



Greater Omaha Chapter

a non profit 501(c) (3) organization

News Release

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Council Inducts Russell and Oakes into Hall of Fame at ABBA Mania at Soiree

About 450 people cheered as William T. (Bill) Oakes and W. Richard (Rick) Russell were honored by induction into the Safety and Health Hall of Fame and then danced and rocked to the tunes of ABBA during ABBA Mania at Soiree on October 22 at Embassy Suites, LaVista Conference Center.

Both Oakes and Russell were recognized for their significant efforts on behalf of safety. Both are long-time safety advocates for the Council.

The disco-themed evening began with a silent auction of more than 100 items followed by a gourmet dinner, the Hall of Fame and Abba Mania, which featured 21 of the Swedish super group's disco-era hits performed by a cast of seven musicians and singers with a live band and back up singers.

This fundraiser for the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter netted more than \$50,000 for safety programs designed to reduce injuries in the home and community.

Home and community injuries have risen more than 40% since the early 90s. Further, based on historical trends, it is anticipated that home fatality rates will increase 21% and public rates will increase 15% by 2014. Injuries are the 5th overall cause of death to all ages and the number one cause of death to those ages 1 to 44. The Council's mission is to promote safety and health by providing programs, resource services and education to prevent and reduce both the personal and economic loss associated with injuries, accidents and health hazards.

Hal and Mary Daub and Dr. David and Rhonda Sharp were honorary chairmen. Tom and Lee Belford chaired a committee of 35 for the event. Lin and Mike Simmonds, Member MD, were Soiree Signature Sponsors.