
M E M P H I S

IOWA CLUB

2008 Small Iowa Club of the Year Nomination

Founded in 1984, the Memphis Iowa Club (MIC) serves several functions in Memphis, including fellowship among local University of Iowa graduates as well as native Iowans, and support for current University of Iowa students.

The Club has a full schedule of activities and balance between academics, community outreach, sports, and social events. Following is an outline of activities held during 2008. We hope you will find our activities deserving of the 2008 Small Iowa Club of the Year Award.

Support of the University of Iowa

College Fair

- ✓ Club members represented the University of Iowa at the annual Memphis Area College Fair in October. More than 35 prospective University of Iowa students completed information requests and several others took request forms with them.

National University of Iowa Alumni Association Board of Directors

- ✓ Club member, Marlys Smith, continues to serve on the UIAA National Board of Directors.

Flood Relief Fund

- ✓ A donation of \$250 was made by the MIC to the University of Iowa Flood Relief fund

Scholarship Endowment Fund

- ✓ Our endowment fund at the U of I Foundation continued to grow last year as we continue the "Drive to 25" (\$25,000 that is). Funds held at the U of I as well as locally reached the \$23,000 mark during 2008.
- ✓ Annually, the UIAA selects a Memphis-area student to receive a scholarship from the MIC. In 2008, the MIC was able to increase its annual contribution from \$750 to \$1,000. When combined with \$500 donated by one of our Club members, our total contribution to the scholarship is \$1,500. This is matched by the UIAA for a total scholarship of \$3,000. Recipients during 2008 were Maggie Surantom and Samantha Weber.
- ✓ The major fund-raising event is the Scholarship Dinner held each year in April or May. Club members plan and prepare the meal, collect raffle prizes from area businesses, decorate, and so on. In 2008 we hosted Vince Nelson and Susan Griffith of the UIAA. More than 40 attended the event. Proceeds from the dinner and raffle raised \$1,450 for our Scholarship Fund.

- ✓ The Club continues to receive orders for our cookbook *Hawkeye Style* that was published a few years ago. Proceeds from these sales benefit the scholarship fund. Net cookbook income during 2008 was \$1,000.

Community Service and Outreach

Corning Elementary School

- ✓ Corning Elementary School is a 100 percent poverty-level school located in the Memphis area. The Memphis Iowa Club continues to support the school with school supplies throughout the year. During 2008, the MIC collected a variety of school supplies and an additional \$555 to support specific needs of the school.
 - The Club provides all project boards required for the school's annual science and math fair.
 - In 2008, the Club purchased safety vests needed for the student crossing guards (see attached photo).
 - We also donated \$150 towards the purchase of a digital camera for the school.

Angel Tree

- ✓ The Club raised \$170 to support the Salvation Army Angel Tree program which sponsors children and elderly in the area. Toys, books and diapers were purchased for a boy and a girl (age infant to two years) to help brighten their Christmas holidays.

Adopt-a-Highway

- ✓ In 2008 the Club adopted a portion of the highly visible and well-traveled Poplar Avenue in Germantown, Tennessee. Twenty members participated in our first trash pickup in November followed by a chili dinner at the home of the Smith's. Trash collection will be done a minimum of four times each year. Highway signage will designate the Memphis Iowa Club as having adopted this portion of highway.

Troop Support

- ✓ Early in 2008, the Club shipped 60 lbs. of supplies to three Marines (20 lbs. each).
- ✓ In September, we shipped another 45 pounds to 140 soldiers with the 186th Military Police Company from Camp Dodge, Iowa.
- ✓ In December, we sent \$100 worth of phone cards to the 248th AVN Maintenance Company from Boone, Iowa (108 soldiers).

Komen Walk for the Cure

- ✓ In 2008, four Club members represented the MIC in the Komen Walk for breast cancer cure, raising \$500.

Helping Hands - "Fire Works"

- ✓ In Spring 2008, long time Club members Jim (51BSPE) and Marilyn Wilson experienced a house fire that destroyed their home of 50 years as well as many of their belongings. The Club organized a work force who met on three separate occasions to provide much needed help to Jim and Marilyn during this overwhelming time in their lives. The volunteers helped to salvage what they could and move Jim and Marilyn into their new home. (Please see attached article from the Iowa Alumni Magazine.)

Athletics & Social Events

University of Iowa Athletic Fund

- ✓ The Club contributed \$1,000 for our 2008 I-Club Membership. The money was designated by the University to support the Women's Rowing Team.

👤 **Facilities Fund**

- ✓ A Facilities Fund was started in 2008 to collect funds to support the University of Iowa in upgrading facilities. Nearly \$600 was raised from several events during 2008 to support the Carver-Hawkeye Arena renovations.

👤 **Annual Hawkeye Open Golf Tournament**

- ✓ Sixty golfers participated in the 2008 annual golf tournament, including teams representing other Big Ten clubs in the area: Michigan, Purdue and Ohio State.
- ✓ Net proceeds from the event were split between the Club's Athletic Fund (\$388) and our Facilities Fund (see above)

👤 **Annual Membership Meeting and Potluck**

- ✓ Every August, the Club holds a potluck dinner and meeting where friends catch up on news and meet other fellow Iowans. This is an opportunity to collect annual membership dues (still at \$10/single and \$15/family) and sell club t-shirts, cookbooks and other items. We also conduct a raffle as well as a silent auction for Hawkeye various prizes.
 - Raffle: \$363.
 - Silent auction: \$788
 - Dues: \$735

👤 **Holiday Mixer**

- ✓ A holiday mixer was held at the home of Jay ('71) and Kathy ('70) Baum in conjunction with the Iowa vs. Iowa State men's basketball game watch. We had a good turnout again this year.

