



Waunakee Rotary Club

Aug. 26, 2010
Vol. 45 No. 1

The formidable fire trucks shine in the Waunakee Fire Station's new, brightly lit engine bay, and that larger bay provides plenty of room when volunteers respond to a call.

"Now we have adequate room for the firefighters to travel between the trucks," said Fire Chief Gary Acker, who noted that in the old bay, two truck doors could not be opened at once.

Gary led the Waunakee Rotary Club on a tour of the remodeled facility Aug. 19. He said the Waunakee Fire District rents the building from the Village of Waunakee.

It is technically the public safety building. The meeting room at the southeast corner of the building can serve as an emergency operations center with plenty of telephone lines for emergency providers to communicate.

The renovation allowed for more storage in the north garage. Previously, equipment was stored in other community buildings.

"We're trying to make the operations more self sustaining," Gary said.

The north part of the building has been left alone for future use as sleeping quarters. There is a laundry and men's and women's locker rooms with showers, he said.

Also on the north side is the apparatus bay with the HVAC above.

Gary said several members of the fire department are skilled tradesmen, and one is a vehicle technician who can help maintain the fire trucks.

The village board asked that the focal point of the building face Century Avenue. That's where offices, the conference room and the antique display room are located.

Gary said the firefighters are the

caretakers of the department's history and its old trucks. The oldest truck, from 1924, is currently being refurbished and will be unavailable for the building's grand opening.

The firefighters have been getting a lot of questions about the height of roof. Gary said its height provides ample room to tip the truck cabs up for maintenance. On one of the cabs, the ladder must first be extended in order to tip it. That allows the fire department to maintain the trucks in house, rather than taking them elsewhere, Gary said.

Another question they've been getting is, why the wood ceiling in the engine bay?

The wood ceiling provides a higher insulation rating, he said, which is necessary because the bay is considered a warehouse. The bay was designed to be energy efficient, Gary added, noting that the glass doors provide plenty of light, as well.

Gary answered several questions. About the volunteer department, he said that as long as the response time remains fast, the department should not have to hire firefighters. That quick response time is possible because of volunteers from local companies such as Meffert Oil and Endres Manufacturing.

As for a second fire station, that too will hinge on the firefighters' response time. He said the station in the 1800s was called Fire Station No. 1, and the facade of this station is honoring that. He supposed at that time, Waunakee residents anticipated a second station, he said, but he is not holding his breath.

"A second fire station – I don't foresee it in my lifetime," Acker said.

Other items:

•Harriet Statz introduced the new Rotary Exchange Student. Hanoulia

OFFICERS

BRENT ZIEGLER, PRESIDENT • JOHN CULLEN, PRESIDENT ELECT
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JOY MCMERTY, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

ELLEN SCHAAF • JOHN CULLEN • LINDA OLSON

Calendar of Events:

- Wauktoberfest, Sept. 25-26,
Endres Manufacturing grounds
- Golf outing, Sept. 2

Salamé will be in Waunakee for the year. She is from Belgium. Also, Harriet invited the club to a neighborhood party. Fortunately for us, the chef mistakenly ordered a 150-pound pig to roast. The party is at Prospect Road and Pleasant Drive from 3-8 p.m. with supper served at 5 p.m. We can all meet Hanoulia then.

•Craig Larson reminded the club of the golf outing Sept. 2 with dinner afterwards.

Guests: Carolyn Harris, guest of Rich Harris; Ross Kuehn, guest of Ken Ballweg.

Visiting Rotarians: Rich Lepping, Madison Downtown.

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: Aug. 27, Dan and Joyce Muxfeld; Aug. 27, Danny and Lori Miller; Aug. 28, Connie and Marjorie Blau; Aug. 30, David and Mary Jean Kennedy.

Prayers: Aug. 26, Susan Vergeront; Sept. 2, Pat Durden; Sept. 9, Leonard Allen.

Programs: Aug. 26, Chad Lee, Congressional candidate; Sept. 2, Club Assembly.

Greeters: Aug. 26, Larry Felsheim and Betsy Flanagan; Sept. 2, Amy Fluke and Greg Garten; Sept. 9, Rich Harris and Susan Hedrick; Sept. 16, Travis Heiser and Bob Hoskins.