



WALH Quarterly

Editor: S.T. Uhlman

Winter 2011

Remembering An Old Friend...

So time has once again flown by and yet another holiday season is behind us. As always, the great flurry of fun and festivities starts right around Thanksgiving and flies by in a blur before time slows to a crawl sometime right after New Year's Day. This year, however, was different. Amid all of the Christmas shopping and cookie baking and holiday parties we lost a good friend. After a long fight with Muscular Dystrophy and all of the obstacles that come with it, Rian Feldbruegge passed away on December 11th.

When I started writing this, I spent a lot of time thinking about Rian; trying to choose the words to describe him. A lot of memories came to mind. Of course many of those memories of Rian center around WALH. He was very passionate about the organization, serving numerous terms on the board of directors and making many contributions. Even when he wasn't on the board, he would still show up to a lot of the meetings and fundraising events, always ready to help out in whatever way he could. Fish fries, car shows, dances, whatever the event; he was there. WALH was all that much better of an organization with Rian as a member.



The one thing I'll always remember about Rian was that he seemed to have a competitive streak about a mile wide. Whether it was cribbage, chess, risk, political campaigns, fantasy football, or even wheelchair football, Rian was ready to throw his hat in the ring and give it a shot. We faced off against each other quite a few times in the cribbage tournaments at summer camp. I really enjoyed playing against him because he never gave up. Even if he was behind by thirty points he still played to win. He seemed to live his life that way too. No matter what the MD threw at him, he was ready to fight it day after day, year after year. For forty-seven years Rian faced each day with a spirit that pushed him forward, looking to the next challenge, whatever it may be.

Rian faced his final challenge surrounded by family and friends, all of whom loved him very much. All will take different memories away from the time they had with Rian in their lives. All will hold those memories as special and unique. All, however, will have a common thread. They will all be about a guy who did the best he could without letting any limitations hold him back. They'll be about a guy who enjoyed the competition of living his life.



Summer Camp Application Changes Ahead

With the start of the New Year there are some changes to our summer camp application process. A small group of the board of directors has been working on updating the current application – the original goal was to move ahead the date they were being sent and when confirmations were being mailed, as well as make sure that the health questions were sufficient should an incident occur during camp. Like so many things, once we really took a look it provided us with an opportunity to update the entire application. We specifically looked at the health questionnaire, code of conduct and consent/liability portion. We also made slight changes to the application fee portion. **If you are intending on attending camp this year please read as this is important information.**

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New Deadlines for Submission

All applications will be sent out April 1st and due by May 1st. Confirmations will then be mailed by June 1st. We've found it necessary to move up the deadlines so there is more time during the months leading up to camp to sufficiently arrange for volunteers and provide suitable match-ups between volunteers and adult campers.

New Look and Feel

The application itself will have a new look to it as well. While a few questions have been removed a few others have been added. We also had the opportunity to work with Marquette University's Law School and the Director of Marquette's Legal Initiative for Nonprofit Corporations. Essentially this office provides free legal service to small nonprofit organizations that would not normally be able to afford traditional legal fees. It has been a great learning process and more importantly an opportunity to make sure our applications cover the information needed should an incident occur while at camp and reduce WALH's overall liability. Also, the added questions on previous education, volunteer and job related activities will help Tom as he pairs a volunteer with a camper.

Application Fees & "My Personal Contribution"

While we will continue to provide camp free of charge for all individuals as long as it is possible, it is also important for us to look at ways to keep WALH sustainable well into the future. We continue to seek sponsorship through foundations and our partners but these efforts are not enough. We will continue to provide a variety of fundraising opportunities for our members to participate in. This participation is so vital to our success.

Summer camp costs for an adult camper and volunteer have risen upwards of \$750. With each new year we can expect rental and insurance fees to rise. As much as we appreciate the staff and facilities that Camp Wawbeek offers we have done our due diligence and explored a few other options. What was realized is that we are being charged competitive pricing and that we are unique in that we essentially come self-contained with our own volunteer attendants. At most camps we would not be afforded that luxury. With that being said it is important that we change what we have the ability to change.

In mid-February adult campers will be sent their "Personal Contributions" to "With A Little Help...", Inc. The document will be sent twice each year and will indicate revenue that has been received on behalf of that camper. Categories will include any **profit** from fundraising that the individual has participated in since September 2010, sponsorship that has been provided on behalf of the specific camper as well as any camp fees they may have paid. Following the revenue portion will be estimated camper/volunteer fees and estimated hospital bed/transportation costs, if applicable, for the camper.

Again, while we will not require you to pay a camp fee, this document is intended to show you the overall costs associated with sending you to camp and ask that you have a goal for yourself to either contribute ½ of the total by participating in fundraising or through paying a camp fee. I realize that either of these two options may be a hardship for some individuals. If that is the case the camp application will give you the opportunity to note and explain your personal situation.

This change is rather significant compared to our past practice – as I mentioned earlier it is important for us to look at the future of WALH. Equally important is that, by providing campers with a record of their personal contributions, it really acknowledges those individuals that do contribute to fundraisers and shows the impact that their participation has on the entire organization.

Submission of Applications

You will still have two ways to submit your application. To those that indicated they prefer receiving hard copy correspondence an application will be mailed. To those that prefer an electronic version applications will be available on our web site.

Thanks to Tom C. and Mike H. our online application will be updated and linked to PayPal – this will offer the option for those that are interested in paying a camp fee online the ability to do so with a credit card.

