



The Lakes & Prairies

EXCHANGITE

lakesandprairiesdistrict.com

April/May 2021

Event Calendar

- May 5 A.M. Exchange Club of Mankato chartered in 1979.
- May 9 Mother's Day.
- May 11 Exchange Club of the Cedar Valley chartered in 2020.
- May 15 Lakes & Prairies District Exchange Zoom Business Convention.
- May 31 Memorial Day.

Share your club's news!
Email Randy at
rsobrck@yahoo.com

Lakes & Prairies District Exchange wishes to congratulate the following clubs for having a charter anniversary during April:

- **Waterloo Sunrise; April 24, 1970**
- **Waterloo; April 28, 1948**

Lakes & Prairies introduces new website

The Lakes & Prairies District Board has approved the creation of a new website. It is presently under construction, but is accessible at lakesandprairiesdistrict.com. If your club has photos or updated information for the website, please email it to Website Administrator Karen Hale at karen@whileyourebusy.com.

Join the Lakes & Prairies District Exchange Zoom Business Convention & Club Officer Training

The convention agenda and related reports begin on Page 3

You have been invited to the following event.

Lakes and Prairies District Virtual Convention

When Sat May 15, 2021 8:45am – 12pm Central Time - Chicago

Michael Knapp is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82202130333?pwd=R2Z6bGNzdWdqblLVnpXS2NKMVc4dz09>

Meeting ID: 822 0213 0333

Passcode: Exchange

One tap mobile

+13017158592,82202130333#,,,,*95672977# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,82202130333#,,,,*95672977# US (Chicago)

Or, email Lakes & Prairies District President-Elect Michael Knapp, lairdknapp@gmail.com, or your division director for the link above.

Finney representing National, May 15, at Lakes & Prairies District Zoom Business Convention

Immediate Past National President Russ Finney (pictured right) will be representing The National Exchange Club during the Lakes & Prairies District Zoom Business Convention, May 15, starting at 9 a.m.



Finney is a member of the Exchange Clubs of West Chester and Northwest Cincinnati, Ohio. A member since 1995, Russ was the charter club president of the Exchange Club of West Chester. He has served many roles at the club level and received the Distinguished Club President Award in 2004.

Active in the Ohio-West Virginia

District Exchange clubs, Russ served as district president in 2001-02. He has also served as district secretary and director, and has chaired numerous committees.

At the national level, Russ served four years as Region 8 vice president. He is currently a Volunteer Field Representative (VFR), a role for which he was awarded VFR of the Year in 2004. He has chaired several national committees, and presently serves on the Investment Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. He is a club builder and has led training sessions for numerous Exchange leadership conferences. Russ is also a National Exchange Club Foundation Berkey Fellow.

Active in his community, Russ vol-

(Finney continued on Page 2)

Learning your “Why” and other thoughts from Memphis

By Dennis Kehoe,
Lakes & Prairies
2020-21 District
President



In late March, District President-Elect Mike Knapp and I attended a National Exchange Leadership Conference in Memphis, Tennessee. The conference was held at the historic Peabody Hotel, the site of the 2021 National Exchange Convention.

The Peabody Hotel is home to the famous ducks and is one of the grand hotels in the south, and a fabulous place to hold the convention.

Many excellent seminars were held, but the one that really had me thinking was about “learning your why.”

When we have prospective members come to our meetings, we need to share our testimonial. Why did we join Exchange and what motivates us to keep coming back? For myself, I joined Exchange 12 years ago because I reached a point in my life where I finally realized it was time to give back to my community. When life has been good to you, it is only right to try to make things better for those around you.

What keeps me coming back is my

Cedar Falls club major program of service, Toys for Tots. Imagine being a child and not receiving anything for Christmas. Every year our club makes Christmas happier for over 2,000 children. Also, after joining Exchange I learned how widespread the problem of child abuse is. Our club and every Exchange club helps with the prevention of child abuse, and that is extremely important to me.

My “Why” for becoming a part of the Lakes & Prairies District team was my desire to learn about the other clubs in the district and what they are doing successfully, and using that information to make my own club and the district clubs more effective. Each of us needs to learn our “Why,” and to spread the word to any person we feel would be a good fit for Exchange.

