



May, 2011

Dear Maquoketa Community Member,

Discussions concerning the return of an annual fireworks display in Maquoketa are taking place. Tentatively, plans call for the fireworks to culminate the Timber City Days & Adventure Race activities on June 25th at the conclusion of the Saturday night stock car races at the Jackson County Fairgrounds and in conjunction with the display of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Moving Wall. With thousands of visitors in town, we plan to have a night to remember and ask your assistance in rolling out the red carpet treatment.

We appreciate the past financial support received for the fireworks in Maquoketa and are asking everyone to consider donating to this year's event. In order to have fireworks return to Maquoketa in 2011 we need to generate \$6,000. The City of Maquoketa (thank you for kicking off the fundraising campaign) has generously committed \$1,500, leaving \$4,500 to be raised!

In the event, the required level of funds is not secured and fireworks will NOT be held, all contributions received will be returned in full.

To make a contribution to the fireworks, please make your check payable to the Maquoketa Area Chamber of Chamber, mail your check or drop it off at 117 S. Main Street, Maquoketa, IA 52060.

All contributions received will go toward the fireworks and must be received by **June 17th**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chamber office. Again, we would appreciate your support for without these donations, Maquoketa will not be able to have a terrific fireworks display in 2011.

Sincerely,

Stacy L. Driscoll
Chamber Executive/Economic Development Director

117 South Main * Maquoketa, IA 52060-3035 * 563-652-4602 * Fax 563-652-3020

Web: www.maquoketachamber.com

Email: Director; maqchamber@qwestoffice.net Asst.; maqchamberassist@qwestoffice.net

You are invited....

To host a craft, art, or flea market booth

When: Saturday, June 25th. 9:00am - 3:00pm
Where: Inside Pearson Hall – air conditioned facility (Maquoketa, Ia.)
During Timber City Days & Adventure Race
What: Hosted by the Maquoketa Chamber of Commerce
\$15 space. Call office for reservation: 652-4602

The Timber City Days & Adventure Race committee would like to invite your business or hobby to host a booth immediately following the Timber City Adventure Race. This year the race will finish at Pearson Hall and many festivities will be held throughout the day at this location. Take a look:

TBA	Coronado Car Club of Maquoketa Show
9:30 – 12:00	Timber City Adventure Race. Race ending at Pearson
9 – 3:00pm	Kids events, games. Including: Gassers inflatables, ring pop toss, fishing, firemen water games, MMEU boom truck, etc.
12 – 4:00	GardenTractor Pull – organized by the Jackson Cty Garden Tractor Pullers Association
3-5:00	Chalk the Walk art contest – all ages.
3-4:00	ZUMBA CONCERT – all money raised for Relay for Life
4:30 & 5:00	Timber City Cowgirls performances (2 -15 min. shows)
5-7:00	Watermelon Feed and celebration of Veterans Wall viewing.
6 pm	Stock Car Races
8-12:00am	JAMMER band concert
	25 th (1986) MCHS Class Reunion
10 pm	Fireworks (tentative)

Booth space is limited. Please reserve your space with the Chamber office by calling 563-652-4602. Space, table(s) and chairs are available. All other supplies, set up, other arrangements are up to the creative minds of the business owners. Tables and chairs are available at no cost.

Selling art? Sell jewelry? Drawing people walking by? Have a home business? Crafts? Antiques? Photography taking or selling? Anything goes...well anything –appropriate, please confirm your business when reserving your space with Chamber office. Help us spread the word – thank you!

Timber City Days & Adventure Race is a volunteer committee, an extension of the Maquoketa Chamber of Commerce. Watch the website for more information coming.

www.maquoketachamber.com

“VINTAGE TORQUE FEST ORGANIZER GIVES A SHOUT OUT OF THANKS TO ALL THE LOCALS!!!”

The list of individuals that went way above and beyond the call of duty is far too long to list, but we cannot let this event go by without recognizing the car club that gave us hundreds of hours of free labor. The Coronados Car Club from Maquoketa was amazing. The entire club worked behind the scenes for months leading up to the event getting legwork done that simply would not have happened without them. Only a few of the guys in the car club could get their cars into the show since this was a pre 65' only car show. The members did not care, they knew that this would be a great thing for Maquoketa and they set THAT as the priority.

Torque fest goers have been talking about how friendly the town was and how good the food was at the grounds as well as the local dining establishments. Tom Devine, President of the Maquoketa Area Chamber of Commerce and his team of horses was a really great touch. I am not sure we could have parked all those cars without them directing the spectator traffic the way they did. Fareway (Maquoketa Chamber Member) was so nice to distribute the promotional material to their customers, for that we thank you.

