

Pledge: Robert Colon
Prayer: Terry Coyle
Guests: None!

Barbara Young

Danville Election Commission

Voters in the City of Danville will have a new voting system the next time they go to the polls, according to Barbara Young, executive director of the Danville Election Commission. So, the old familiar punch card system has been discarded for an optical scanner type.

"Just how did we get into this mess (the mandate from the federal government ordering the change)?" she asked. If you think back to the 2000 presidential election, there were five counties in Florida that seemed to not be able to count. That's where the terms 'pregnant chad', and all the other 'chad' driven terms were coined. The punch card system had been used here for 30 years, now it will be the scanner.

Voters will now have a sheet that will list the candidates and the voter must shade in an oval, then take the sheet to an election judge to have the scanner read the votes, which will be stored in the machine's memory (and will also create an audit of the precinct's votes).

Oh, just as a chuckle, our old card readers for the punch card system is being sold to Champaign County for use there.

Young, by her changing the system here, has saved the city the expense of being sued (which the federal government threatened unless the switch was made by the next presidential election).

Thanks to Barb for a fun and instructive presentation.

AMBUCS Notes

There are only five booths remaining to be sold, reported Carol Wade, for 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 ads 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 through Feb. 15. We can't thank McDonald's and Neuhoff Broadcasting enough for the recognition they've offered up.

It was reported that about \$800 had been pledged for Don Spreacht's New Year's marathon run at Walt Disney World.

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 a heartfelt 'Thanks' to all!



Future Program

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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