👤 **Game Watches**

- ✓ The Memphis Iowa Club held game watches for all football games and several basketball games during 2008. Raffles held during game watches provide the major avenue for project fund-raising. Average attendance was in the 20-30 range with the year being capped off with 60+ fans at the brunch and game watch held for the Outback Bowl.
- ✓ After prize expenses, game watch drawings netted \$859 for the UIAA fund.
- ✓ The Club traveled to Iowa City the weekend of October 18th and held a tailgate party at the Heartland Inn for 60+ family and friends prior to the Wisconsin game. Money raised at this event supported the Facilities Fund (see above).

As we begin 2009, we look back at 2008 and are amazed by all that we've accomplished. With hard work, commitment, and energy, we have reached many of our goals. We plan to continue this growth into 2009 and beyond. We continually look for ways to better current projects, add additional community service projects, grow our membership numbers, and increase our scholarship endowment fund.

Thank you for your consideration,



Daryl Helle
President, Memphis Iowa Club

Fire Works

Jim and Marilyn Wilson thought they'd lost it all this past April when they watched their Memphis home of 51 years go up in flames.

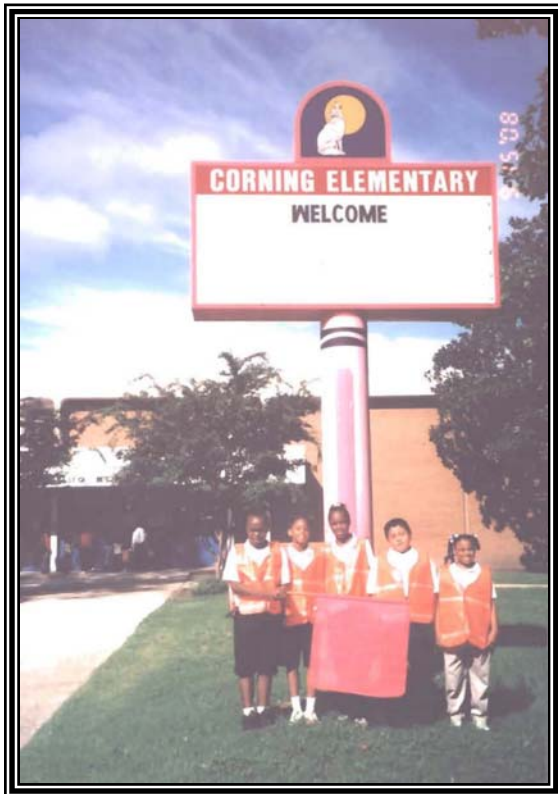
They never imagined that three months later they'd be throwing a party next door to their old property, laughing and hosing off rescued dishes with some friends from the Memphis Iowa Club. Of the cleanup process, Marilyn says, "We had a lot of fun splashing water at each other like junior high school kids."

Those lighthearted moments wouldn't be possible without the assistance of a dozen Memphis Iowa Club members, led by Tim "Ty" Theisen and Phil "Coach" Schwager, who helped the Wilsons salvage their possessions and move out of the ashes. In the

sweltering July heat, the group scrubbed furniture, ran errands for the Wilsons, and helped them move into their new house next door. The volunteers only took a break for lunch, when Theisen fired up his Hawkeye cooker to serve hamburgers and brats Iowa tailgate-style.

While Jim, 51BSPE, lost his UI diploma and some campus pictures in the fire, he and Marilyn say they are grateful to have gained some new Hawkeye friends through the experience. So is Linda Olsen, one of the club members who helped the Wilsons. "This is typical of the Memphis Iowa Club," she says. "We're always there for others and aren't afraid of a little hard work—we even manage to have fun doing it!"

Corning Elementary students, safety vests provided by the Memphis Iowa Club...



Ribs and chicken thighs, October 17, 2008, Heartland Inn, Coralville, IA...





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Lights... Action...English!



photo not available

"I teach in a 90% free lunch school in Tennessee. I teach k-6 English as a Second Language in a closet-like room to 40+ students.

I teach 40+ students on 4 different levels and 7 different grades! I need to create projects that can join all these students together and unite them in my classroom! We... " [MORE](#)

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If you choose this project...

we'll purchase the materials

and you'll get photos and thank-you's

Mar 1, 2009

Dear Memphis Hawkeye Club, Nancy, Pam, Jennifer and anonymous donor,

This letter feels like a small token compared to the enormously generous gift that you all provided. The camera is already in use! We are currently working on a project that requires the students to research an underwater animal and discover different facts about it. The students will then be placed in pairs where one student will then play an interviewer and the other a scientist. The interviewer will be asking the scientist questions about their animal and the scientist will have to provide the answers from memory. We will then watch the videos and discuss the similarities and differences between different student's fluency levels, and how we can improve. We will be doing similar projects throughout the rest of the year.

There is no way that our closet of a classroom could become so technologically advanced without your help. Our entire school system has had budget cuts and teachers are provided \$75 a semester for all their classroom needs. Thank you again for your generous gift of technology.

**With gratitude,
Ms. N.**

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