

Don Sanderson to receive Club's Service to Ag award

Don Sanderson was enjoying a quick lunch that his wife Suzanne had brought to his office Friday when several members of the New Ulm Farm City Hub Club interrupted him.

They—as members of the club's Service to Ag selection committee—dropped in to announce that he is this year's recipient of the club's Service to Agriculture Award.

Don protested that there are others more worthy—but the club members wouldn't hear it. They told him that he can help to find and honor them next year, when he'll be a member of the selection committee as a recipient of the award.

Don will be recognized at a club social/summer picnic Tuesday, July 27 at Hermann Heights Park in New Ulm. (See page 3 for event details.)

Sanderson remembers attending his first club meeting, at a time when the club was in a downturn and the remaining members were considering disbanding. As Don talked to those members, he explained how he had turned a financially struggling city celebration in Story City, Iowa around. The next day, club member Jim Thomas asked Sanderson to consider being president of the club.

"I didn't want to go down that road again. I believed that I had the ability, but I had just started a new agency here and I was new to the community. I bargained with Jim, asked him to be president for a year, find a first vice president, and I'd be second vice president," Sanderson recalled. "I told him, if the club isn't dead in two years, I'd take it over."

The club was still going and Sanderson became Hub Club president in January 2011. He installed organizational structure with chairpersons and designated directors.

Don's greatest contribution to the club, however, has been as chairman of the club's annual Farm Show. After serving on the committee, Don assumed leadership in 2015 and built the



Don Sanderson and his wife Suzanne were surprised when club members stopped by Don's office to tell him that he's the newest recipient of the club's Service to Agriculture Award. Making the announcement were Randy Schroeder, Del Fischer, Jr., and Ruth Klossner.

show each year through hard work, great communication, and working closely with the show committee.

With his involvement in the Hub Club, Don has chosen not to join other community organizations. He explained, "In Story City, I was in everything...Lions, Chamber, and more. I found that a lot of the time, I wasn't doing my own business. When I came here, I said I will do one thing that I have a passion for and do it right. That's the Hub Club. They got all of me, right or wrong."

Fortunately for the New Ulm Farm City Hub Club, Don's passion has been an asset for the organization and, especially, it's farm show. He's been able to balance his work as a State Farm agent with his passion for agriculture and the club. At his agency, Don works with many farmers, helping them protect their farms, homes, autos, and more.

Don and Suzanne travel a lot, both on State Farm trips, as well as to see their kids and grandkids who are scattered. Jason and wife Carrie live in Story City, Iowa; Aaron and wife Donna in Jasper, Georgia; Ty in New Ulm, and John and Trisha in Roland, Iowa. Keeping up with five grandkids and two great-grandkids keeps the Sandersons busy.

Volunteers needed IMMEDIATELY for Hub Club Cash Wise brat stand

Come on, club members! As of Monday, Bob Ahlers has not had a single volunteer for the Cash Wise brat stand that our club is scheduled to run Saturday, June 5, and Saturday, June 12. That first date is only a week away!

Please contact Bob and Char at 507-276-0823 (cell) or

507-354-2622 (house) if you can help.

There will be two work shifts each day—9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. (Or earlier close). Three volunteers are needed for each shift—one to grill, one to serve customers, and one to handle money.

Contact information for 2021 Hub Club Officers & Directors

President	Julie Wilson—Phone: 507-276-1105; Email: juliesell@hotmail.com
1st Vice President	Randy Schroeder—Phone: 507-233-4797(W); Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com
2nd Vice President	Marie Guggisberg—Phone: 507-276-8615; Email: marieg@nutelecom.net
Secretary	Ruth Klossner—Phone: 507-240-0048; Email: cowladyruth@gmail.com or hubclub@newulmtel.net
Treasurer	Shannon Hillesheim— Phone: 276-0716; Email: shillesheim@bankmidwest.com
Membership Director	Garrett Freeman—Phone: 507-276-0648; Email: garrett_freeman@hotmail.com
Events Director	Justin Gode—Phone: 507-228-8283 (W) or 507-276-6597 (Cell); Email: jgode@citizensmn.com
Pub. Rel. Director	Don Sanderson—Phone: 354-8524; Email: don@sandersonsf.com
Director-at-Large	Christina Schwab—Phone: 354-5922; Email: cschwab@live.com
Director-at-Large	Doug Schottle—Phone: 507-217-6186; Email: dschottle@ummc.co
Director-at-Large	Kelsey Brandt—Phone: 507-507-995-7084; Email: kbrandt@newulm.k12.mn.us

Meeting Minutes—New Ulm Farm-City Hub Club Tuesday, May 4, Don Sanderson's State Farm Office

President Julie Wilson called the May 2021 meeting to order at 5:17 pm. Also in attendance: Marie Guggisberg, Garrett Freeman, Don Sanderson, Randy Schroeder, Doug Schottle, Justin Gode, and Christina Schwab.