Other ideas that struck me were about our clubs and how they appear to outsiders. “Perception is reality” struck home with me. Is your club seen as welcoming? Prospective members and guests need to feel welcomed. We need to make them feel at ease and we must be approachable. With guests present, wearing our name badges is a great idea.

We need to look from the outside in at what we do. Are the programs we do relevant? Are our fundraisers exciting and interesting to the com-

munity? Do members see value in belonging to the club, and are our dues priced effectively?

When we look for new members are we contacting community leaders, start-up entrepreneurs, and young professionals, college faculty, realtors, insurance agents, and other local business people? Many of them want to be a part of the community. These people share a common interest with us, making “our communities better places to live.”

When we do get a new member, try to build a relationship with them both inside and outside of the club.

Lastly, do we make our meetings fun? Do I enjoy the meetings and the people in the club? Do I leave with a smile on my face, and do I think about the meeting during the day? Let us ask ourselves these questions and strive to make improvements where we can.

In the next few months we have a lot going on in Exchange, our May virtual district convention, the National Convention in September, and our in-person district celebration in Omaha in late September and early October. I urge you to consider attending all of these. Not only will you learn new ideas, but you will have a great time. I hope to see you often.

(Finney continued from Page 1)

unteers as a Squadron Commander and mission pilot for the Civil Air Patrol. He was very active in the Fairfield, Ohio, Chamber of Commerce, and served as board chairman.

Russ is the co-owner of Capital Advisory Services, LLC, an investment advisory and financial planning firm. He is a Certified Financial Planner™ Professional. An avid aviator, Russ was an F-16, RF-4, and T-38 pilot for the U.S. Air Force. Russ attended college at the United States Air Force Academy, and holds a master’s degree from the University of Southern California.

Russ and his wife, Kathie, reside in Mason, Ohio, and have two children and four granddaughters.



Care Bear presentations

The Exchange Club of Steele County during April’s Prevention of Child Abuse Month filled Care Bear pull-string bags for youth going through displacement or hardship situations. The bags included a small teddy bear, toothbrush, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, crayons, coloring book, stickers, and a note pad. Presentations were made to the Steele County Sheriff’s Office, and Center for Family Unity in Owatonna for distribution.





EXCHANGE

LAKES AND PRAIRIES DISTRICT EXCHANGE CLUBS

Lakes & Prairies District Zoom Convention

MAY 15, 2021

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

MEETING ID: 822 0213 0333 Passcode: Exchange

8:50 Welcome to the Meeting - Instructions and tips for using the Zoom Protocol: Video 2.0, Mute, Chat, Hand Raising, etc.

8:59 Exchange Video: Who we Are...

