

SportsLetter 4

Community Research Technology, Inc.

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Our mission as a community non-profit organization is to (1) promote digital preservation of the athletic history of the New Ulm area, (2) provide real-time Internet access of the preserved archives and make current athletic event results available to any person at any time any place in the world and (3) encourage a friendly environment for technology-focused family and community history research.

*Please print the attachment for a nice hard copy:
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Belated August, 2008

EXEC COMMITTEE At a recent meeting, the Executive committee continued to function in its' assigned role to make things happen. With SCC coordinator Tom Edwards, members Jim Aufderheide, Bob Skillings, Elroy Ubl and Herb Schaper reviewed which of the data base program would function best for us. This will be used to catalog and make searchable all the "pictures and data" we can anticipate to come into our permanent or temporary possession and be considered for the website www.newulmsportscentral.org. We will use Microsoft Access for our data entry program locally because we assume there is more general use of this program among schools or volunteers who will eventually be entering material. It will be configured to work with the much larger data base program on the Internet. And if we upgrade to the Mac later, that machine can run both programs.

Preliminary design work to develop the data entry form was discussed and assigned to Jim Aufderheide for finalization to tie into the receipt of the computer. We are developing a user friendly data entry system so volunteers will be able to give us help when we are ready.

The committee also discussed a temporary home for its activities, noted over 50 Charter Members have joined up, talked about colors for the website and logo, agreed to post names of Charter Members to our developing web site and discussed other means of funding. Some of our friends in other organizations may be able to lend an assist in procurement of the funds we will need to complete all of our objectives within the next three years.

A few items have been thrown out on the site to keep it in a "place holder" mode so that the site continues to be our domain. As classed resume, computer and graphics students will begin the design and detail work. Included will be a small team of German students who wish to become further involved in American sports.

SPONSORS, SPORTS AND TEAM The detail work required to identify all the sponsoring entities ... like schools, associations ... plus the names of teams past and present and a comprehensive listing of sports we will be focusing on has been on-going. The more we get correct in the beginning the better we will be developing the site when that time comes. I don't think anyone has comprehended the huge number of sports teams in our area because such a comprehensive list hasn't been developed until now. These teams touch the lives of thousands of people and occupy an enormous amount of their personal time when family members are involved. Thanks to those who have helped develop the list. When we started entering some data we quickly found some organizations and teams we had overlooked.

HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS We've had interaction with people like Minnesota Historical Society (via MVL graduate David Grabitzke) and with the Minnesota State High School league through former New Ulm principal Dave Stead as we research for best solutions to a number of issues. One of the big issues is a "donor agreement"

whereby everyone understands what use will be made of material to be donated or loaned to us. Elroy Ubl is working on that for us. We want so very much to be able to have the public make use of the massive material with the least amount of restriction.

At the same time we also need to be sure we've covered the legal concerns regarding printing and identifying youngsters (in young people pictures) for use on the Internet.

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EQUIPMENT HERE Computer and scanning equipment is on hand to be able to begin this phase of work once the data entry requirements have been refined. Payment was made from existing funds which have since been partially replaced by \$1,200 turned over from the trust account pending our non-profit designation. Securing financial participation by the schools and sports organizations is a priority need to develop.

SEARLES AND HANSKA Thanks to the efforts of Richard and Yvonne Blomquist and Roger and Norma Breu, Searles and Hanska historical material has been accumulated and presented to us. They are also charter members which means we now have direct representation from Essig, Searles and Hanska. (Terry Helget, Essig, joined earlier). Scorebooks involving the Wellmans and the Lake Shore baseball team of the 1930's and early 40's were especially interesting memorabilia. Areas like Lafayette, Cambria, Courtland, Klossner and St. George also are considered.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP Charter memberships will be available until the first annual organizational meeting which we expect to be held in the first two weeks of November. But time is running out. Although we've passed 50, a new goal of 100 charter members before this special situation runs out at the annual meeting. Many individuals can add financial help through this method. Charter members will be listed on the website as "builders" of sports central when that phase gets underway.

We could enhance our membership position with a good response of new charter memberships as a result of this mailing. And if you share this newsletter with friends, you can encourage them to join also. There are only eight weeks left for charter memberships to be accepted.

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

Be sure to check the cheat sheet attachments for listings we've already worked out regarding the indexing information we think will be needed to identify material which will be saved to the Internet. For our e-mail recipients, we suggest printing out a copy of the newsletter and cheat sheet.

To unsubscribe to email, contact address at top of first page. As our website becomes operational, we plan to use the Internet website to post the newsletters and other information. However, we will use regular or email to alert the membership to the postings.