new ulm farm-city hub club

The Hub

Vol. 12, Issue 6 October 2023

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

Farm Show 2024 planning underway

Details are being discussed for Farm Show 2024.

Our committee is strong and committed. It's made up of Shannon Hillesheim, Ruth Klossner, Michele Schroeder, John Luepke, Don Sanderson, Jenny Eckstein, Delbert Fischer, Bob and Sharlene Ahlers, Joe Maidl, and incoming president Jason Schroeder. We have good people in the right chair positions.

The committee is still tossing themes around but wants to connect with the Hub Club's 50th anniversary.

Our first meeting was held in mid-September and a few things have been decided. The Farm Show dates are March 8-9. This is the same weekend as in 2023. Our booth prices and show times will remain the same for vendors.

We have identified three underlining concerns. One, low vendor turnout since covid; two, revenue is down; and, three, is to improve our communications with the city in regards to the event.

Those three surfaced in our first meeting and we will strategize to improve in all three areas.

Our next scheduled committee meeting is November 14 at noon at Bank Midwest. Anyone wishing to share ideas or concerns can contact anyone on the committee or reach out to show chairman Brian Fischer at 507-276-6322.

Additional volunteers to help plan the show are always welcome!

Lending a hand at MVL

Earlier this year, the Hub Club provided funding to Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School to purchase a tiller and a disk for its newly established garden. MVL owns three acres on top of the hill overlooking the school. It started a vegetable garden to raise vegetables to supplement the school kitchen. The project exposes MVL students to the field of agriculture.

Upcoming Hub Club Events

• 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting—Tues., Oct. 17, 1:00 p.m., Design Home Center

• Hub Club Board—Tues., Nov. 7, 5:15 p.m., Don Sanderson's Office

• Farm Show Committee Meeting—Tues., Nov. 14, 12:00 p.m., Bank Midwest

Hub Club 50th anniversary planning has started

Event chair Brian Fischer writes:

The 50th Anniversary committee met for the first time Tuesday, September 26.

It's not too late to be part of this group—just give me a call and I can add you to the email list. We are still in need of a few more committee members.

A tentative time frame has been laid down for the celebration to take place in September 2024—after promoting it at earlier Hub Club events such as the Farm Show, Ag Day Parade, and Family Night on the Dairy Farm. The exact time, date, and venue will be decided within the next few weeks.

The plan at this point includes a silent auction, a small live auction, and maybe even raffle tickets being sold in advance.

Details will be communicated through the board and through this newsletter. Stay tuned.

Let me know if you can assist. Call me at 507-276-6322.

Contact information for 2023 Hub Club Officers & Directors

President	Marie Guggisberg—Phone: 507-276-8615; Email: marieg@nutelecom.net
1st Vice President	Jason Schroeder—Phone: 507-766-3263; Email: schroederholsteins@yahoo.com
2nd Vice President	Ken Reckard—Phone: 507-301-1570; Email: kreckard@comcast.net
Secretary	Ruth Klossner—Phone: 507-240-0048; Email: cowladyruth@gmail.com or hubclub@newulmtel.net
Treasurer	Shannon Hillesheim— Phone: 507-276-0716; 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: 507-354-8524; Email: don.sanderson.b5k0@statefarm.com
Director-at-Large	Kelsey Brandt—Phone: 507-995-7084; Email: kbrandt@newulm.k12.mn.us
Director-at-Large	Randy Reinarts—Phone: 507-238-3854 or 507-766-5336; Email: rreinarts@bankmidwest.com
Director-at-Large	Randy Schroeder—Phone: 507-353-7437 (W); Email: rschroeder@frandsenbank.com

A message from our president, Marie Guggisberg

As the busy summer—with many Hub Club events—wraps up, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all who had a role in making them run smoothly. A special thank you to Diana Schaefer, Denny Sjogren, Tim Waibel, and John Luepke in their efforts to plan the Ag Social that was held at the Nicollet County Historical Society.

While it was not a huge turnout, those who were there enjoyed the history displayed, a bite to eat, and socializing with fellow Hub Club members.

As our Hub Club events wind down and the focus turns to the harvest season, I would like to wish all the area farmers a safe and successful harvest season!

While in the fields or on the roads, take time to enjoy the beautiful fall colors that are on display throughout the countryside.

Marie

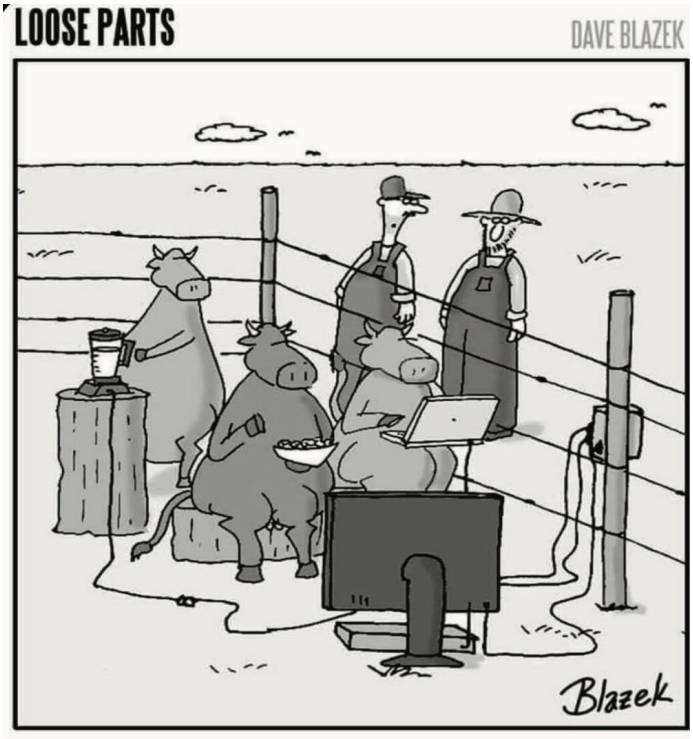
Longtime club member passes away

Hub Club member and 2016 Service to Ag recipient Terry Dempsey, 91, passed away September 2, 2023.