9:00 CALL to Order District President Dennis Kehoe

Invocation District Vice President John Waychoff

Pledge of Allegiance District Director Tom Helligso

Introductions of Guests District President Dennis Kehoe

Region 3 Vice President Dawn Portner

Foundation Vice President /Trustee Janet Jacobs

Introductions of Guest Speakers

Past National President Russ Finney

President Exchange Club of the Cedar Valley John Kramer

9:05 Business Session

Opening Remarks 2019 – 2020 District President

District Treasurer Report District Treasurer Nicole Wacek

District Secretary Report District Secretary Rhonda Guthier

2020 District Convention Meeting Minutes

Roll Call: District Secretary Quorum/per Convention Registration

Motion to approve 2020 Convention Meeting Minutes

9:10 Appointment of Convention Committees President Kehoe

Parliamentarian John Waychoff

Credentials Rhonda Guthier

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- | | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| | Resolutions | Annette Duncan |
| | Nominations | Randy Sobrack |
| | Slate for 2020 – 2021 District Officers/Directors – IPDP | Randy Sobrack |
| | Elections | President Kehoe |
| 9:15 | Speaker Addresses: | |
| | Region 3 Vice President | Dawn Portner |
| | Foundation Vice President /Trustee | Janet Jacobs |
| | Exchange Club of the Cedar Valley Pres | John Kramer |
| 9:30 | Youth Awards | Awards Youth Chair Sharon Klein |
| | A.C.E. of the Year Award | |
| | YOY of Youth of the Year Award | |
| 10:00 | Introduction National Rep Russ Finney | President Kehoe |
| | Installation of 2020 – 2021 District Officers and Directors | |
| | National Representative Address | PNP Russ Finney |
| 10:30 | National Service Awards | IPDP Randy Sobrack |
| 10:35 | District Awards and Recognition | Awards Chair Katie Smith |
| 10:45 | The New National Exchange Club is 2020 Video 2.20 minutes | |
| 11:00 | ***SHORT BREAK... District Training Break Out Rooms preparations*** | |
| | The Training Breakout Sessions will be 30 <u>Minutes</u> | |
| | All three sessions will run simultaneously. | |
| 11:05 | Break Out Rooms | |
| | # 1 Club Presidents / President-Elects | Annette |
| | # 2 Club Secretary / Treasurer | Sharon |
| | # 3 Club Directors / Club Committees | Katie |
| 11:35 | <u>Reconvene:</u> | |
| | National Convention Promo - Memphis September | |
| | District Celebration Promo – Omaha October | |
| 11:40 | Closing Remarks | |
| | 2019 – 2020 District President | Dennis Kehoe |
| | 2020 – 2021 District President | Mike Knapp |
| 11:55 | Covenant of Service | |
| 12:00 | Adjournment | |

LAKES & PRAIRIES DISTRICT EXCHANGE CLUBS
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of April 30, 2021

	Apr 30, 21	Apr 30, 20	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
105 · Checking	23,057.08	20,357.15	2,699.93	13.3%
108 · Savings	1,119.76	1,119.75	0.01	0.0%
110 · CD Reserve Sav 2013-8212	1,251.64	1,251.64	0.00	0.0%
Total Checking/Savings	25,428.48	22,728.54	2,699.94	11.9%
Accounts Receivable				
120 · Accounts Receivable	0.00	-141.00	141.00	100.0%
Total Accounts Receivable	0.00	-141.00	141.00	100.0%
Total Current Assets	25,428.48	22,587.54	2,840.94	12.6%
TOTAL ASSETS	25,428.48	22,587.54	2,840.94	12.6%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
300 · Fund Balance	6,898.84	6,898.84	0.00	0.0%
395 · Prior Year Earnings	13,796.42	9,451.28	4,345.14	46.0%
398 · Opening Balance Equity	-6.15	-6.15	0.00	0.0%
Net Income	4,739.37	6,243.57	-1,504.20	-24.1%
Total Equity	25,428.48	22,587.54	2,840.94	12.6%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	25,428.48	22,587.54	2,840.94	12.6%

Lakes and Prairies District Convention

May 16, 2020

10:00 – 11:39 am

ZOOM Business Meeting – due to COVID-19

1. Call to Order & Introduction: District President Randy Sobrack called the business meeting of the Lakes & Prairies District to order at 10:00 am, Saturday, May 16, 2020 via ZOOM. Sobrack gave a summary of the convention business agenda including 2019 convention minutes approval, district financials, guest introductions, election of officers and installation plus district award winners and closing comments.
2. Invocation: Led by Randy Sobrack, District President
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Randy Sobrack, District President
4. Welcome and Introduction of Guest: Randy Sobrack introduced our esteemed National representative and guests:
 - a. Barbara Orr, National Treasurer and convention National Representative from the state of North Carolina.

