

Hub Club annual meeting, banquet and Service to Ag recognition January 22

Hub Club members are encouraged to join their friends as the club reviews the past year, salutes Service to Ag recipient Duane Laffrenzen, and kicks off our 50th Anniversary year at the annual meeting and banquet, Monday, January 22 at the Courtland Community Center. Social hour is at 6:30 p.m., the three-meat meal at 7:00 p.m., and the annual meeting and roast to follow. Cost of the meal is \$25.00 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 on the back page of this newsletter. Please respond with your payment by **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10.**

2024 Proposed Officer Slate

During the Hub Club's annual business meeting January 22, the 2024 slate of officers will be presented for election.

Proposed officers are Jason Schroeder of Courtland, president; Ken Reckard of Courtland, first vice president; Brian Fischer of New Ulm, second vice president; Garrett Freeman of New Ulm, membership director for a three-year term; and Marie Guggisberg of New Ulm, director for a one-year term.

Additional nominations for all positions will be accepted at the annual meeting.

Continuing officers and directors are Shannon Hillesheim, treasurer; Ruth Klossner, secretary; Don Sanderson, public relations director; Justin Gode of New Ulm, events director; and Kelsey Brandt of New Ulm and Randy Reinarts of Sleepy Eye, directors-at-large.

Randy Schroeder of Morgan will leave the board as he has completed his service as a director the past year, president before that, and membership director for many years previously. Thank you for your service, Randy!

Upcoming Hub Club Events

- Board Meeting—Tues., Jan. 2, 5:15 p.m., Don Sanderson's office
- Farm Show Meeting—Mon., Jan. 8, 12:00 p.m., Bank Midwest
- 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting—Mon., Jan. 8, 1:30 p.m., Design Home Center
- Annual Meeting & Banquet—Mon., Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m., Courtland Community Center
- Board Meeting—Tues., Feb. 6, 5:15 p.m., Don Sanderson's office

Delbert Fischer, Jr., is collecting door prizes for the annual meeting. If you have something to donate, please call him at 507-359-9493.

Hub Club member Ivan Enter passes away



Longtime Hub Club member and Service to Ag recipient Ivan Enter, 77, passed away Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at Prairie Senior Cottages in New Ulm. Funeral services were held December 9, 2023 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Nicollet.

Ivan is survived by wife Janine, two

daughters, two sons, 12 grandchildren, and other relatives.

Ivan farmed for 15 years, then sold NaChurs Fertilizer and NutraFlo Fertilizer before opening Enter's Liquid Fertilizer in Nicollet. Farming and working with farmers were Ivan's calling in life.

He was president and member of Nicollet County Pork Producers, and was Hub Club president in 1994. He and Janine received the Service to Ag Award in 2015.

**Farm Show and 50th Anniversary planning continues.
Both committees will meet Monday, January 8.**

A message from our president, Marie Guggisberg

Here's hoping you all had a very Merry Christmas spent with family and friends and that you were able to take time to truly enjoy the moment.

I encourage all to attend the annual banquet January 22 at the Courtland Community Center. This year we will honor Duane Laffrenzen as the newest recipient of the Service to Agriculture award. He has been an advocate for agriculture, not only through his employment, but also in various capacities throughout the community for many years.

In addition to recognizing Duane for all he has done, the annual meeting is a good time to see what the Hub Club

has done in the past year. It's also a fun evening to socialize with friends and neighbors.

I would like to thank all the board members and all who volunteered at the many events throughout the year! We have so many great members and people who do so much for the community, not only through our organization but also in so many other ways. Thank you!

I wish you all a safe and prosperous New Year! I am looking forward to the wonderful events the Hub Club is planning for 2024!

Marie

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

President Marie Guggisberg called the December Hub Club meeting to order at Don Sanderson's office on Tuesday, December 5 at 5:17 p.m. Also attending were Shannon Hillesheim, Don Sanderson, Justin Gode, Kelsey Brandt, Randy Schroeder, Randy Reinarts, Garrett Freeman, Ruth Klossner, and Brian Fischer.

The meeting agenda was approved on a motion by Brandt and second by Gode. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as published and reviewed, on a motion by Reinhart, seconded by Freeman; motion carried.

Shannon Hillesheim's treasurer's report reported a checking balance of \$23,068.37, with \$30,000 in a CD. The report was approved on a motion by Sanderson and second by R. Schroeder; motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. The 2024 membership drive will start soon.

Public Relations. Deferred to later.

Events. No report.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Farm Show. Show chair Fischer reported that he is waiting on the contract from the city. The committee will meet again January 8. Seminars are being lined up, vendor sign-up is ahead of schedule, and some display booths will be added. A new addition this year will be a Friday evening social, as a kickoff of the club's 50th anniversary.

Hub Club's 50th Anniversary. Friday, September 13 at Royal Oaks. Fischer reported that the committee met November 28 and plans are in place for a successful event.

Annual Meeting. Sanderson motioned and Freeman seconded having a three-meat buffet (roast beef, meatballs, chicken breast) at a cost of \$18.50; motion carried. Gode motioned and Sanderson seconded having glazed carrots as the vegetable; motion carried. Reinarts motioned and Sanderson seconded having coleslaw as the salad; motion carried. Candy will be placed on the tables. Cost per person will remain at \$25.00. R. Schroeder will emcee the Service to Ag portion of the banquet.

2024 Elections. Garrett Freeman will be on the ballot for membership director and Brian Fischer for second vice president; additional candidates can still be added.

