



Great teamwork led to successful Hub Club Farm Show

The weather was cold but that brought the crowds inside and the exhibitors were enthusiastic. What more could we ask of our 36th annual Farm Show?

Hub Club members pitched in, with dozens and dozens of volunteers joining show organizers Don Sanderson and Jenny Eckstein; food stand chairs Del Fischer, Jr., and Mary Struss; and scheduler Michele Schroeder in making the show run smoothly.

What great help from our great members!

The seminars were great, with interested audiences who had lots of questions for the presenters.

Let's make 2018 just as great!

Look for more Farm Show photos on Page 3

Observations from the Show Chairman

This year's Farm Show was one of the smoothest shows I've been involved in, in terms of organization. Set-up Thursday and vendors's set-up Friday was without incident. The crowd turnout was steady throughout the show, allowing vendors to focus and develop contacts. The vendors were very happy with crowd turnout, quality, and engagement.

This year's seminars were very well received. Shari Fischer, MnDOT session on mowing ditches, and Dr. Ann Vogel all had good messages and audience participation.

Most importantly, I am extremely proud of all the committee members and volunteers. Success is more than financial profit. It is the willingness and effort of a club to gather around an initiative and execute.

My thanks to every committee chair and club member for your diligence and dedication to making this year's Farm Show a success.

Don Sanderson

A message from our president, Brian Fischer

Where did February go? And now we are saying goodbye to March!

I do know that—after the second weekend of the month—a few of our members are more relaxed with the 2017 Farm Show now behind us. I saw it as a nice success for the community. (Check the reports, comments, and photos throughout this newsletter.) Also, please take the time to read the meeting minutes to stay informed on the club's activities.

As a member, I ask you to ponder something that is a part of our annual goal for 2017—to create additional avenues of revenue for the Farm-City Hub Club. That concern came from previous president Denny Sjogren last year and the concern continues valid. Our organization relies on monies raised to support FFA, 4-H, schol-

arships, school programs, etc. At this point, most of those dollars come from the Farm Show and Bavarian Blast. A few years ago we removed ourselves from Farmfest, which had been another source of income. It's good to look at new avenues, since our two main income sources might not always be here. Please think about it and share your ideas with me so I can take it to the board.

This is also true of any other concerns or lost opportunities. Shoot me an email or give me a call at 276-6322.

Other things that the board will discuss in the near future include storage shed usage, Hub Club apparel, the Brown County Fair's 150th anniversary this year, and a possible Family Night at the Farm.

Brian

Farm Show Comments

by Brian Fischer

To some, March Madness started with the basketball tournaments. To the Hub Club, March Madness is now behind us with the completion of the 2017 Farm Show.

Cold weather and no snow meant good crowds for the Farm Show. Hopefully, the show was on many of our members' agendas and you were able to see the result of our club's awareness in action in our community.

A big thank you to all who held lead roles, and all the helpers who assisted in so many ways. It took volunteers only an hour and a half to set up—and less time than that to tear it all down and put things away. That help was certainly appreciated. For the club, it is about creating network within the area and organizing an event that is one of our biggest fundraisers.

When I observed the crowd that was present both Friday and Saturday, it's obvious that it sparks the interest of our community, young and old. Lastly, as I made an attempt to visit all vendors to thank them and discuss their business, I received numerous thank yous to our club. Vendors appreciate the work that we put into the event and find the event worthwhile.

In summary, the 2017 Farm Show was a success—good job everyone! Oh, yes, if you're wondering if I got to all the vendors, no, I missed about eight or 10 of them. I needed to do a better job of time management!

Tablecloth lost at Farm Show

Farmers Co-op of Hanska lost a tablecloth when it took down its booth at the Farm Show. It is blue with a large red and white diamond with FCH on it. If you know where it went, please contact Brandon Mohr at FCH at 507-439-6014.

Club's Organizational Chart

The March 16 committee luncheon meeting produced results. The agenda focused on the club's by-laws in reference to the updated organizational chart that members approved at our annual meeting in January.

Thank you to Ruth, Shannon, Joe, Doug, Denny, Randy, Maria, Beth and Ken for your input. It was great to have your knowledge and helpful input as we started the process of reviewing the articles and by-laws that were last revised in 2007. The updates will be compiled in the near future.

Social Media Committee

Work continues on improving the appearance and enhancements of the Hub Club's web page. On the list of things to do will be loading 2017 Farm Show photos to a designated library. Administrators will tweak the home page to have a continuous banner come across the screen, using existing photos for immediate eye appeal. As we move through the summer, we will add events on the community involvement page, along with current news and photos related to events. It's the club's page; let Brian Fischer know if you have suggestions. The committee is always open to feedback.

Ag Day Parade Photos

Since this newsletter is going out early, photos from the Ag Day Parade will be in the May newsletter.