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- b. Janet Jacobs, National Exchange Foundation Trustee
 - c. Scot Warren, Immediate Past National President
 - d. Dawn Portner, Region 3 Vice President
 - e. Trish Krenick, Naperville – helped with pre-convention technology
 - f. Rachel Brokenshire, Youth of the Year (Cedar Falls Sponsor)
5. Introduction of Presentation of Exchange Videos from National: R. Sobrack played two videos from National highlighting/emphasizing Programs of Service. National Exchange founded in 1911 along with testimonials and reasons why people join exchange and want to make a difference in their community. Prevention of Child Abuse is the National project. Excel Clubs focusing on events and community service while learning leadership and one mission in mind. Video messages can be shared with clubs in the district at any time. Special welcome to the newest Lakes & Prairies District club members (The Exchange Club of the Cedar Valley) and they had their opening meeting this past Monday on 5/11/20. A tremendous effort by everyone involved with reaching 20 membership levels virtually with 28 attending the event on Monday. Welcome and thank you for joining Exchange!
6. Business Session:
- a. Opening Remarks: Randy Sobrack
 - b. Region 3 Vice President: Dawn Portner
 - Heartfelt comments from D. Portner. Thank you for attending the convention. Hope to see everyone in Omaha in October to celebrate your great accomplishments as a district. Thank you for your support and welcoming as your Region 3 Vice President. Thanks to Sobrack for his two years of service to the district. Wish President Elect D. Kehoe much success in 2020/2021. One of Portners highlights is the club building this year with the Exchange Club of the Cedar Valley. Congratulations to all club builders involved!
 - c. National Exchange Foundation: Janet Jacobs/Scot Warren
 - Jacobs, Warren & Orr represents National Foundation with a moto of strengthening the national community through giving. Jacobs educated participants on what the National Foundation does for you, the clubs, district, etc. Some items include- funding CAP (Child Abuse Prevention) centers, fund symposium at the National convention, Veterans Matter, youth scholarships, Legacy Awards, manage disaster relief funds and offer a pass-thru account for District and clubs. New Exchange Strong award with a possibility of a grant coming back to your club. Many ways to donate to the Foundation and it is easy.
 - Warren: Thank you for supporting National Exchange! Warren spoke on CAP Center -Hamilton House in Fort Smith, AK serving over 850 children annually. They can do their work, like other CAP centers around the country through donations and support from Exchange clubs, National and members. This concludes his journey at the National board level and his is blessed and thankful for all the hospitality and friendships developed.

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d. National Representative Address: Barbara Orr

- R. Sobrack introduced our National Representative Barbara Orr, National Treasurer and joined Exchange in 1991, a VFR and member in two separate club memberships in North Carolina and is a self-employed CPA. Thank you to Lakes & Prairies and feels it is a vacation spot! Leadership of district is exceptional and have done it during challenging times. Number one in the nation for retention and growth! Great backup in VFR's with Faris, Smith, Droste & Duncan! Barbara Orr is certain that Lakes & Prairies will continue to do great things and honored to have a wonderful Exchange family and community. National update: extended deadlines for National awards, National Convention in Colorado may be virtual, no vote of board members, still adjusting on virtual conventions but will be a positive approach. Charles Berkey formed Exchange in 1911.

e. Roll Call for a Quorum: Rhonda Guthier

- R. Guthier conducted roll call for number of members attending from each club. 13 Lakes & Prairies clubs represent and had a quorum to conduct business for a total of 36 members, 6 guests.
 1. Exchange Club of Cedar Falls (4)
 2. Exchange Club of Mason City (1)
 3. Exchange Club of Waterloo (4)
 4. Sunrise Exchange Club of Waterloo (1)
 5. Exchange Club of East Minneapolis (1)
 6. Exchange Club of Owatonna (3)
 7. Exchange Club of Rochester (2)
 8. Exchange Club of Steele County (4)
 9. Exchange Club of Waseca (2)
 10. Exchange Club of Omaha (2)
 11. Exchange Club of Waverly (3)
 12. Moonlighters Exchange Club of Owatonna (5)
 13. Exchange Club of The Cedar Valley (4)

f. District Treasurer Report: Caryn Wendt

- Published in the April/May newsletter. R. Sobrack shared a summary of financials that were published. Good financial shape through May 2, 2020 as prepared by C. Wendt. Motion to accept financial report dated May 2, 2020 by D. Gibson, second by K. Smith. Motion Carried.

g. 2019 District Convention Minutes: Rhonda Guthier

- R. Guthier wanted to adjust a few minor adjustments to the May 18, 2019 convention notes published in the April/May newsletter. After reviewing and receiving comments on errors published, R. Guthier made adjustment to:
 1. Special Guest: added Trustee behind Janet Jacobs, National Exchange Foundation Trustee

