



Valley Scope

A publication of the West Fargo Exchange Club

Presidents Update
December 18, 2006

Greetings West Fargo Exchangites!

Here's wishing you all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas filled with family and fun and a prosperous New Year.

This past month has been a busy one for our Exchange Club. One of the highlights was the One Nation Under God Banquet that was held at noon on November 28th. Former West Fargo Exchange Club president and now Federal District Judge Ralph Erickson was our speaker. Over 100 members and guests were in attendance and they heard a very interesting and thought provoking message. Thank you, Tim Keller, for organizing this event.

On December 5th, we had our Christmas Party at the Kelly Inn. The West Fargo High School Carolers provided the entertainment for the evening as they sang many of the favorite Christmas songs we have all come to know and enjoy. The gift exchange topped the evening with some of the gifts providing entertaining conversation. On Saturday, December 9th, our Club volunteered to ring the Salvation Army bell for their Kettle Collection campaign at the West Fargo Sunmart. Thanks to the ten members who volunteered their time on a beautiful and balmy afternoon.

We have had some interesting programs during November and early December. Beth Wosick from the Red River Children's Advocacy Center spoke at our November 7th meeting and told us about this new organization to help the children and families through challenging times in their lives. Their cause fits our mission of supporting the prevention of Child Abuse so we decided to collect donations at the noon meetings and at our Christmas Party and Paul Perez volunteered to bring the collected items to the Center. Thanks, Paul. On the 14th, we heard an update from Larry Weil, the City Planner for the City of West Fargo. He gave us some interesting information on how our city has grown and what he sees in our future. At our December 12th meeting, Greg Warren from the West Fargo Police Department showed us a video that the department produced to explain the Meth problem we have in our country and community. It was a very emotional and informative message. On November 21st, we recognized Jenna Poppenhagen as the November WFHS Student Of The Month.

Our Exchange Club continues to support our community through donations. We purchased backpacks and school snacks for elementary kids who can't afford them, donated \$250 to Kids Day America, \$500 to Red River Hospice, \$500 to the Packatahnas, \$450 to WF Baseball, \$600 to the Close Up program at WF High School, \$500 to the WF Soccer Complex, and \$356 to the Caring Program For Children just to mention a few.

Thanks to all who also donated their time to deliver Meals On Wheels to our senior citizens and the many other programs supported by our club. Many get involved but there are some of you who haven't been able to contribute your time to either attending our meetings or joining us in our projects. I encourage you to get involved and feel the great exhilaration of giving and helping others. We hope to see you at the noon meetings.

Once again, have a great Christmas and a Happy new Year.

Larry Lubben

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Upcoming Program Schedule

01-02-07	Paul Perez	01-30-07	Dorinda Anderson
01-09-07	Jeff Lund	02-06-07	Larry Lubben - Greg Tehven - Student Today, Leaders Forever
01-16-07	Student of the Month -Business Meeting	02-13-07	Kevin Skoog
01-23-07	Bernie Dardis - Dr. Wallace, WF Schools	02-20-07	Student of the Month - Business Meeting

WEST FARGO EXCHANGE CLUB—BOARD MEETING MINUTES
10/17/2006

Meeting called to order at 6:35 AM at Red River Coffee.

PRESENT: Chad Rieth, Leroy Adams, Brad Huseby, Lynn Goerger, Craig Becker, Larry Lubben, and Dorinda Anderson.
ABSENT: Steve Becher and Greg Mastrud

Secretary's Report: Minutes from 09/19/06 meeting reviewed. Motion by Leroy to approve, 2nd – Craig. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Given by Chad Rieth:

Unrestricted Acct balance - \$ 447.26 (meals, dues, etc.)
Restricted Acct balance - \$4,487.54 (used for current donations)
Money Market balance - \$24,009.05 (future donations in 2006-07 budget)
Fund Raising Acct balance - \$ 513.02 (holdover for next year's Fun Night)

Expenses: National Exchange (new members) - \$40.00; Packer Backers membership - \$100.00; Meals - \$1,337.00; Bingo cards (West Fest) - \$42.40; University of Pennsylvania (Student of the Year) - \$1,000.00; School Snacks - \$300.78; Hospice of the Red River Valley - \$500.00

Income: Interest - \$69.51; Dues - \$514.25; Great Western (zoo lunch) - \$60.50

Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Craig, 2nd by Brad. Motion carried.

Past Due Members: Ron Fuglie, Deb Fuglie, Nodak employees, Thomas Jones, and Pam Trombley

Correspondence:

Request from Caring for Children Program for donation. Request tabled until they can come to a noon meeting and provide the program so we can learn more about it.

Thank You notes received from Healing Touch Chiropractice and Mary-Michael Vance.

Received notice from Irv Houkom that he is resigning from the club.

Received a new member application from Kristina Kaiser, housing manager at the new Eventide Sheyenne Crossings in WF.

Old Business:

September Club activities – The club participated in running the Bingo and GIVEAKIDAFLAGTOWAVE in the parade for West Fest. We also handles Meals on Wheels twice during the month.

Website – Site is totally up and the old site is automatically forwarding people to the new one.

Soccer Field donation – Larry is working with Jim Muller to get someone from WF Soccer to come to a noon meeting so we can present a check for the new soccer complex.

Donation Totals –Chad is still working on a total for donations from our club since inception.

New Business:

One Nation Under God – Plan to hold the program on November 28, 2006. The speaker will be US District Judge Ralph Erickson.

Fun Night – Fun Night is set for April 20, 2007 at the Speedway.

Cub Scouts/Boys Scouts – Brad will meet with Jim Blotsky to determine what they are looking for in regards to increased interaction between the club and their organization. There are things that we do throughout the year where we could involve the Scouts so this would be a good fit.

National Day of Service – Is set by National for October 28, 2006. We will participate by having members donate blood that week at United Blood Services.

Thank You for Volunteers – Wally Fuchs had brought up an idea at our last business meeting that we should be sending Thank You notes to people who aren't members of the club when they volunteer to help with our activities. It was decided to have the Public Relations committee come up with a note card that we can send to these people. It was also suggested that we should look at having a volunteer recognition night and invite these people to a meal and program.

Motion by Lynn to adjourn, 2nd - Chad. Motion carried. Next board meeting: 11/21/06 at 6:30 am at Red River Coffee

Respectfully Submitted: Steve Becher, Secretary