

Pledge: Bill Fulton

Prayer:

Guests: Roger and Connie Wind, Connie Ellis (mom of EI Presidente) and Curt's daughter, Lauren, 3.

Don Speacht

National Executive Director

Lunch was a raucously good time. Of course what would a meeting be without the catcalls from the peanut gallery...that just adds to the ambiance.

If you recall, Speacht ran in the annual marathon at Disney World over New Year's. He pledged \$10 per mile (for the 26.2 miles in a marathon) and stopped by to hand over a check for the \$262 having achieved his goal of completing the marathon.

Speacht, an airline pilot with SouthWest Airlines, and his daughter ran the race in 5 hours, 43 minutes. 16,000 runners participated in the marathon most of whom were being sponsored or were sponsoring organizations. He believes that he was the only runner there raising funds to donate to AMBUCS.

"I hit the wall around 17 miles but then I thought about what AMBUCS does, the pain went away," he said. (As an aside: he said his daughter ran into her 'wall' over a glass of post-race wine).

He is a childhood friend of Don Vish's (husband of Donna), which is where the fundraising idea was hatched. All of we AMBUCS offer Speacht a giant Thanks! What a great gesture.

A Serious Note

Our club would like to issue a 'Get Well Soon' to our Days Inn server, Jeanine Rife. She fell recently while at work and broke her hip.

AMBUCS Notes

Nancy Runner, wife of Al, has returned home after suffering an aneurism in late November, 2003. She has undergone two operations and took therapy Champaign until she received an 'A+' from her therapist on a progress report.

The Danville Police Benevolent Association announced, through Lt. Bob Richard, that they will sponsor a team in our newly created Challenger Baseball League. Our hats off to the brave men and women who make up the association and 'Thanks' to all!

Carol Wade reported again that all is going well with our annual AMBUCS Home Show. In fact, the show is nearly sold out. Mark your calendars—the show will be held March 5, 6, & 7, 2004 at the David S. Palmer Arena. Again, volunteers are needed for all aspects of the weekend.

McDonald's and Neuhoff Broadcasting have teamed up to produce a series of 'Community Spotlight' public service advertisements and our AMBUCS chapter has been chosen as one of the 11 community organizations to be promoted. The ads will run on Neuhoff's three stations (on the FM side: D102 and K Rock, and the AM side: WDAN)—500 for each organization! Ours will be aired from Feb. 1- 15. We can't thank McDonald's and Neuhoff Broadcasting enough!

Here's a 'shout-out' to our President/ Volume 2: If you recall from our last outing Curt Ellis and wife, Rhonda, are having their fourth child sometime in August. "I think we've figured out what causes that...and are going to get that fixed," according to Curt. All 'Notes' can say is - Ouch!

Future Program

1/21 New Voting Machines

1/28 Tom Jones' new book

Board Meeting

February 9 at noon at Clifton-Gunderson. Feel free to join us, and please park in the lot.

Barstool Golf

It's nearing the third annual Barstool Golf Outing time. This year's event will be held on Feb. 21 and will run from 11 a.m. until completion (around 6 p.m. or so). There will be nine participating taverns in the event. Chairperson Patti Clutter informed us that she would like to run two AMBUCS volunteer sessions—10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. until the finish.

Just to tweek your memories, our local Bud distributor designated our club to be the beneficiary of proceeds from the event—last year to the tune of about \$8,000. So, there's room for everyone to come on out and volunteer to be judges and have a great day of fun. To volunteer, give Patti a call @ 554.1354.

National Fund Raising

There's a national fund-raising campaign underway to help build the new national AMBUCS resource center. AMBUCS Calendar for 2004 is on sale now for \$25. Not only to you get the calendar, but are entered monthly in a raffle or could win one of three trips or other prizes.

Even though Richard Woodard was absent, there was a report offered from the sales of the National AMBUCS 2004 calendar—46 have been sold.

Meetings - Wednesdays at Noon - Days Inn

Creating Independence for Persons with Disabilities

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