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2. Election of Officers: Vice President appointment indicated Katie Smith, which should have included Donald Faris to that officer list.
 3. Officers: Region 3 Vice President indicated Janet Jacobs and should have been Dawn Portner.
 4. Awards Committee: Chair Sheila Kittleson, Waseca Exchange Club should have been Waterloo Exchange Club. S. Droste indicated that Sheila Kittleson is from Waverly and not Waseca or Waterloo. Those notes will be corrected per R. Guthier.
- Motion to approve the May 18, 2019 minutes with adjustments noted by J. Brandau, second by K. Smith. Motion Carried.
- h. Nominations for 2020-2021 Directors for Division 2, 4, 6, Secretary, Treasurer and District President Elect & Election:
- Announcement of offices/nominations by Chair S. Droste. Committee worked hard on securing nominations for offices.
 1. Immediate Past President: Randy Sobrack, Steele County Club will move automatically to that role
 2. District President: Dennis Kehoe, Cedar Falls Club will also move to his role automatically
 3. President Elect: Mike Knapp, Waterloo Club
 4. Secretary: Rhonda Guthier, Moonlighters Club
 5. Treasurer: Nicole Wacek, Moonlighters Club
 6. Division 2: OPEN, still looking for someone to take position
 7. Division 4: Sharon Klein, Owatonna Club
 8. Division 6: Jim Brandau, Waverly Club
 - R. Sobrack will accept any nominations from the floor for any seats up for election District 6, 4, 2, Treasurer, Secretary and President Elect. R. Sobrack announced three times from the floor, hearing no other nominations, R. Sobrack commenced to voting. John Waycoff made a motion to accept unanimous ballot cast for directors and officers for the Lakes & Prairies District 2020/2021, second by S. Droste. Due to only one nomination for each office, R. Sobrack will accept the motion and second. Motion Carried. Congratulations for stepping up and look forward to your leadership next year.
- i. Installation of 2020-2021 Officers: Barbara Orr
- Barbara Orr conducted the installation of new leadership team commencing July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021 for the Lakes & Prairies District. Team rises and falls on this leadership. Purpose of district is to: build new local exchange clubs, strengthen clubs with programs of service, increasing fellowship between clubs, promotion and participation. Officers also have the challenges as we have already seen. Carry on the responsibilities, uphold your duties of your office and be enthusiastic! **District Directors** of the L & P District: Division 2: OPEN,

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Division 4: Sharon Klein, Division 6: Jim Brandau. You will be the face of the District to your clubs you represent. Odd year division to take the oath also. **Treasurer:** Nicole Wacek, a one-year term responsible for preparing budget, collecting funds, prepare financials regularly. **Secretary:** Rhonda Guthier, a one-year term and assist President and to keep records and district files. **Immediate Past President:** Randy Sobrack assumes the role of mentor, support and guidance. **President Elect:** Michal Knapp, will become familiar with overall goals of district and national. Induction conducted by Barbara Orr and congratulations to all leaders. **President:** Dennis Kehoe have been honored and elected to this office. You will work with leadership team in the best interest of every club and members of the district. Installation by Barbara Orr conducted! Barbara Orr was proud to present the Lakes & Prairies District Exchange Club leadership team for 2020/2021!

7. District Awards & Recognition: Chair Katie Smith

- a. Awards Report Summary with meetings starting on January 30, 2020 and packets sent out to all club leaders. Deadline changed to April 30, 2020. Checks for Youth and ACE winners will be sent to the schools directly. All American award has been discontinued. Attendance is requiring when accepting awards; the committee may allow some extenuating circumstances. If youth cannot attend celebration in October, we ask them to create an acceptance video with essay, tell their story, some type of visual acceptance. Committee looking for recommendations on National Service Award and National Fundraising and CARE (Child Abuse Reduction Effort) to recognize applicants on a District level. Legacy Award sends right into National but again would like to recognize on a district level.
 - Awards: 12 out of 19 clubs submitted applicants for various awards.
 - Bulletin: Waverly Club – Lou McDougall
 - Facebook: Waterloo Club– Sandi Sommerfelt
 - Rookie of the Year: Moonlighters Club – Karen Hale
 - Outstanding Club of Year: Waverly Exchange Club
 - Outstanding Exchange Member of the Year: Tom Helligso, Omaha Exchange Club
 - Youth Awards: Announced by committee member Sharon Klein with excellent entries. Last evening the Lakes & Prairies District board agreed to have a male & female for the ACE awards.
 - ACE Awards: Alexa Lee, Rochester Club and Jermaine Sagbow, Waverly Club
 - Youth of the Year: Rachel Brokenshire, was in attendance today and was very thankful for the award and is looking forward to attending the celebration in October.
 - Legacy Award: No entry.
 - Hall of Fame Inductees: Michael Watson, Cedar Falls Club, Tom Helligso, Omaha Club, Tom Partridge, Owatonna Club, Denny Button and Steve Eggly, Waverly Club. Congratulations to all Hall of Fame Inductees! Shining examples of what a true exchangite is!

