

April 22, 2010

Hamilton, NJ.

The Greater Trenton Dart League (GTDL) is pleased to announce that they collected over \$20,000 at their annual Darts for Dreams charity dart-a-thon to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey (MAWFNJ). This makes the five year total for the event almost \$65,000.

The event took place at VFW Post # 3525 in Hamilton on Saturday, April 10th. One hundred people attended the event, representing nine different dart leagues throughout the New Jersey and Pennsylvania areas (Greater Trenton, Quaker City, Women of Philadelphia, Cumberland County, South Jersey, Atlantic County, USADarts, Nottingham Tavern American Darts, plus the New Mexico Darts Association) as well as those people not affiliated with any dart league. In addition to the adults at hand, there were eight youth competitors, who are now involved in both darts and charity at a young age, which is great news on both accounts.

The event officially started at 1 PM and lasted until around 7 PM. It was then followed by a traditional Luck of the Draw dart tournament in which forty-four people competed. In total, around 14,000 darts were thrown during the event.

Around mid day, some special guests spoke. John Toomey, Director of Development for MAWFNJ joined Susan Rauth, a local resident whose son was a recipient of a wish recently. Susan spoke about how her son Andrew started one evening two years ago on his way to the high school prom and ended the evening in the hospital. After determining Andrew had testicular cancer he was put through a series of surgeries and treatments. Andrew has been clean of cancer since, with periodic checkups to confirm his status. For his wish, Andrew, soon to be a Rutgers student studying ancient civilizations and anthropology chose a trip to Greece. MAWFNJ sent the family for a week where Andrew could experience what he would be studying up close. For many of the attendees, this was a chance to connect their time, efforts and donations directly to the charity and recipients.

The winner of the dart-a-thon was Paul Seladones from the Quaker City Dart League in Philadelphia with 1456 points for his 51 dart entry. The high female score for the day was Christina Williams from the VFW 3525 team in the Greater Trenton Dart League with 971 points, and the high team score was also from the Quaker City Dart League with 5390 points for their four man team. The winner of the Luck of the Draw was Jim Newman (QCEDL) and Matt Roche (GTDL) who received a prize pack worth over \$100 each for winning.

Overall, there were over one hundred and ten sponsors of the event, up from about ninety last year. Many of the sponsors are local companies who helped with either a financial donation or a gift donation. Those gifts and items were used as door prizes, raffles and a silent auction. Items this year included several BBQs, outdoor furniture, signed sports memorabilia and tickets, official NFL footballs, an Apple iPod Touch, a color printer, and several darts related items. All attendees also received a gift bag with a T-shirt, hat, Trenton Devils tickets, a trunk organizer and assorted other items. The event was also where the annual GTDL raffle was held. This year, the raffle, which generated almost four thousand dollars for the charity was for a 50" Plasma TV, 37" LCD TV and a digital camera and printer package. All eyes were on the barrel as the tickets were pulled at 5 PM.

The organizers want to thank everyone who was involved in any way with this event, whether you are a sponsor or vendor, attendee or visitor; you bought a raffle ticket or made a donation. It

doesn't matter- everyone single person who was involved made this a better event. THANK YOU!

Special thanks go out to those sponsors who have been a part of the event for each of the first five years. They are: ADG Graphic Designs, Camden Riversharks, Firkin Tavern, Frames Unlimited, Hub City Distributors, J and V Trophies, J III Electronics, Loree Jon's Pool Tables Plus, Marty's Place, McManimon's Pub, Ritchie and Page Distributors, Trenton Thunder and Wyckoff Electric. It's been a pleasure to work with each of these companies over the years.

For more information about the event, visit the GTDL website at <http://www.njdarts.com/gtedl> . For information about the MAWFNJ, visit <http://nj.wish.org> . We're already looking forward to Darts for Dreams 6 to be held in the spring of 2011. We hope you are too.

Be sure to check out the GTDL League Finals, Thursday, April 29th, 8:00PM at Katmandu.

Gary Yourman
GTDL Special Events Coordinator
Darts for Dreams Organizer

Bill Cobb
GTDL League President



DSC_5791: Members of the GTDL present a check to the Make A Wish Foundation of NJ for the amount collected at the annual Darts for Dreams event. L to R: Gary Yourman, event organizer, Kristina Maglietta, MAWFNJ Representative, Bob Kuppler, GTDL VP, Bill Cobb, GTDL President, Hoyt Holley, GTDL member and 5 year sponsor (Frames Unlimited), Bryan Liegl, 5 year sponsor (Firkin Tavern), Bruce Roeloffs, member and event sponsor (Crown Trophy), Mark Little, member and Lori Ann Pockell, member.



Gary Yourman, event organizer gives instructions to Billy and Danny Cobb as they pull the winning tickets for the GTDL annual raffle. Watching is event staffer Cindy Flank.



Gary Yourman hands over the overall event winner trophy to Paul Seladones from the Quaker City Dart League of Philadelphia. Paul was the overall winner in 2009 as well.



Gary Yourman and Christina Williams from the Greater Trenton Dart League who won the high score award for the women's category.