May 2019



# Winona ORC Connection

Winona ORC Industries Established 1973

46 Years of Service to our community

"The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice. "

~Brian Herbert



## Winona ORC hosts Visitors from Ukraine



On April 2, 2019, a delegation from Ukraine came to Winona ORC to learn about how to help serve individuals with disabilities. In addition to touring Winona ORC's laundry and production floor, they sat through several trainings from community members.

Christy Ferrington from HVMHC (Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center) discussed Mental Health Services in Winona. Craig Porter from Plasticert discussed hiring people with disabilities in the competitive workforce. Ruth Charles discussed ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and the impact they have on children. Margaret Schild discussed Special Education and Continuing Education in the Winona community.

We all shared a "Potluck" for lunch, which was a new idea for our Ukrainian visitors. They enjoyed several hot dishes, Swedish meatballs, and other local favorites. Several commented on the idea that there is nothing like Winona ORC in Ukraine. Most individuals with disabilities are separated at orphanages and do not get the opportunity to participate in their community until they are in their late 30's. We definitely showed how wonderful it is to have the people we serve working alongside us and living as neighbors in the community!

They visited other locations in Winona, such as HCO (Home and Community Options), Habitat for Humanity, and Project FINE throughout their week-long visit.

The Ukrainian delegation visited for the week through the Open World program (<u>https://www.openworld.gov/</u>). Rotary of Winona hosted the delegates for the week and Max Vatmin stayed with Heidi Smith, Executive Director of Winona ORC.

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## **Employee Superstar!**



How much more of a superstar can you be than Terry Kubis? It seems like everyone knows Terry! He is very friendly, and always willing to talk to a stranger.

Terry recently had a birthday and because he is so liked and well known, he received over 400 cards! A shout out on facebook about his upcoming birthday was all that was needed. Cards from all 50 states came pouring in!

Terry works in our shredding department. In his spare time he enjoys watching softball, music, and attending Steamboat Days. He usually ends up on stage playing guitar with the band too.

## **Employee Superstar** Thank you for being a part of our family at Winona ORC! You are truly a Superstar!

Winona ORC participated in the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Student Career Expo. The Expo was attended by 1,500 high school sophomores from Winona and the surrounding area.

The event is intended to provide information about different job opportunities and career choices available in the community. Students were encouraged to sit down and talk with representatives of close to 100 nearby businesses.

Speaking to students who are choosing a career path gives them insight into the variety of positons available in the area they live. We were glad to show them a glimpse of what our organization does and how it helps the people of Winona.

We are lucky to have an abundance of global manufacturing companies, and we are also lucky to have many higher education institutions in Winona. It's a great place to call home and a great place to stay.



Nancy Myers & Leslie Swartling

Winona has an abundance of beauty from the hills to the river and you'll encounter some of the finest people you'll ever meet along the way. We are truly blessed.

<image>

It's always good to give back. Winona ORC again hosted a barrel for the 30th Annual Merchant's Bank 10 Days of Giving event. Merchants Bank reports that 262,456 pounds were donated for 2018, the second largest collection in their 30 year history.

We are happy to help! Here's to many more years of participating in this wonderful event. It helps so many in need and we thank everyone who donated to such a worthy cause.

## What's Happening!

## Winona ORC hosts Chamber Event

On March 14, Winona ORC hosted the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce Network Nite. Mona Young, Employment Skills & Sales Specialist, and Jim Vrchota, Board Member, welcomed all who came into our building. More than 100 guests including Chamber members, local businesses, Winona ORC staff, Winona ORC employees, and friends of our organization filled our business with on-going tours led throughout the 2-hour event.

Ground Round provided a light meal for our guests, with a special cake celebrating Winona ORC's 45 years serving the Winona Community. Many guests enjoyed visiting with three of our current employees: Eric Decker, who talked about working in our laundry facility; Lynette Palecek, who showed off our button press machines; and Jeff Kreinbring, who assembled MEYN Poultry Chain.