All in all these are all really positive changes that will only enhance everyone's summer camp experience and hopefully makes strides to keep WALH alive for many years to come. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Linda at (414) 571-0234 or ljlee@wi.rr.com

Thanks to Tom C., Tom D., Scott U., Mike H., Mary Kay and Jean for their work on these various projects.

Summer Camp 2011

Now I know that the snow is still flying outside. As I write this, looking outside makes me think I'm living in a snow globe. But what better time is there to start thinking about WALH Summer Camp 2011? Camp dates this year are **July 31st to August 5th**. One thing to note is that the volunteers will **not** be arriving a day early this year. Campers and volunteers will all be arriving on Sunday, July 31st. This will make it easier for those that rely on their volunteer to get them to and from camp. Speaking of volunteers, keep in mind that we are always looking for a few good men - and women - at camp. Volunteers are a huge part of summer camp and our organization and we need as many as we can get! If you know anyone who would be interested in volunteering at Summer Camp 2011, you need to do two things. First, you need to give them all of the encouragement that you can! And second, you need to contact Camp Coordinator Tom Downs so that he can send them information. Get in touch with Tom at blueskytd62@yahoo.com or 262-349-9561. We're also looking for a life guard, so contact Tom if you know anyone who would be interested in filling that position.

While I'm on the subject of Summer Camp 2011, we've decided to have a little contest this year. As you all know, we try to have a fun theme during the week of camp. Last year of course was the decades of music theme and the year before was a county fair theme. Well, this year we want YOU to come up with a theme for our week of camp! Come up with your best idea for a theme and submit it to Linda Lee at ljlee@wi.rr.com or 414-571-0234 no later than February 15th, 2011. There will be a prize for the winning choice and it may, or may not, be fabulous!

So you now have three tasks to work on. Get out there and recruit as many possible volunteers as you can, including a lifeguard. Come up with a killer idea for a summer camp theme, and of course mark your calendars. If nothing else these tasks will help scare away the winter chills by getting you to think about that wonderful warm and sunny summer weather we're going to have at Summer Camp 2011!

Upcoming Fundraising Opportunities

Boston Store Coupon Books

You can help W.A.L.H. by selling coupon books valid for Boston Store's Community Event Day on Saturday, February 26th, 2011. Each coupon book costs \$5 and contains a lot of great coupons, including one for \$10 off any purchase. So you can get your investment back right away! The great thing is that W.A.L.H. gets ALL of the money raised! We will be selling the books between now and February 26th. If you'd like to help out or if you would like to purchase one or two or five books, contact Krystal Hince at krystalhince@gmail.com. So come on! Make some money for W.A.L.H. and save money at the same time!

Entertainment Books/Bucky Books

Yes, that's right! Entertainment Books and Bucky Books are once again available. Dozens of coupons that make the price of the books seem like a steal! They make great stocking stuffers as well! So pick up one - or more - of these great little savings books right now! If you're interested in Bucky Books, contact Karen Foxgrover at mediate@chorus.net To purchase Entertainment Books, contact Kim Whitmore at kimmynelson11@yahoo.com

Gift Cards Purchasing Power

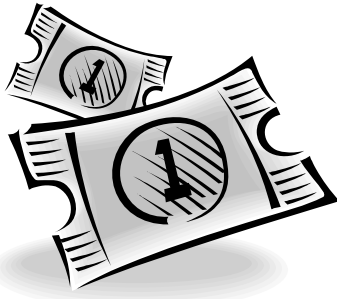
With A Little Help is partnering with Great Lakes Scrip Center to offer gift cards to our members. Purchase of these gift cards through the Scrip program to over 400 nationwide retailers allows WALH to receive up to 12% of the card value. We are still in the process of setting up our account, but once completed you will be able to order gift cards to retailers you shop with every day. By planning ahead you can turn everyday shopping at stores like Pick N Save, Target, and Best Buy, gas at Speedway, Kwik Trip, and SuperAmerica, dining at Applebees, Subway, and Panera, or purchases at Walgreens, Marcus Theaters, and iTunes into cash for WALH. WALH members will either be able place an order online themselves or send an order to our program coordinator. The coordinator will then 'process' the orders with Great Lakes Scrip Center and they're shipped to us. **The Scrip program will replace the current Roundy's/Pick N' Save WeCare program.** More details will be available in the weeks to come. Contact Sara Rahn (srahn86@gmail.com) for more information.

Kringle Fundraiser

Watch your E-mail/mail box for information on the upcoming kringle fundraiser. It will take place with delivery in time for Easter.

Wine/Beer Tasting Fundraiser

On Saturday, November 6th, 2010 55 people got together at the Three Cellars Wine and Beer Lounge in Franklin to sample a variety of wines and micro-brews for the first WALH Wine/Beer Tasting. A silent auction also took place with a lot of wonderful items, including a pair of tickets from AirTran Airlines. It was a great evening of fun and laughter and in the end over \$2,800 was raised for "With A Little Help..." Inc.!! A big thank-you goes out to the event's organizers, Erica Andres, Linda Lee and Jean Wiza, the Three Cellars Wine and Beer Lounge, those who sold tickets and of course to everyone in attendance. Thank you all for making the event a smashing success!!



WALH Year Long Raffle

The sale of 2011 WALH Year-Long Raffle tickets has been going great and the first of the monthly drawing dates is just around the corner. We still have a few tickets left, but time is running out! So if you or anyone you know is interested in buying any more tickets, please contact Mary Kay Lee at 414-306-0690. The first drawings will be on Wednesday, February 2nd, 2011 and on the first Wednesday of every month through January 2012. Get your tickets now!

*Submissions for the WALH Quarterly Newsletter can be directed to
Scott Uhlman at suhlman@wi.rr.com*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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