Minutes from the last meeting were not read, but we had all seen them via email. Motion to approve minutes by Garrett & seconded by Doug.

Julie gave the financial report in lieu of Shannon. The only item to note under donations was a \$500 donation approved last year—but not yet mailed—to Beth Sletta for Ag in the Classroom. Shannon asked for \$100 to upgrade QuickBooks as she continually gets error messages with the older version. A motion to approve the \$100 was made by Marie and seconded by Justin. No one opposed. The motion to approve the financial report was made by Christina and seconded by Marie.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Garrett reported that we have 64 unpaid members, resulting in \$1,600 unpaid dues. Three paid since last month. Requests to get dues in have been made by email so Garrett will begin calling the unpaid members. After his first round of calls, he may reach out to the board for help for more calling.

Public Relations. Don had no updates.

Events. Justin held off until new business.

OLD BUSINESS

Hub Club Sign. Discussion tabled to the next meeting, when Kelsey is able to attend, as she had indicated getting her students to help with that project.

Safety booklets for Early Childhood. Received from the Nicollet County Sheriff Department and delivered. No discussion about making donations in the future if we would like to obtain the booklets again.

Cash Wise Brat stand. Moving forward this year. Bob and Char Ahlers will heading up the volunteers. The board did not know if volunteers were still needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bavarian Blast. The board decided to table discussion until our June meeting since our next meeting will come close after the decision will be made on whether or not to hold Bavarian Blast this year. There was brief discussion on making the menu more simplified.

KNUJ Advertising. Jim Bartels had reached out to Julie to see who the point of contact is for advertising. Don will be the contact as part of the public relations committee, but it was agreed that KNUJ needs to give more notice when advertising opportunities arise so as the board can vote on it.

Family Night on the Dairy Farm. The board received an email from Michele Schroeder who, along with Steve Hoffman, have decided to postpone Family Night on the Dairy Farm until next year. With the uncertainty yet of guidance on larger outdoor events, the major concern was keeping the event as great as it has been built up to be, rather than a mediocre experience for those involved – guests and volunteers. This decision was not made lightly.

SMYDS breakfast. The Southern MN Youth Dairy Show will be held June 19. Again, with uncertainty on what Governor Walz is going to do in upcoming weeks about larger events, etc, it was decided not to hold the breakfast. The kind of breakfast the club provides cannot be made to individually pre-pack. Don made a motion to donate \$250 to the show and Randy seconded the motion.

Service to Ag Award. Randy said the committee has not met yet to choose a winner. Ideas of how to hold an event were tossed around. Everyone likes the idea of an outdoor event, maybe at German park or Hermann. Unsure of how we can serve a meal in that setting, the idea of food trucks was brought up. Garrett is going to reach out to Ted Bergstrom to see if he would have any interest in serving food for this type of event. We will table to the June meeting in hopes that Gov. Walz has given more guidance on these types of events by that time.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 5:47 p.m. made by Marie with a second from Randy. Next meeting June 1 at Don's office.

Respectfully submitted, Christina Schwab, Acting Secretary

Hub Club dues are slow coming in...

Please help membership chair Garrett Freeman...if you haven't already, please send your membership renewal. Hub Club annual dues are \$25.00 per membership (couple, single, or business). Please mail your dues with

the form on page 4 to the Hub Club mailbox, PO Box 372, New Ulm, MN 56073. We ask that you fill out all contact information so we can verify that our records are up to date. Thank you!

Summer social and Service to Agriculture picnic July 27

We may be six months late, but we will gather to honor the Hub Club's 2021 Service to Ag recipient in grand style. We'll just do it outdoors, at a picnic style social at Hermann Heights park shelter in New Ulm on the evening of Tuesday, July 27.

Details aren't quite final, but this is what is planned as of now. We'll announce times next month.

We have booked Ted Bergstrom's B Concessions to provide the food. He will offer two choices—Philly sandwich/chips/coleslaw or Reuben sandwich/chips/coleslaw—at a cost of \$9.00 per plate. (Bring your own beverage)

Ted is also working on a kids' option, if club members want to bring their kids along. (There's a great kids' playground at Hermann Heights!)