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8. Closing Remarks

- a. 2019-2020 District President: Randy Sobrack: Thanks to the club members of the Lakes & Prairies District for allowing me to serve you as president during my two-year term. I was able to share and participate in many club events and celebrations. The last few months have been a challenge but also an opportunity to explore new technology with ZOOM meetings, first every interclub fellowship social next month and officer training. Conducted business portion today and to put an official wrap on 2019/2020 year in October hosted by Omaha. R. Sobrack is proud to announce your newly installed 2020/2021 District President Dennis Kehoe, a think outside the box leader.
- b. 2020-2021 District President: Dennis Kehoe: Thank you Randy for the great work for the past two years and appreciate your leadership and looking forward to work with you. Exchange has been a part of my life for eleven years and served as club President three times and has three goals: 1). Re-evaluate National Project on Child Abuse prevention 2). Encourage more clubs to earn National Service Award and the Big E. 3). Have more members attend District Convention in Omaha. Why attend a convention: You will learn how to make your club better, education on exchange, train others, discuss fundraisers, meet people. See you in Omaha October 1-4. What are expectations of being President? Trust, direction, hope and results.

9. Covenant of Service: Recited together

10. Adjournment: 11:39 am

See You in Omaha for awards presentations, One Nation Under God Breakfast, FUN and celebration! October 1-4, 2020. More details will be announced.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Guthier
Lakes & Prairies District
District Secretary 2019/2020



Russ above expressed thanks for being recognized Feb. 28, 2019, by Club members and guests for his 50 years in Exchange.

Exchange Club members remembered

The Exchange clubs of Owatonna and Steele County respectively mourn the loss of a long-time Exchange member. Reverend Russ Rudolf (left) died Thursday, March 25, at the age of 87 in Mankato. Russ is survived by his wife, Jane of Owatonna; sons, Thomas of Middleton, Ohio; and Peter of Corcoran; 3 grandchildren, and a brother, Dr. Lou, of Billings, Montana. Larry Ruehling died Sunday, April 18, in Owatonna, at the age of 98. Larry joined the Steele County club in 1986, and members always enjoyed his variety of suspenders. Larry is survived by sons, Roger of Owatonna, and Robert of California; daughter, Ann of Owatonna; 3 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.



Larry above in a 2017-18 Exchange Club of Steele County board photo.

Exchange Club of Waverly perseveres through pandemic

by Cliff Brockman, Exchange Club of Waverly (published in Waverly Newspapers)

A combination of technology, generous sponsors, and hard work has helped the Waverly Exchange Club overcome the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic to exceed its fundraising goals, according to club president Adam Folkerts.

The news comes at a time when many service organizations are struggling to raise money to meet their budgets.

The Waverly Exchange Club has already well surpassed its \$18,000 goal with another \$8,000-10,000 in fundraising expected yet this fiscal year.

"We've had great creativity within our group to make this work," Folkerts said.

The money the club raises is given to youth activities, community non-profit organizations, and child abuse prevention programs. The club also awards high school scholarships and gives community awards such as Peace Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards. In addition, members are involved in numerous community service projects.

Diversification of fundraising events has been one of the keys to the Exchange Club's success during the pandemic, Steve Egli, a founding member of the club, said.

"Many clubs have one type of fundraiser, selling food at events for example," Egli said. "But when the pandemic hit, many events were cancelled

and so there were fewer opportunities for those types of fundraisers."

The club's biggest fundraising event, an annual golf outing, was scheduled in May, but was postponed because of the state shutdown. The outing was moved to September and all state protocols were followed to make it safe for participants, Gregg Piehl, golf committee chairman said. The plan was successful as 100 people participated, more than 30 the usual number.

