

## Congratulations to the Dempseys, Service to Ag Award recipients

Terry and Janet Dempsey of New Ulm have been named the 2016 recipients of the Hub Club’s Service to Agriculture Award. They will be honored at the club’s annual meeting and banquet Monday, January 25.

After Janine Enter worked out the timing with the Dempseys’ friends, Sylvia and Richard Salvati, club president Beth Fluegge and seven past recipients of the award dropped in on the Dempseys Friday, December 18 to inform them of the award.

Although they don’t remember how many years they’ve been Hub Club members, the Dempseys remember that club promoter Don Potter convinced them to join many, many years ago—not long after the club was formed in 1974. Over the years, they’ve been great volunteers at numerous club activities. They’ve peeled mounds of potatoes for the Farmfest and Bavarian Blast food stands, showing up whenever word goes out that it’s time to get the potatoes ready to make potato salad.

“That was the funnest job,” Janet commented. “I liked peeling potatoes. I don’t think anybody makes better potato salad.”

Both Terry and Janet have worked at the Hub Club food stands at Farmfest, Heritagefest, and Bavarian Blast and served pancakes at the club’s pancake breakfasts, especially for the United Way Day of Caring.



“We’d always volunteer when they’d ask for help,” Terry said. “We enjoy working with club members.”

The Dempseys have also promoted the club, encouraging friends to join the club’s membership—and being successful. Janet found a copy of a note she sent to friends about six years ago. She wrote, “I know there are a zillion organizations but this club

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It took the help of friends Sylvia and Richard Salvati for Hub Club members to surprise Janet and Terry Dempsey to tell them that they will receive the 2016 Service to Agriculture Award. The Dempseys were about to leave for some time in California over



Christmas. Club president Beth Fluegge and past Service to Ag recipients on hand were Pete & Linda Neigebauer, Del Fischer, Denny Schmidt, Mary Jane Beranek, Vernie Gieseke, and Ruth Klossner.

## Hub Club Annual Meeting and Banquet January 25

Hub Club members are encouraged to join their friends as the club reviews the past year, salutes Service to Ag winners Terry and Janet Dempsey, and looks ahead at the annual meeting and banquet, Monday, January 25 at the New Ulm Country Club. Social hour is at 6:30 p.m., the meal at 7:00 p.m., and the roast and meeting to follow. Cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person.

Annual dues of \$25.00 are also typically collected at or before the annual meeting. Members are encouraged to mail their payment for the meal(s), as well as dues, prior to the meeting. This will help reduce the bottleneck at the registration table.

**Your banquet invitation is enclosed as a separate attachment with this newsletter.**

## ***A message from our president, Beth Fluegge***

We did not get a white Christmas, but we definitely will have snow for New Years! I hear plenty of mixed emotions about the snow but—this is Minnesota—so smile and enjoy the beauty.

I want to congratulate the Dempseys on being selected the 2016 Service to Ag recipients! I am so happy for them and can't wait to celebrate at our annual banquet January 25! It's coming soon, so please let Randy Schroeder know if you can make it—it's always a nice time to reminisce.

I will be exiting the Hub Club as president, with Denny Sjogren coming on board to serve. However, I have volun-

teered to be an officer again as I believe the Hub Club has a great message and I like being a messenger.

I had a great time this year and am very pleased with what we can do to serve our community and youth. Ag is VITAL to New Ulm and the surrounding area. We will work hard to continue to keep it strong. I am excited to see what will come to be next year.

Thank you for everything this past year—the volunteers, the time, and the commitment. Our club is definitely “One of a Kind.”

Elizabeth Fluegge

## **2015 Proposed Officer Slate**

During the Hub Club's annual business meeting January 25, the 2016 slate of officers will be presented for election. Proposed officers are Dennis Sjogren of Lafayette, president; Brian Fischer of Courtland, first vice president; Beth Fluegge of rural New Ulm, second vice president; Ruth Klossner of Lafayette, secretary; Shannon Hillesheim of New Ulm, treasurer; and Randy Schroeder of Morgan, membership chair. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

***Please sign up for the banquet and/or pay dues by Friday, January 15***

## **Hub Club to award scholarships**

The Hub Club will award five or six scholarships—with a total value of about \$5,000—to current seniors at NUHS, NUC, or MVL, or the son or daughter of a Hub Club member (attending any school)—and planning to study ag, ag business, or natural resources at the post-secondary level. Students must have a 2.0 GPA.

Applications are available from school counselors. For students who do not attend one of the schools listed, applications can be requested from Duane Laffrenzen at Citizens Bank (dlaffrenzen@citizensmn.com) or from secretary Ruth Klossner (hubclub@newulmtel.net). Applications must be postmarked by March 15.

## **Upcoming Hub Club Events**

- January Meeting—Tues., Jan. 5, 5:15 p.m., Upper Midwest Management
- Farm Show Planning Meeting—Mon., Jan. 11, 5:00 p.m., Chamber Office
- Annual Meeting & Banquet—Mon., Jan. 25, New Ulm Country Club
- February Meeting—Tues., Feb. 2, 5:15 p.m., Upper Midwest Management
- Farm Show 2016—Fri.-Sat., Mar. 11-12, Civic Center

## **Farm Show planning continues**

The annual New Ulm Farm City Hub Club Farm Show is a major fundraiser for the club and will be held March 11 & 12, 2016 at the Civic Center in New Ulm.

