The Official Newsletter of the Farm-City Hub Club—Promoting Agriculture & Agri-business in the New Ulm Area



Farm-City Hub Club supports 4-H leadership training

Hub Club members presented \$750 each to the Nicollet and Brown County 4-H Federations recently. The funds have been earmarked for leadership training. Club president Dennis Sjogren, center, made the presentation to Nicollet County Program Coordinator Katie Johnson, to the left, and Brown County Interim Program Coordinator Brynn Mathiowetz. Also present were Hub Club members, from left: Doug Schottle, Randy Schroeder, Beth Fluegge, Brian Fischer, Michele Schroeder, and Don Sanderson. Not pictured: Ruth Klossner.

Upcoming Hub Club Events

May Meeting—Tues., May 2, 5:00 p.m., UMMC Cashwise Brat Stand—Fri.-Sat., May 13-14 (see below) June Meeting—Tues., June 7, 5:15 p.m., UMMC Pancake Breakfast—Sat., June 11, Fairgrounds Dairy Show July Meeting—Tues., July 5, 5:15 p.m, UMMC Bavarian Blast Food Stand—Fri-Sun., July 15-17

A message from our president, Dennis Sjogren

The Hub Club is taking on a new fundraiser this year, hosting the Cashwise Brat Stand Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14.

Three volunteers will be needed for first and second shifts each day. Friday's first shift will begin with 10:00 a.m. set-up, opening for business at 11:00 am. Saturday's set-up and opening will be **one hour earlier.** The second shift each day can begin around 2:00 p.m. and going to closing at 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., depending on customer flow.

We're not sure how much money we can raise, but we have two very good days to showcase the Hub Club to people who may not know much about our club and it's mission.

If you are willing to work the brat stand, please

contact me at 507-276-6830 or sjogren8519@gmail.net.

I had the opportunity to help judge the Hub Club scholarship award applicants and I was impressed. When the winners are announced, you will see that the future of agriculture and our communities is in good hands.

The 2016 4-H donations have been awarded to the Brown and Nicollet County programs. Both appreciate our generous contribution and will put the funding to good use. The program coordinators and/or 4-Hers from both counties have been encouraged to attend our annual banquet/meeting to provide a short report and to learn more about our organization.

Denny

Contact information for 2016 Hub Club Officers

President Dennis Sjogren—Phone: 507-228-8519; Email: sjogren8519@gmail.com
1st Vice President Brian Fischer—Phone: 507-354-2674; Email: brianf@designhomecenter.com

2nd Vice President Beth Fluegge—Phone: 507-359-2260 or 507-993-5195; Email: kdfluegge@nutelecom.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 Chair Randy Schroeder – Phone: 507-246-1000; Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com

Meeting Minutes April 5, 2016; Upper Midwest Management

President Denny Sjogren called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. In attendance were Denny Sjogren, Brian Fischer, Don Sanderson, Doug Schottle, Dr. Ann Vogel, Shannon Hillesheim, and Randy Schroeder.

Motion made by Fischer, seconded by Schottle to approve the agenda with additions. Motion passed.

Minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting (which was after farm show set up) were read. Motion by Fischer, seconded by Vogel, to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Doug Schottle presented the financial report, as Shannon Hillesheim knew she would be a bit late and had given the information to Schottle. Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Sanderson to approve the financial report. Motion passed.

Membership chairman Schroeder reported 131 paid memberships, and mentioned several members who have not yet paid 2016 dues. Schottle will follow up with these members, as he has reason to visit with most of them anyway.

Public relations chairman Sanderson gave a recap of the Farm Show, with ideas for next year. He said that the vendors he spoke with were generally happy with the show. He mentioned that the farm show has become the most important revenue activity for the club, and we need to make sure that we capitalize on this activity. He also mentioned that the New Ulm Park and Recreation Department has not yet confirmed the availability of the civic center for next year's show. Don will follow up with them and try to get a commitment from them for next year. We discussed ways to encourage vendors to stay until the end of the show rather than "packing up early." A \$50 deposit by each vendor, refundable if the vendor stays until the end of the show, may be a good option for next year.

Sanderson also discussed the three Hub Club billboards, which are:

1. South of New Ulm on Highway #15, near the County

#25 intersection

- 2. North of New Ulm on Highway #15, near Klossner
- 3. West of New Ulm on Highway #14

Sanderson will continue to keep the billboards fresh and timely, while still trying to maximize our exposure on billboards that might stay in place beyond the period we pay for.

Fischer commented on his efforts toward pulling together a social media committee, to include ideas for Facebook and for keeping our website fresh and appealing. He will continue to communicate with the various Hub Club members and an FFA member who have expressed an interest in working with these media venues.

Hillesheim reported on efforts to draft a letter to various farm businesses and organizations that may have in interest in helping to fund a greenhouse for the new high school in New Ulm. She believes we are making progress toward finding funding sources and making requests to the appropriate people.

We discussed the Ag Day parade and follow up pizza party at Happy Joe's for the FFA members that participated. As there seems to be a large number of FFA participants, we discussed the idea of just ordering several pizzas for delivery to the FFA, rather than having all of them come to Happy Joe's each year for the buffet.

We are planning to staff the Cash Wise Brat Stand on Friday, May 13 from 10:00 to 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. (our choice as to when to quit) and on Saturday, May 14 from 9:00 to 5:00 or 6:00 (again, our choice). Generally three people work each shift, so we will undoubtedly need volunteers for this fund raising activity.

Sanderson moved, Fischer seconded to adjourn. Carried.

Respectfully submitted by Randy Schroeder, Acting Secretary

Safety items still available

Kevin Yager reports that First Aid kits, emergency flashers and adhesive SMV emblems are still available for \$13, \$15 and \$5, respectively. Contact Kevin at Citizens Bank, Lafayette (228-8283) to purchase.

Newsletter emailed and mailed...

This newsletter is emailed to all members who have email addresses on record. Copies are mailed to those who don't have email. If you change your email address or sign up for email, please contact the secretary at hubclub @newulmtel.net or cowlady@centurylink.net.