"People wanted to golf and get out and do some normal things. That was reflected in our golfing numbers. I think that helped us the most. Our sponsors were eager to help us and we had a really good event for golfers and our club," Piehl said.

Another September event "The Best Dam Run" went on as scheduled, but with a major modification. The event was virtual this year with participants running on their own and then reporting the times to a club committee. The event is actually three runs: a 5K, 10K, and a half-marathon. All the runs normally start near the dam at Waverly City Hall.

The runs raised \$4,100, more than doubling the goal, according to treasurer James Perry. And, that was with 67 runners, about half of last year's number. The goal was surpassed because the virtual run had fewer costs, co-chair Heidi Solheim said. An add-

ed benefit of having the event virtually, Solheim said, was that it allowed runners from other communities besides Waverly to participate. They included several who lived out of state from as far away as Florida and Oregon.

The club has two other annual fundraisers, a cash giveaway that netted \$5,000 using Pay Pal for the first time, and a 3rd-5th grade basketball tournament in December. The tournament was the only event cancelled because of the pandemic.

Community sponsors stood by their commitments despite the pandemic, Folkerts said, and that also helped the club more than achieve its goals. Those sponsors included Wartburg College, Thrivent, and the Waverly Health Center. Smaller sponsors also maintained their pledges, Folkerts said, including one business that doubled its normal donation.

The Waverly Exchange Club was founded in 1984 and has more than 50 members. It meets Thursdays at 7 a.m., virtually, and in-person (following state recommended safety protocols) at Wartburg College. Meetings include breakfast and a program. Folkerts said the club is always looking for new members and anyone interested should contact him at: afolkerts@financialguide.com.



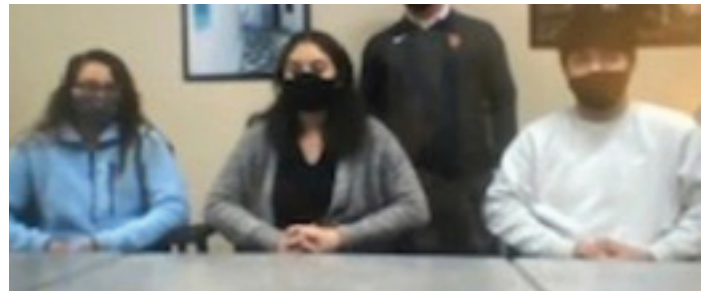
COURTESY PHOTOS

Far left: Race Start: Participants in the Best Dam Run thread their way through Waverly streets and the bike path in 2019. Last fall, the run was virtual because of the pandemic. **Left: Golfers register** before teeing off at the annual Exchange Club outing. One-hundred people participated in the outing, the largest number in the past several years.



Virtual A.C.E. awards presented

Boys Town High School Seniors Gavin Smith and Hannah Stromer were recently named the Exchange Club of Omaha's 2021 Accepting the Challenge of Excellence (A.C.E.) award winners. The students were virtually presented their awards at a luncheon at the Happy Hollow Club, Tuesday, March 9. In addition to the award plaque, the students received a certificate and monetary award. The virtual presentation was conducted by Herb Hames (left), director of development at Father Flanagan's Boy's Home, and Exchange Club Member Tom Helligso. The Club congratulates both recipients on overcoming incredible obstacles to achieve success.



A.C.E. students recognized in Waterloo

The Exchange Club of Waterloo recognized their A.C.E. applicants during a virtual meeting, Monday, April 5. The award has two main purposes: to encourage students to overcome challenges; and to recognize students who could be overlooked for their hard work and perseverance. The Club selected Asia Marie Gallegos (center) as their top recipient, and she receives \$750. The other applicants included Monica Guerrero (left) and Carlos Negrete-Marceleno. They each receive \$100 from the Club.



YES VIRGINIA!!!

***There will be a 2021 Lakes & Prairies District Convention
LIVE...in Omaha, Nebraska
SAVE THE DATES of Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 2021***

***Plan on a great weekend of fun, food, and fellowship, and a very good time
with your fellow Exchange Club members.***

We are all ready to party hardy, so get the District Convention on your calendars now!

More information and registration forms will be coming soon!

***Any preliminary questions can be directed to Tom Helligso, Exchange
Club of Omaha, at 402-740-5300.***

SEE YOU THERE!