This successful evening ended with a drawing for two Winona ORC baskets presented by Winona ORC Board President, John Milek, and Executive Director, Heidi Smith.

### SET Program visits Marine Art Museum



The Winona Foundation granted us tickets to the Marine Art Museum. We really appreciate it and we loved it! Thank you!

### **REACH Students Help Workers**



The Winona Sr. High REACH students made a visit recently and enjoyed learning a little bit about our organization. One portion of their course is in workplace readiness.

REACH is a collaboration between the high school and the Winona and Minnesota chambers of commerce. Students in the program prepare for college and careers through classes in personal development and various types of manufacturing.



To those who were able to attend – thank you! To those who were not able to make it, we will be hosting another Winona Area Chamber of Commerce Network Nite in 2020!

### **Job Opportunity**



### "We Want You!"

Do you want to make a difference in the life of someone with a disability? We have a Job Coach position available at Winona ORC!

Apply in person at 1053 E. Mark Street, or online at https://www.winonaorc.org/careers-at-worc/ For more information: (507) 452-1855 Linda Digby

**Find the HIDDEN WORD Spring! Hint - It could be in any picture!** The first person to call Helen Nordby at 452-1855 and reveal the location will receive a free pair of mittens!

## www.winonaorc.org

## **Annual Recognition Banquet & Awards**

## WINONA ORC

## April 26, 2019

#### Celebrating 45 Years of Service to the Winona Area



#### Years of Service Awards

#### **5 YEARS**

Paul Clark, Rebecca Classen, Faye Kopperud, Kathie Jonsgaard, Michelle Pawlak, Sampson Shorr, Samuel Stephan, David Stephens, Todd Sveen

#### **10 YEARS**

Lou Ann Dykhuis, Todd Frost, Diane Hicks, Dustin Johnson, Jeff Kreinbring, Terry Kubis, Maggi Loewenhagen, Jonah Robeck

#### **15 YEARS**

Karen Etnier, Ryan Ehlenfeldt, Angela Lehmkuhl, Michael McCollum, Melissa Mueller, Michelle Mueller, Scott Ploetz, John Przytarski, Matt Sauers, Phyllis Sorem, Jeff Wolfe, Lyle Witt, Mona Young

#### 20 YEARS

Rachel Besaw, Eric Decker, Kevin Gaulke, Richard Kingsbury, Doris Rodgers, Kevin Spalding

#### **25 YEARS**

Rodney Ayer, Christina Kowalski, Michelle Matchey, Mary Ann Rinn, Leslie Swartling

#### **30 YEARS**

Erik Iverson, Keith McConville, Kathy Wenger

#### **35 YEARS**

Duane Benson, Donna Paine, John Scott

#### **45 YEARS**

Lynn Meyers

#### **Employee of the Year**



Dustin Johnson

#### **Employee of the Month**

| Jan - Brandy Steinfeldt | May - Dave Beck      | Sep - Michelle Mueller |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Feb - Jenna Heaser      | Jun - Chad Lundahl   | Oct - John Huddleston  |
| Mar - Theresa Larson    | Jul - Sam Stephan    | Nov - Melissa Mueller  |
| Apr - Chris Nelson      | Aug - Dustin Johnson | Dec - Chad Simon       |

#### **Recognition of Worker's Council**

Christine Erickson, Eric Decker, John Huddleston, Lynette Palecek, Michael McCollum, Rosalee Stark-Schendel, Keith McConville, Troy Stafford, Chris Nelson

Music - Troy Fegre DJ provided for by Winona ORC Worker's Council Photography - Helen Nordby