Chamber Window. Michele Schroeder will be asked to again do the window for February.

Book Donations to Schools, Libraries. Tabled to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m. on a motion by Hillesheim and second by R. Schroeder.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 2. The annual meeting will be Monday, January 22, 6:30 p.m. at the Courtland Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Klossner, Secretary

Hub Club 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 and ag teachers or can be requested from Duane Laffrenzen at Citizens Bank (dlaffrenzen@citizensmn.com) or from hubclub@newulmtel.net. Application deadline is March 1.

Please share this information with any student who might meet the qualifications.

It's the Hub Club's
50th anniversary year!



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

Thank you notes received

Dear People at Farm-City Hub Club, New Ulm,
We are so very grateful for your contribution to our Catholic Education by providing payment for transportation.

These kind of opportunities would not be possible if it weren't for your generosity.

Please know of our gratitude,
Sr. Cecilia SSND, for NUACS

Dear Friends of Nicollet Co. 4-H,

Thank you for the cash contribution of \$1,000 that the Nicollet County 4-H Federation received November 20, 2023. Thank you for recognizing the important role 4-H plays in helping young people reach their full potential. We appreciate your long and proud history of supporting 4-H in Nicollet County.

Your donation designated for leadership opportunities will go a long way in helping the youth of Nicollet County 4-H learn and lead.

We are deeply grateful and fortunate to have you as a partner.

Michelle Wicks
4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

Dear Hub Club Members,

We extend our warmest thanks and heartfelt appreciation for the New Ulm Farm City Hub Club's generous donation of \$250 towards our exhibit, "Celebrating the Past, Cultivating the Future." Your support is invaluable in bringing this fascinating showcase of farming and agriculture in Nicollet County to life.

On behalf of the Nicollet County Farm Bureau and the Nicollet County Historical Society, thank you for being an instrumental part of our mission to preserve and celebrate our agricultural heritage.

Jessica Becker, Executive Director.

Note: Each of the 14 New Ulm FFA members who attended the National FFA Convention wrote a thank you note to the club for its donation toward their travel expenses. Here are a few of those notes:

Dear New Ulm Farm City Hub Club,

I would like to thank you for everything you do for the New Ulm FFA Chapter. I especially thank you for covering part of our National Convention trip. Because of your donation, we are able to fund items and cover costs for our chapter members. I would like to share a memory from the trip, the Waterloo, Iowa John Deere Assembly Plant. It was a spectacular tour, and definitely worth the long drive. I will always remember the sights. Once again, thank you for your generous donation.

Clair Hoffmann, New Ulm FFA VP

Dear Farm City Hub Club,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to New Ulm FFA's National Convention Trip to Indianapolis. I really enjoyed learning about the Amish life and networking with other FFA members from all over the country.

Madilyn Portner

Dear Hub Club Members,

Thank you for your sponsorship of the New Ulm FFA's trip to national convention. It means a lot to our members that you helped fund this trip. It made my senior year very memorable. Again, thank you for your continued selfless support of this amazing group.

Andrew Hellendrung

Dear New Ulm Farm City Hub Club,

Thank you so much for the donation so that our National FFA trip was cheaper. A highlight for me was the John Deere plant tour. It was very cool to see how the 7, 8, and 9 series tractors are made. Thank you so much. Another highlight was the rodeo.

Rachel Wiethoff

Hub Club,

Thank you for the donation. We are very grateful. This donation makes it possible for our chapter to continue to attend these events. We enjoy being able to grow as a chapter and ourselves.

Megan Beranek, Treasurer

Thank you for supporting the New Ulm FFA. It means a lot to our chapter.

Taylor



Dear Farm-City Hub Club Members,

Please join us for the Hub Club’s Annual Meeting and Banquet at the Courtland Community Center, Monday, January 22. Social hour is at 6:30 p.m., with a three-meat (meatballs/chicken breast/roast beef) buffet dinner at 7:00 p.m. Cost of the meal is \$25.00 per person. Non-members and friends are also invited to attend and require reservations.

Our new Service to Agriculture recipient, Duane Laffrenzen, will be honored after the dinner.

Door prizes will be awarded. If you have a door prize to donate, please contact Delbert Fischer, Jr., (507-359-9493) prior to the meeting.

Hub Club annual dues of \$25.00 per membership (couple, single, or business) are also due at this time. We ask that you RSVP in writing by Wednesday, January 10, and include your payment for meals and dues. This will speed things up at the registration table the evening of the banquet. We will have an “express line” for members who have already paid for their meals and dues. **Please remember, if you tell us that you will attend, we include you in the count, and the Hub Club is charged for your meal, whether you come or not.**

There’s a special bonus for those who pay dues early! We’ll have a drawing at the annual meeting for all who pay dues by January 10. The winner will get a refund of their membership dues for the year.

You can mail your RSVP and check (payable to Farm City Hub Club) to:
Garrett Freeman, 21 North Minnesota St., Suite B, New Ulm, MN 56073

Or you may drop it off to Garrett’s attention at his office at 21 North Minnesota Street in New Ulm.

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Name _____ Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

___ # of banquet tickets at \$25.00 = \$ _____

Dues (\$25.00 per membership) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Send to Garrett Freeman, 21 North Minnesota Street, Suite B, New Ulm, MN 56073 by
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
or drop off to Garrett’s attention at his office at 21 North Minnesota St., Suite B, New Ulm