A native of Henderson, Terry graduated from the College of St. Thomas. He served in the Air Force in California, where he met his wife, Janet, and earned a law degree. The Dempseys settled in New Ulm where he practiced law with Somsen & Dempsey, worked as a public defender, and was the New Ulm City Attorney for 10 years. Terry was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1978 and was re-elected six times. He was appointed a district court judge for Watonwan County in 1992.

Terry and Janet had one son, Matthew, and more than 15 foster children and eight foreign exchange students. Terry, along with Janet, was active in numerous community groups.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Saturday, October 14 at 11:00 a.m., at St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Ulm; visitation is one hour prior at the church. As there was no public service for Janet when she passed, "An Irish Farewell" will be held for both Janet and Terry following the service, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Turner Hall in New Ulm. All are welcome.



"I don't think the new electric fence is engendering the fear we intended."

Meeting Minutes — Tuesday, September 5, 2023; Don Sanderson's Office

President Marie Guggisberg called the September Hub Club meeting to order at Don Sanderson's State Farm Insurance Office on Tuesday, September 5 at 5:17 p.m. Also attending were Shannon Hillesheim, Brian Fischer, Randy Reinarts, Garrett Freeman, Randy Schroeder, and Don Sanderson.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as published (with a change of date for the Social at Nicollet County Historical Society from Sept 17 to Sept 10) on a motion by Reinarts, seconded by Sanderson; motion carried.

Hillesheim presented the treasurer's report which showed a checking balance of $62,178.30. There was a question of the accuracy in the income/expenses for Autofest which will be checked into. A motion was made by Freeman and seconded by Reinarts to invest $30,000-$40,000 on a short-term CD to take advantage of the higher interest rates; motion carried. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Sanderson and seconded by Reinarts; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Freeman reported that there are 19 memberships left unpaid. There are 154 memberships on the list.

Public Relations. No report.

Events. No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Bavarian Blast. Guggisberg reported a wonderful attendance and beautiful weather meant great sales. Additional German potato salad and sauerkraut were made on Saturday night/Sunday morning. One or two additional workers should be scheduled for each shift in the kitchen when Alma and Arline are not there. Shannon suggested Beth Fluegge come to the next meeting to give a report.

Brown County Fair. Guggisberg reported that we had 13 Hub Club volunteers at the Fair which will counter the storage expense at the fairgrounds for the kitchen equipment that is used during Bavarian Blast.

Autofest Food Stand. Guggisberg reported that there were less cars at Autofest, presumably since there were on-and-off showers all day. The location of the food stand, coupled with another food vendor selling pork sandwiches and rain showers, meant low sales for the Hub Club.

Cash Wise Brat Stand. Profit of $584 was made.

Farm Show. Fischer reported that the first committee meeting will be held September 12 at 12:00 at Bank Midwest. All chairs from the previous year are willing to serve this coming year.

Social at Nicollet County Historical Society. Guggisberg reported that there are 34 people RSVP'd for the event.

MVL Donation. Guggisberg reported that the picture is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, per a text message from Beth Fluegge. Beth would send the picture to Ruth Klossner when complete.

Hub Club's 50th Anniversary in 2024. Fischer reported that the first meeting will be held soon, possibly at the end of this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Lamberton Field Day. Hillesheim reported that a request had been made by St. Paul's school requesting funding. After discussion, a motion was made by R. Schroeder and seconded by Freeman to look back at the minutes to see what we had previously approved and do accordingly. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m. on a motion by Freeman and seconded by R. Schroeder.

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 7.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Guggisberg, Acting Secretary

Email Meeting that followed in the next week when Shannon discovered that Doug Schottle's name was still on the checking account. Hillesheim motioned to put Marie Guggisberg on the Hub Club checking account, along with Hillesheim, and remove Schottle. Motion seconded by Ruth Klossner and others. Voting in favor: Klossner, Justin Gode, Randy Reinarts, Marie Guggisberg, Randy Schroeder, Jason Schroeder, and Garrett Freeman. No votes against.

Important Notice—First call for Service to Agriculture nominees

In order to give potential Service to Ag recipients time to plan for the event, the Service to Ag selection committee will meet in November.

The Service to Agriculture Award recognizes a person (or couple) who has provided outstanding service to the agricultural community in general and/or the Hub Club in particular.

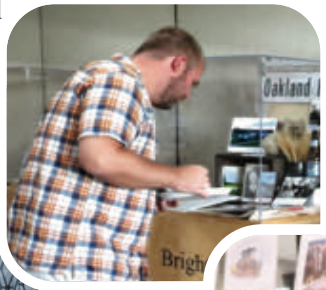
Think about people who you consider deserving, then email or mail your nomination to Secretary Ruth Klossner at cowladyruth@gmail.com, 34085 515 Avenue, Lafayette, MN 56054, or 507-240-0048 or to Randy Schroeder at rschroeder@frandsenbank.com or 507-353-7437 (W);

Nominations are due Tuesday, November 7.

The award recipient will be selected by a committee of previous winners of the award. That group will meet by mid-November and the recipient will be notified soon after so that he/she can invite family and friends to the January 22 banquet.

Social at NCHS September 10

Hub Club members checked out the farm exhibit at the group's fall social at the Nicollet County Historical Society Sunday, September 10. They enjoyed appetizers and refreshments, visited and checked out the exhibits.



Some members had already left by the time we thought of doing a group photo. Thank you to the committee that set it up, and to the historical society for making it possible.