## April 26, 2019



Employer of the Year Hy-Vee Winona



Customer of the Year Peerless Industrial Group & MEYN Poultry Solutions



Volunteer of the Year Tom Wynn



45 YEARS! Lynn Meyers











### Make the Difference Sponsors











Platinum Sponsor Cathay American

Be The Change Sponsors Charter Steel Faithful Engineering Fastenal Knitcraft/St. Croix Knits Bob & Deb Leaf Mike Leaf Jerry & Pat Papenfuss Family RiverSide Electronics TCH Metals





Champion the Cause North Risk Partners - C.O. Brown Division Miller Scrap Iron & Metal Co. Watkins Platinum Banquet HCO Diamond Banquet

Krueger Steel & Wire









## Contributions

## The following people have made donations from January through April. Thank you all so very much!

- Jim and Beth O'Dea Barbara DuFresne Carol Diekrager Stan Ferguson Trucking Frank and Ruth Bures HBC Emily Loos-Spitzner Rukavina Family Fund Winona Eagles Club #1243 Richard and Sharon Behnke Gayle Goetzman Robert and Donna Andraschko Patte Peterson
- Helen Kowalski Trickett Charitable Fund Slaggie Family Foundation Stephanie F Reed Leon J English Stephanie F Reed Pat and Joan Costello Jack Laak Ron Wenzel Ellen Smith Dan and Nancy Goltz Gene and Deb Pelowski Bloedow Bakery Leon J English
- Derek and Cathy Espy Carl and Bonnie Troke Kevin and Nancy Quinn Carl, Rhea and Erick Iverson Stan and Suzanne Ferguson Eric Nelson Kenneth C Bittner Linda J Digby Jean Galewski James and Jeanne Danneker Bob Kierlin and Mary Burrichter Darci L Arthur Mike and Sue Hauser



## Shredding Service



Winona Shredding Service is pleased to offer an additional option for your personal or business use.

Seal N' Shred is a great alternative for your low volume shredding needs.

- Purchase a sealable shredding bag
- Fill the bag with your documents and seal shut
- Drop off at Winona ORC to shred
- Simple and cost effective
- Two convenient sizes

| Small - Holds 15 pounds   | Large - Holds 35 pounds   |  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| \$10 (includes shredding) | \$15 (includes shredding) |  |

For an additional \$10, call us and we will pick-up the full bag of shredding.

Make sure to order a replacement bag and we can bring it with us!

## And don't forget our container service!

Secure and timely destruction of confidential documents is important in today's business world.

#### <u>As easy as 1,2,3 . .</u>

- 1. Select your lockable container(s).
- 2. Fill with your documents no need to remove staples or paper clips.
- 3. We will take care of the rest.
- 4. Our service is a convenient, economical, and secure solution for your document destruction needs. We also offer a one time purge service.





## Winona ORC Board of Directors

John Milek, President Fastenal

Jim Vrchota, Vice President Merchants Bank

Marie Kovecsi, Secretary County Commissioner

Connie Tropple, Treasurer United Health Group

### **Voting Members**

Judy Herdina Catholic Diocese

Deb McClellan Live Well Winona

Bob Peterson Aerojet

Bill Reinarts Reinarts Stained Glass

Ellen Smith Winona National Bank

> Ron Wenzel Retired

### **Advisor**

Blaine Krogh Hawkins Ash, CPA (Retired)

### **Senior Management Staff**

Heidi S. Smith - Executive Director Michael Bellesbach - Director of Finance Leslie Swartling - Director of Client Services Linda Digby - Director of Human Resources

If you know someone who would enjoy a copy of the Winona ORC Connection, please contact Helen Nordby at hnordby@winonaorc.org



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## **Or Current Resident**



### **Inside the Winona ORC Connection**

Annual Banquet Chamber of Commerce Event Ukraine Visitors



#### **Our Mission:**

It is our mission to provide community based employment, vocational training and comprehensive job related skills and services to people with special needs. We will design programs to work harmoniously with other community resources to maximize opportunities to our clients and our community.

We envision a world where all people are uplifted by working. Through pride, dignity, continuous learning and respect for all, we build a healthier community.

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