year colleges may not be what everyone is looking for, this is why it's never too early to prepare. Curriculum is so important and therefore you should take all the math and science courses and especially English compositions that are offered in high school. S.A.T.'s are still very important, but curriculum and grade point average are also as important. Bonnie suggested taking advantage of different college fairs, one in particular is the fair in Pittsburgh each February, with at least seven hundred colleges and universities represented. It is best to begin looking at colleges as early as sophomores. She also stated there are several types of financial aid as well as merit scholarships available, and any questions you might have can be directed to the financial aid department at any college. Open house is also available in many colleges and she suggested everyone that could should attend these. In closing Bonnie said don't put all your eggs in one basket, look around and make sure this college is exactly what you want, because there are lots out there.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion made by John Loeper and seconded by Millie Wonderling, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia A. Houglund

New Member

Welcome to our new member;
Studio R, represented by Carol Randolph.

Waynesburg Rotary

is sponsoring

"STRIKE OUT HUNGER NIGHT"

at a Pirate Game.

For more information, contact Dick
Robinson 627-4045.

Judgment

We should all be obliged to appear before
a board every five years, and justify our exist-
ence . . . on pain of liquidation.

—George Bernard Shaw

Chamber Health Plans Provide Value Added Services

Look closely and you'll see there's more to the Chambers of Commerce Service Corporation's Blue Cross/Blue Shield health care plans than the exceptional pricing and coverage.

Starting this year, additional services have been added, free of charge, to help encourage and maintain healthy lifestyles and make it easier for you to develop those healthy habits that, in the long run, will help control health care costs.

As of April 1, all CCSC Subscribers have as part of their basic coverage Blue Cross' "Lifestyle Passport" program; which offers discounts on a variety of exercise and fitness equipment, health club memberships and medical supplies. In addition, it offers health education classes on the most popular - and most important - health topics of our time: weight loss, smoking cessation, stress management and prepared child birth classes. CCSC subscribers will receive a directory of participating vendors as well as schedules for upcoming classes.

When added to the wide variety of health care options, as well as dental, vision life and disability coverage and the personal service provided by your Chamber's representative, the CCSC health care plans value goes far beyond the bottom line.

For more information contact the CCSC
at 412-227-6555 or 1-800-377-3539.

Tell Us How We Are Doing

Here's your chance to tell your Chamber what you think we need to be doing. Jot down your suggestions, opinion or other comments in this space and mail it to the Chamber at 26 West High Street.

ALL RESPONSES WILL BE SHARED WITH YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(Optional) Name _____

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