To help Ted plan the food, we will require RSVPs with payment by mid-July.

RSVPs may be dropped off to Julie Wilson's attention at United Prairie Bank, or mailed to her at 200 N Broadway, New Ulm, MN 56073 now. (Specify your choice of meal)

We'll make a push for RSVPs in the July newsletter. (Those signing up will receive tickets when they arrive, so Ted doesn't have to deal with cash.)

Meet the Farm-City Hub Club's 2021 Scholarship Recipients



Brooke

The Hub Club's Scholarship Committee (Justin Gode, Ann Wendinger, Bill Swan and Duane Laffrenzen) received only two applications this year—but has outstanding recipients for the club's 2021 Hub Club Scholarships of \$1,000 each. The awards were announced by mail and/or at school awards programs.

Let's meet the recipients.



Cole

<u>Student</u>	<u>Parents</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>College and Anticipated Major</u>
Brooke Aschenbrenner	Randy & Nikki Aschenbrenner	NUHS	So. Dak. State Univ., Ag Ed, Comm. & Ldshp. Educ.
Cole Schwartz	Beth Fluegge, Chad Schwartz	NUC	Rochester Tech. & Comm. College, Sales & Mktg.

A message from our president, Julie Wilson

I'm so glad that I waited to write this, as now I think everyone has seen some rain and is a little happier and hopeful. With restrictions lifted, I feel everyone's attitude has greatly improved and that is fantastic to see. Not only that... now we can see each other's smiling faces (without masks).

Again with less restrictions, we are hoping that our county fairs and local events are able to be held. Please keep on the lookout for news on these in the near future as we aren't able to plan ahead like usual. Bavarian Blast will make its decision about the same time this newsletter is released, so please watch to see if it will be held—and if you'll be available to volunteer your time to work in the food stand.

With his being said, even though late—we are looking forward to recognizing our Service to Ag recipient for 2021. Check out the details above.

I want to thank all our members for being so patient with the Hub Club, as well as all things in life this past year. We've all helped each other through and that is an amazing network to have on our side. "Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference" – by Winston Churchill. Isn't that the truth!

One last thing—if you haven't paid your dues, can you please follow up with Garrett Freeman (contact info on P. 2). We are missing quite a few and would like to get this cleaned up before 2022 rolls around.

Julie

Special Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 4, German Park, New Ulm

President Julie Wilson called a special meeting of the board for Tuesday, May 4 at noon at German Park in New Ulm. Also attending were Don Sanderson, Randy Schroeder, Justin Gode, Garrett Freeman, Doug Schottle, Kelsey Brandt, and Ruth Klossner.

After discussing whether to hold a social/Service to Ag event

in summer or in early September, Don Sanderson moved and Ruth Klossner seconded holding it at Hermann Heights on Tuesday, July 27, with food catered by Ted Bergstrom, if he is available; motion carried. Philly sandwich is the favored food choice with corn dogs for kids (later found not to be available).

Upcoming Club Events

- June Board Meeting—Tuesday, June 1, 5:15 p.m., Don Sanderson’s State Farm Insurance Office
 - Hub Club Brat Stand Work Days—Saturday, June 5 and Saturday, June 12
- July Board Meeting—Tuesday, July 6, 5:15 p.m., Don Sanderson’s State Farm Insurance Office
- Summer Social & Service to Ag Recognition — Tuesday, July 27, evening, Hermann Heights Shelter, New Ulm



2021 Hub Club annual dues of \$25.00 per membership

(couple, single, or business) are due at this time.

Please mail this form and check (payable to Farm-City Hub Club) to:

Hub Club, PO Box 372, New Ulm, MN 56073

New Ulm Farm City-Hub Club—2021 Dues Notice

Please complete and send with payment to Farm-City Hub Club
P.O. Box 372, New Ulm, MN 56073

Name(s) _____

Business Name _____

Landline phone _____ Cell phone number _____

Email address: _____

Questions? Contact Membership Chair Garrett Freeman at 507-276-0648 or garrett_freeman@hotmail.com
or treasurer Shannon Hillesheim at 276-0716 or shillesheim@bankmidwest.com

2021 Dues—\$25.00
*The same amount they were
47 years ago when the club started!*

Please make checks payable
to “Farm-City Hub Club” **\$ 25.00**