Hub Club Shirts

If you're a new (or continuing) Hub Club member and haven't yet gotten a free purple Hub Club shirt, please stop by Frandsen Bank in New Ulm and ask to see Randy Schroeder. Randy has shirts in a variety of sizes.



36th Annual Hub Club Farm Show



Working together,
learning together, playing together, !



Contact information for 2017 Hub Club Officers & Directors

President	Brian Fischer—Phone: 507-354-2674; Email: brianf@designhomecenter.com
1st Vice President	Beth Fluegge—Phone: 507-359-2260 or 507-993-5195; Email: kdfluegge@nutelecom.net
2nd Vice President	Ken Reckard—Phone: 507-301-1570; Email: kreckard@comcast.net
Secretary	Ruth Klossner—Phone: 507-240-0048; Email: cowlady@centurylink.net or hubclub@newulmtel.net
Treasurer	Shannon Hillesheim— Phone: 276-0716; Email: shillesheim@bankmidwest.com
Membership Director	Randy Schroeder—Phone: 507-246-1000; Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com
Events Director	Kevin Yager—Phone: 507-228-8283 (W); Email: kyager@citizensmn.com
Pub. Rel. Director	Don Sanderson—Phone: 354-8524; Email: don@sandersonsf.com
Director-at-Large	Dennis Sjogren—Phone: 507-228-8519; Email: sjogren8519@gmail.com
Director-at-Large	Doug Schottle—Phone: 507-217-6186; Email: dschottle@ummc.co
Director-at-Large	Marie Guggisberg—Phone: 507-276-8615; Email: marieg@nutelecom.net

Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2017; Civic Center, Fairgrounds

The March 9, 2017 meeting of the Hub Club was called to order by president Brian Fischer at the Civic Center on the Brown County Fairgrounds at 7:10 p.m., after Farm Show set-up and a pizza supper. In attendance were about 60 club and FFA members who set up backdrop poles and curtains, set up the food stand, and did other tasks in preparation for the Farm Show the next day.

The meeting agenda was approved by consensus. The minutes of the February meeting, as published, were approved on a motion by Larry Luepke and second by Del Fischer, Jr. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$34,817.60. Ken Reckard moved and Tony Guggisberg seconded approval; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Randy Schroeder reported that membership is "about 140," totaling about 200 people.

Public Relations. Don Sanderson deferred to later on the agenda

Events. Kevin Yager reported that there was good attendance and plenty of help for the FFA pancake breakfast.

Social Media. Fischer reported that work continues on the web page which is now linked to the FFA page.

Organizational Chart. The committee will meet Thursday, March 16 at Upper Midwest Management..

OLD BUSINESS

Farm Show. Sanderson reported that the show was filled earlier than usual and things were in order.

Ag Day Parade. Joe Maidl reported that plans are in place for the March 23 parade. He motioned and Alec Harder seconded that the club purchase Dominoes pizzas and deliver to school, rather than going to

Happy Joes; motion carried. The FFA is contacting businesses to take part in the parade.

Factory Farming Meetings. Noting that this is serious stuff, members were encouraged to be aware of the false information being disseminated.

NEW BUSINESS

Brown County Fair 150th Anniversary. Fischer reported that the club will work with the fair board.

4-H Donations. Tabled to a future meeting.

Hub Club Scholarships. Applications are due March 15; spread the word to prospective applicants.

Chamber's Hot Topics Lunch. The luncheon topic is Greenseam; information will be in the newsletter.

Storage Shed. Members noted that the storage area needs to be cleaned out and rearranged; that will be done "between planting and Bavarian Blast."

Club Clothing. A member suggested having sweatshirts with the club logo. It will be looked into. Randy Schroeder has Hub Club shirts available at Frandsen Bank for those who haven't gotten one yet.

NUHS Greenhouse. Ag instructor Kelsey Brandt updated the club on the hydroponics and aquaponics projects that are being set up; additional revenue avenues are being sought for future projects.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. on a motion by David Luepke and second by Larry Luepke.

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 4 at Upper Midwest Management.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Klossner, Secretary

Greenseam Speakers at Chamber's Hot Topic Lunch

The Thursday, April 6 New Ulm Chamber's noon Hot Topics Lunch at the New Ulm Country Club will feature part of the Greenseam leadership team—steering committee members Sheryl Meshke of AMPI and Gary Koch of Christensen Farms, Greenseam director Sam Ziegler, and Greater Mankato Growth president Jonathan Zierdt.

Greenseam is helping to tell the story that manufacturing and agriculture are New Ulm's largest industries. Agriculture is currently the largest business industry segment in Southern

Minnesota and Northern Iowa with more than \$15.3 billion in annual sales. A majority of businesses in the region are either part of ag's value stream or indirectly impacted. The region boasts an extensive list of ag business concentration and industry dominance amounting to nearly 1,000 ag related businesses

To attend the 12:00 p.m. lunch April 6, RSVP to the Chamber at 233-4300 or chamber@newulm.com by Tuesday, April 4. Cost is \$10 and is payable at the door.