Rich and Barb Baumann and Don Sanderson are again chairing this year's show.

The next Farm Show planning meeting will be held Monday, January 11 at 5:00 p.m. at the Chamber. Anyone interested in helping to plan and run the show is invited to attend. By that time, the show will only be two months away and a lot of details will need to be worked out.

Please encourage businesses that you work with to take part in the Farm Show. We had a very successful show last year and want to make the 2016 show even bigger and better!

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## **Contact information for 2015 Hub Club Officers**

President	Beth Fluegge—Phone: 507-359-2260 or 507-993-5195; Email: kdfluegge@nutelecom.net
1st Vice President	Dennis Sjogren—Phone: 507-228-8519; Email: sjogren8519@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Randy Schroeder—Phone: 507-246-1000; Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com
Secretary	Ruth Klossner—Phone: 507-240-0048; Email: hubclub@newulmtel.net or cowlady@centurylink.net
Treasurer	Shannon Hillesheim—Phone: 276-0716; Email: shillesheim@bankmidwest.com
Membership Chair	Randy Schroeder—Phone: 507-246-1000; Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com

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# Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday, December 1, 2015; Upper Midwest Management

The December 1, 2015 meeting of the Hub Club was called to order by President Beth Fluegge at 5:15 p.m. Also in attendance were vice president Denny Sjogren, treasurer Shannon Hillesheim, secretary Ruth Klossner, membership chair & VP Randy Schroeder, Doug Schottle, and Brian Fischer.

The meeting agenda was approved on a motion by Schroeder and second by Sjogren. The minutes of the November meeting, as written and summarized, were approved on a motion by Schroeder and second by Schottle. Hillesheim presented the financial report, which showed a balance of \$22,316.28. Klossner motioned and Schroeder seconded approval of the treasurer's report; motion carried. Hillesheim noted that final figures show that Bavarian Blast netted about \$700 less than last year. She also asked that copies of all invoices for items charged for activities be given to her, so that she knows what bills are for when she gets them.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Schroeder reported that membership is 136.

Social. The Fall Social at the St. George Parish Center went well, with great food and fun.

### OLD BUSINESS

Officer Slate. Schroeder will be listed on the ballot as the candidate for membership chair.

### Service to Ag Award—continued

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really does a lot in the community and it's very inexpensive. I hope you'll consider joining."

Aside from the Hub Club, the Dempseys are active in a variety of community organizations—Terry is involved in the New Ulm Lions, American Legion Post, and the Minnesota Mixed Martial Combative Committee. Janet is a Turner Lady, a member of PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization), and Literary Club and is a past recipient of the Athena Award. They're very supportive of New Ulm Area Catholic Schools, State Street Theatre, The Grand Center for Arts and Culture, and United Way.

A native of Henderson, Terry earned a degree in political science from the College of St. Thomas, served in the Air Force as a pilot from 1954 to 1957, then graduated from the University of California's Hasting's College of Law in 1962. He met Janet on a blind date in Sacramento when he was in the Air Force. Janet grew up in North Dakota but moved to California because that's "where the jobs were" after she graduated from high school.

"We dated off and on for eight years," Terry said and Janet added, "That's because I wasn't going to come back to the Midwest!"

They did, however, after Terry passed the bar exam. He worked in Montgomery, MN for a year. They were married in December 1963 and moved to New Ulm in July 1964 after he was recruited by Henry Somsen.

Farm Show Meetings. The November 30 committee meeting was postponed to December 14.

NUHS Greenhouse/Ag Program. Fluegge reported that she's waiting on information from Scott Stuckey before proceeding.

Farm Movies. The movies are here and will be taken to the New Ulm and Sleepy Eye Public Libraries.

### NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting. Schroeder motioned and Sjogren seconded that the banquet ticket price be set at \$15.00; motion carried. Cost to the club is \$16.50 plus tax and tip; the club will subsidize the difference. Smoked Chops and Chicken Oscar were selected as the menu.

Service to Agriculture Nominations were still being accepted. Several names were mentioned.

Dues for 2016. It was decided to leave the dues at \$25, the same as they've been for 41 years.

With Sjogren taking over the meeting when Fluegge had to leave, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m., on a motion by Hillesheim and second by Fischer.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 5 at 5:15 p.m. at Upper Midwest Management.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Klossner, Secretary

"It was mostly because of the name," Terry said with a laugh. "Henry's father had a partner by the name of Dempsey and the name 'Somsen and Dempsey' was already on the wall—but Cal Dempsey was from a different family."

Terry practiced law until 2004. He was appointed New Ulm City Attorney, serving for 10 years before being elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1979. He was a member of the House—and Minority Leader 1991-92—until being appointed District Court Judge for Watonwan County in 1992. He served 10 years, retiring at age 72. He continued on a part-time basis for many years, taking assignments all over the state.

The Dempseys provided homes for 14 or 15 foster children over many years, starting when their own son, Matthew, was five years old. They have stayed in touch with many of the children and consider them family. They also hosted six foreign exchange students from various parts of the world—Scotland, Ecuador, Cypress, Japan, and India—and hosted Japanese students through a summer program conducted by St. Thomas University. They've also stayed in touch with many of the exchange students so their family is large, even though they have just one child—son Matthew and his wife Anne (Werner) and two grandchildren, Emma, eight, and Ethan six. Matt is a professor at Normandale Community College while Anne is a chiropractor who is now teaching chemistry at Burnsville High School.