

NewsLetter

Community Research Technology, Inc.

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Our mission is to (1) promote digital preservation of the athletic history of the New Ulm area, (2) provide real-time Internet access of the community's sports events to any person at any time any place in the world and (3) encourage a technology-focused friendly environment for family and community history research.

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March 31, 2008

THERE IS A REASON It's been a short spell since we provided information to you regarding the CRT project which can do a lot of exiting things for New Ulm sports and the researching needs of the community. It's been a busy time and certainly one full of promise and progress.

TAX EXEMPT STATUS Paperwork for gaining a 501c(3) tax exempt status has been received by the IRS from us and was acknowledged about 10 days ago. If we've done the homework correctly, the IRS reports we should receive a qualifying letter in 60 days ... or about the middle of May. If there were shortcoming in the request, we will hear from them and then it will be a longer wait. Gaining the status is crucial in our efforts and causes some delay in our funding requests. We should know in a couple of weeks how long this process will go. The work done by Andy Biebl, Al Mueller and Kenneth Vonderhaarr encourages me to expect the best.

FOUNDATION GRANT Unfortunately we did not receive the major funding grant from the New Ulm Foundation whose board selected one of eight requests (soccer fields) for allotment of its available large grant funds. At least 60 hours of preparation went into our request and while we are disappointed, we are not discouraged nor do we have quarrel with where the funds are granted to. We continue to feel that our project is of great benefit to almost every resident of the community who has any involvement with any sport or the researching and preservation of athletic/family history.

FINANCIAL REQUESTS A number of requests for financial assistance have been made. The American Legion baseball program has voted to provide a \$1,500 assistance grant over the next three years. That makes four participation grants of \$1,000 or over. We have made additional presentations to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau for a sizeable assistance and also visited with a short-handed board of the New Ulm Public Library. We await results from those entities. Brown County Historical Society director Bob Burgess (who is a director of New Ulm Foundation) feels it would be best not the meet with that board until our federal request is honored.

WEBSITE Organizing activities continue and work will begin with the South Central College people on the website. Some of the personnel have just returned from an annual student/staff visit to Germany so we can expect some good attention now and that will keep us active.

New Ulm Club has asked for a presentation for an upcoming meeting and we'll probably be looking towards getting together with the schools and other sports organizations shortly. We will personally appear at any organization to explain the program which is at this stage

STATE CAPITOL DAY BCHS has offered us a table for its "cultural day" as part of the New Ulm is the state capitol for a day on May 15. We can use a table and two chairs for visiting purposes from 1 to 4 p.m. If that's a good time for you to visit with us, please drop by. We will discuss this further with the interim board of directors which now has a reason to meet. (more)

PRIORITY SCHEDULING Technology director Jim Aufderheide and the interim board probably will draw up a short wish list of things we can obtain with the funds we have but not counting those at the city Park and Recreation department. We are hesitant to draw down from the funds donated by New Ulm Baseball Association and held by the city. We did draw out \$300 for the IRS to accompany the tax exempt request. This amount was for “Plan B” which was engaged after the non-success of our application to the foundation. The IRS may feel that the \$750 fee is more appropriate. Had Plan A (with foundation grant) likely would have been required right away. We’d like to be moving faster but will not get frustrated by the time it takes.

Lower cost equipment for the digital processes and recording of material more than likely will have high priority. Software to be used by baseball and other spring sports will be high on the agenda. We might want to try to assist the Legion’s bid for hosting of the state tournament by having something put together regarding the sports site which would be a big asset to that event if it comes to New Ulm.

SOFTWARE SURVEY Bob Skillings asked coaches to list software they may already be using and will be drawing up the survey to include others which are already available. Bob has decided to run again or the Legislature, but says he will continue to be involved with us. One of the concerns expressed at some of the presentations has been who will take over when the gray hairs are no longer there. While we have young people on the contact list, we need them to get involved so there will be the continuity which will make this project hum.

OTHER PRIORITIES We think getting the name of the New Ulm sports website established early and discussions with commercial and educational financial supporters are things we should be on top of right away.

AND FINALLY

We continue to solicit “charter memberships” for \$25.00. Another 20 signing up in the next month would be quite a boost to our early endeavors. Charter members get special certificates and some other recognition when the website is established.

**Simply send a \$25.00 check to CRT, Inc., 1435 10th S. St.,
New Ulm, MN 56073.**

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unsubscribe to regular mailing write to the same address above and send us your email.*