

The Noon News

January 29, 2007

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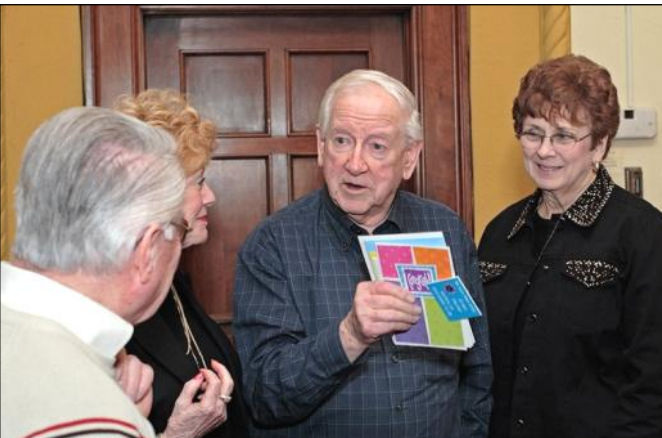
Waterloo Exchange Club



DeLon presents Arlan with his special 50 year badge



Arlan & members review District Bulletin circa 1986



Arlan tellin' it like it is to Bob, Nancy and Wanda

Arlan Hamer - 50 years in Waterloo Exchange Club - Today was special. We celebrated Arlan Hamer's fifty years as a Club member. Several members of Arlan's family were able to join us for the festivities. Arlan's son, John and his daughter Nina, along with nephew Keith, his wife Cindy and great-nephew Blake joined club member Bill Wilharm and his wife Betty at Arlan's table. Bill and Arlan have been friends for more than eighty years. Yes, that right, eighty years. Arlan is a faithful friend.

Wanda Martin served as M.C. She began by giving us a little information about Arlan, telling us that Waterloo is his hometown and that he joined the Club on December 1st, 1956 at the age of 34. Wanda went on to say that Arlan is celebrating another big date in June - his 60th wedding anniversary. Arlan joined the military in 1942, but was given a medical discharge in 1943. Arlan was a career electrician and owned his own business at one time.

As for as his work in Exchange, Arlan is always on the job, working mostly behind the scenes without a lot of fanfare. One of his major contributions has been the addition of nearly 20 new members, including Bill Wilharm in 1999, Bill Senn in 2000, Spencer Luvert in 2005 and Bob Hoppes in 2006. That's Arlan alright. Still doing his part.

Wanda described how, for a number of years, Arlan provided the equipment for the Club's parade float, stored and transported the big grill used for the family picnic. At this point Wanda gingerly pointed out one of Arlan's few failures - his inability to persuade Mr. Cole to implement a number of suggestions relative to more efficient operation of the grill.

Wanda closed by sharing a story. *"As most of you know, I was on of the first two women to join Exchange -- I was naïve to believe they wanted me, but -- just last Monday Arlan told me he was one of those men who swore up and down that he would resign once women joined, but was glad he didn't.*

Early on, we went to Arlan's house to work on the Club float. When I pulled up, the men stopped talking and just stood there. It was if they were thinking 'what shall we do with her'. At that point Arlan's wife Irene yelled out the open window 'Arlan, give her a paint brush - women know how to paint!' Well, he did, she could and the rest is history.

Then, it was Arlan's turn. He was just getting in stride when Wanda had the unenviable job of getting Arlan to bring it to a close. Arlan, in typical fashion, summed up why he stuck with Exchange all these years by saying *"it just makes sense that you can accomplish a lot more in a Club like Exchange, rather than individually"*.

Several members, Frank Magsamen, Don Faris and Mike Grillo came forward and spoke about Arlan. Mike Grillo said it best for all of us. *"Thank you for being my friend Arlan. Thank you or your service to Exchange"*.

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Big Brothers/Big Sisters - Guest speakers for last week's meeting included Ellen Vanderloo (RSVP), Linia Sirenn, Executive Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Leslie Cohn, School Mentor Based Coordinator. The three spoke on the importance of serving as mentors to children. Ellen Vanderloo coordinates RSVP volunteers that are age 55 and older to be "Prime Time Volunteers" in the school system. Linia Sirenn and Leslie Cohn spoke of the need for mentors to make a difference in the lives of kids who may lack a parent or positive role model in their lives. Mentor can help by being

Linia Sirenn, Big Brothers/Big Sisters

matched to a child and asked to spend one hour per week at the school, reading to the child, helping them with school work, or just providing a positive adult to talk with. Volunteers are screened to ensure their eligibility to volunteer with children, are provided with training and ongoing support by staff, and provided with activity resources and weekly educational opportunities for use when mentoring a child. If mentoring is not an option but you would still like to serve in a volunteer capacity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters are also looking for volunteers to serve on their Board of Directors or help with special events and fundraising activities like their annual Bowl-A-Thon. Cost of supporting a mentor/child match is about \$375 per year.

Ellen Vanderloo, RSVP

Following their presentation Ellen, Linia and Leslie were presented complimentary Exchange mugs by President Gobeli in appreciation for their sharing about the mentoring programs available to children in our community through their organizations.

Editor's note: Special thanks to Mike Knapp for taking the notes last week while we were away on the cruise. Also, special thanks to Jason Martin for the photographs.

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program : Student of the Month (2)
Invocation : Sharon Droste
Pledge : Lynette Fitzgerald

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Feb 05: Chicken Cordon Bleu
Feb 12: BBQ Ribs
Feb 19: Tenderloin and Fries
Feb 26: Meatloaf
Mar 05: Roast Pork Loin

Order Chef Salad one week in advance

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Feb 05 : Student of the Month (2)
Feb 12: Closed Business Meeting
Feb 19: ACE Students (2)
Feb 26: TBA
Mar 05: TBA

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 28 : Dick Cole
Jan 30 : Jackie Allen
Jan 31 : Craig Holdiman
Feb 03 : Bob Briden

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

President Gobeli offered the following quote : "May each of us strive to have a small portion of the dedication that Arlan Hamer has demonstrated in everything he has done the last 50 years."

Last week President Gobeli offered the following quote from Bill Gates : "Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning ."

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Meeting Location Change - The Elk's Club is undergoing a significant renovation, so our meetings will be held upstairs in the Lodge Room until further notice. There should be signs showing the way.

Guests - Last week, Sandy Goldsberry invited Mike Jovic to join us for lunch. Mike is employed by Veridian Credit Union. This week, Jackie Kugler invited Jennifer Heller back for a second time. Jennifer is employed by Struxture Architects.

Welcome Jennifer and Mike. We all hope you enjoyed your visit with us and we'd love to have you join us on a regular basis as members. We do a lot of things to improve the quality of life here in the Cedar Valley. We're sure that you'll find several of these that will give you a great deal of satisfaction to be involved in.

Jamie & Jim's Kids Auction - Bernie Moine reported the Auction was a big success. Although the final figures aren't in yet, Bernie believes they will have an increase over last year, which would put the amount raised at around \$70,000 or so. Great job REMAX!

Jerry Cook's Passing - Jerry Cook died Sunday, January 21, at Covenant Medical Center. He was 87. Jerry was a Waterloo native. He retired as Vice President of the National Bank of Waterloo in June, 1984 after 47 years of service. He was a member of our Club for 43 years. Services were held last Wednesday, January 24th, at Hagarty-Waychoff-Grarup Funeral Home. Jerry went into the hospital with stomach problems and it was reported that they performed gall bladder surgery and then other problems developed and they were doing another surgery and his heart gave out. Jerry will be missed. He always had the warmest smile and kind words. Our deepest sympathies are given to his family for his loss.

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Meeting each Monday at noon

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