

The Noon News

June 23, 2008

Published by



Waterloo Exchange Club

Peregrine Charities - Amber Wasendorf from Peregrine Charities stopped by to give us an update on their 2008 Triathlon Fund Raiser. Peregrine Charities is the Wasendorf Family foundation, the folks that are in the process of moving their business, Peregrine Financial Group to Cedar Falls. PFG was a major sponsor of the Healing Field and is a wonderful addition to the Cedar Valley.

Mrs. Wasendorf began by discussing how the company was greatly impacted by their participation in the Healing Field. They chose to support the 133rd Nation Guard unit last Christmas. They supported eight families who were experiencing various difficulties as a result the repeated and extended deployments the men and women have had to deal with.

Then Amber gave us an overview of Peregrine Charities. She told us that the foundation funds grants to hospitals in Iowa, with an emphasis on research for pediatric diseases and provides financial help for children's hospitalization and treatment. Last year, four hospitals received grants. Waterloo's Allen Hospital and Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids both received \$50,000 grants for the pediatric sections in the new emergency departments they are working on. The University of Iowa Children's Hospital in Iowa City received \$150,000. The major portion of the grant (\$100,000) is going to fund research into rare pediatric diseases and the balance to fund the expansion of one of the pediatric care programs. Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Waterloo and Cedar Falls received \$15,000 to establish a program to provide personalized hats for children undergoing surgery and to create a child-friendly emergency room. For more information about Peregrine Charities, check out the website [here](#).

With that background, Amber us of an ambitious plan they are working on to host a Triathlon Race event here in George Wyth State Park on September 27th and 28th. Amber and Maria Benham, Executive Director of Peregrine Charities, have both trained and are certified as Race Directors for managing triathlon events. So, this will be a USA Triathlon sanctioned event. *Editor's note: We have to admire the Wasendorf family's style. When they do something, it's really first class. That makes their major sponsorship of the Healing Field so much more meaningful for the Club.*

Amber and Maria have designed a one mile swim in George Wyth Lake, a 22 mile bike ride and a 6 mile run on roads and trails around the park. As one would expect, they've thought of everything and have it all covered in the plans.

There's a lot of prizes and medals to be awarded, including \$1,000 first place, \$500 second place and \$100 third place prizes for both men and women. The website says the total prize purse will be almost \$5,000.

The web site indicates proceeds from the event will go to Peregrine Charities to support medical research for rare pediatric diseases and provide assistance with children's hospitalization and medical treatment. What a great idea for a fund raiser for Peregrine Charities.

Now they need volunteers, donors and participants to make it a success. Amber told us of their vision of 500 participants this year and (jokingly) told us of growing the event to rival the 8,500-participant Chicago Triathlon eventually. Well, we won't be surprised when it happens... soon.

It promises to be a great event and a lot of fun to be involved in. Check out the website [here](#) for information on how to get connected.

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program : Induction of New Officers
Prayer : Rich Nelson
Pledge : Kathleen Earnest
Menu : Roast Beef

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Jun 30 : Induction of New Officers

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Jun 30 : Roast Beef
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

Jun 17 : Renee DuPont
Jun 19 : Carolanna Magsamen
Jun 20 : Bill Dodd
Jun 21 : Janet Trepp
Jun 26 : Reece Miller
Jun 27 : Charlie Lott
Jun 28 : Mark Little

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

President-elect Don McGriff offered this thought: "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

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Proudly We Hail Program - Last week, we honored 5 residents and 1 business for flying the American flag on a daily basis. They received their awards during the



L to r: Mike Kauffman, Darrel & Sharon Loveless, Roxanne Johnson, John Waychoff, Mary Kay Van Wey and her daughter.

annual "Proudly We Hail" program. They were presented with a plaque and an American flag that had been flown over the Capital in Washington, DC. Each recipient talked about the reason they fly the flag and why it is so important to each of them.

Committee Chair De Lon Gobeli served as the M.C. and introduced us to the honorees. The five resident honorees are: Creston and Mary Kay Van Wey, Jack and Roxanne Johnson, John and Diane Waychoff, Darrel and Sharon Loveless and Mike and Becky Kauffman. The local business that was honored is Perkins Restaurant and Bakery.

Craig Holdiman did a great job with a Power Point presentation to present a historical overview of the evolution of the design of our flag. He also led us in a couple of patriotic songs and finished off with a poem by Johnny Cash—"Ragged Old Flag".

Freedom Shrine - Wendell Wexter announced that we will rededicate the Freedom Shrine at Veterans Memorial Hall in Waterloo after the meeting next Monday, June 30. Wendell encourages all members, that can, to stop by for the ceremony. It will last 15 minutes or so.

Guests - Last week we had three guests. De Lon invited Amy Schaefer and Julie Ames as his guests. Amy works at Garris Robert Realtors and Julie is with First Community Trust. Aaron Buzza invited Dawn Breakenridge. Dawn is with the Waterloo CVB.

This week, Randi Leuenhagen and Amy Ealy from the Elks Club staff were our guests. President Neebel invited Randi and De Lon invited Amy.

District Awards - Last week, Wanda Martin presented President Neebel with two awards from the District Exchange convention.



President Neebel with Club's District Awards

The Club was awarded the Blue Award and President Neebel was awarded the Outstanding Club President Award. Both of these awards are based on completion of a number of designated programs and meeting certain operating metrics, such as membership retention.

The President's Scrap Book won the District competition. Brittany Jungck did a fine job of the display all the history of the past year in very creative ways.

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Meeting each Monday at noon

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