I never knew that I wanted to drive a bus... but the guys that organized the bus racing allowed me to actually drive the zebra striped bus on Friday night. Man that was a blast! I sure hope we can do that again next year! B & G Automotive arranged the bus racing along with Owen Hayes and Gary Anderson. And while we are on the subject of the track, Bob Wagner (Dirt Track Racing) did a great job in keeping the track well prepared and we never had to wait more than five minutes for him to fulfill any requests we had. Even when he was busy he dropped what he was doing to make sure the track was just right – and this is exactly what the car owners came for. We have to say thanks to Midwest Jalopies & Flat Track MN for coming out to entertain everyone as well!

We heard non-stop comments from people all over the country that attended Torque Fest (we even had people from Australia and the United Kingdom come to the show) say that the Fair ground staff was amazing, as well as the grounds themselves. And that the roast beef plate was amazing. Tips from the bar were actually donated to www.helpinghannahsheart.org and we REALLY appreciate that. It seems many do not realize this entire event is designed to help pay medical bills for our little girl who has had open heart surgery, and will have to have more open heart surgery. Our hope is to eventually turn this into a foundation that will be able to help other families in Eastern Iowa who have gone through the same types of situations with their children. Special thanks to Lanny Simpson, Jackson County Fairgrounds Manager for handling all the details (large and small) behind the scenes.

Mark Beck, Maquoketa Volunteer Fire Department Chief, brought the '32 fire truck and provided fire relief which WAS needed on Friday night when one of the buses had a small fireball shoot out of the engine bay! Thanks for being there to help out guys!

Dennis Voy, KMAQ Radio/Voy Theatre/61 Drive-In Owner, was kind enough to promote the show through his radio station and while we did not get the turn out expected at the 61 Drive In, the people that did go were very happy with the place!

The Maquoketa O'Reilly Auto Parts Store donated a floor jack and jack stands which were auctioned at the show and this money went to the helpinghannahsheart.org fund. Another item that was donated to the auction was a pair of gold tipped shoes that were from Chuck Berry – these brought over \$200 at the auction. The Coronados Car Club along with Warren Longwell donated these prize possessions and I hope that whoever won these will keep them in a safe place!

The local newspaper, Maquoketa Sentinel Press, was also kind enough to run information in advance of the festival and we hope we can provide them with even more information throughout the year to help inform the public about what is going on with the show.

S & S Auction Company was kind enough to donate their time to helping out with the auction. They were only supposed to be there for 30 minutes. Turns out the auction went 90 minutes! They did not complain at all about the extra time that was needed.

Not sure anyone worked as hard as Doug Siemen and his wife Sheri along with the entire SHAFF crew- getting all the dirty duty - we are truly grateful they were around all weekend....and we hope Doug has his voice back by now!

“VINTAGE TORQUE FEST ORGANIZER GIVES A SHOUT OUT OF THANKS TO ALL THE LOCALS!!!!” con’t.

Brad Koranda, the Chief of Police, handled the weekend with total professionalism. There were some guys that were burning their tires about 1:00 AM and the local police handled the disturbance perfectly. The next morning the guys said the patrolmen that showed up were "totally cool" and after that there were no more disturbances. It should be noted that there were no official police incidents for the weekend. I think it is safe to say that the Torque Fest crowd obeyed all the laws and regulations of the town and state. Brad also got the old Harley police bike out of storage, and this was a big hit with the motorcycle enthusiasts. Randy Manning, the sheriff deputy that was on site at the show, said there was no drama at all and everyone was well behaved.

In this world that is infatuated with numbers, winners/losers, two questions that keep coming up are "How many cars were there?" and "How many people were there?" We simply don't know. We can take a really good guess though. There were 545 car registrations given out, but there was a bit of a communication problem with some of the volunteers when they were checking in the cars. For 3-4 hours during the main part of the day on Friday, car placards were not handed out to those that were entering. On Saturday, people came up to me asking for their car placards and I would tell them, "You got those when you drove in." They said they didn't so we suspect 40 -50 cars got in without the car placards. We also need to take into consideration that not all the pre-registered vehicles attended since the forecast of rain on Saturday kept them home. So with the pre-registered vehicles that did not make the trip and the cars that did not receive their car placards, I would say we had about 575 vehicles. I have checked this number with others that go to shows all around the country as well and they feel that this is an accurate number – some said 600 for sure, others said 550, but all said over 500. Overall the event turned amazing and we hope to be able to come back to Maquoketa.

As it stands right now, there are negotiations and discussions taking place amongst the Maquoketa Chamber of Commerce, the Jackson County Fairgrounds, Bob Wagener (who leases the Maquoketa track) and Vintage Torque Fest to try to make this happen again at the same location.

Thank you for supporting the show and we hope we can make it happen again in 2012.

John Wells is the Event Coordinator - Vintage Torque Fest. You can find more information on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Vintage-Torque-Fest/130122217013607> or the website: www.vintagetorquefest.com

The Maquoketa Chamber of Commerce thanks John Wells, all the Vintage Torque Fest attendees, volunteers and community for their efforts and support for the 2011 Vintage Torque Fest and congratulates everyone on the successful partnerships that have formed for the benefit of our "One-of-A-Kind" community.



John Wells daughter, Hannah