

# Cargill Cares

## Retirees Newsletter

*"The mission of Cargill Cares Retirees is to enrich our community and the lives of Cargill Retirees by matching community needs with retiree talents, time and desires."*

*A newsletter for Cargill Retiree Volunteers*

Summer 2013

## The Sandwich Project

*By Dane Kern*

On May 6th, the Cargill Cares Retirees launched **The Sandwich Project**, our newest opportunity to serve our community. The Sandwich Project, part of the Minneapolis Recreation Development (MDR) program, is dedicated to serving the homeless community, vulnerable individuals, disadvantaged youth, and their families in the Twin Cities. MDR is described in detail at the following website. [www.363days.org](http://www.363days.org).

Initially the **363 Days Food Program** strived to serve vulnerable individuals when the volunteers on Thanksgiving and Christmas had returned to their homes after serving holiday meals. Recently renamed, The Sandwich Project, many diverse groups provide sandwiches, which are the key food distributed the year round. The sandwiches are prepared and donated by more than 500 community groups, churches, schools, and companies, are distributed to the homeless and hungry. The sandwiches are distributed in Minneapolis through Catholic Charities, Hospitality House, Little Earth, the Urban League, Loaves & Fishes, the Marie Sandvik Center,

The River of Life Church, The Salvation Army/Harbor Light Safe Bay and Sharing & Caring Hands. In St. Paul the Union Gospel Mission, Catholic Charities and the Dorothy Day Center are involved.

We initially thought the 1,000 sandwiches we planned to prepare and deliver to a warehouse in St. Paul was a big effort. Doug Lindberg, who brought the idea to CCR-TC, assured us we could handle the project. We partnered with Doug's church, the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Brooklyn Park and using their facilities and experience, 20 CCR-TC volunteers had 1,000 sandwiches packaged and loaded in a truck and ready for delivery in under 90 minutes.

CCR-TC has plans to repeat this effort every other month, beginning June 21st from 9-11 AM at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 7217 West Broadway Avenue, in Brooklyn Park.

Look for additional future dates on the CCR-TC website: <http://www.cargillcaresretirees.com/>. Signup at: <http://cargillcarepoints.com/> or call the project leader: Dane Kern at 952-472-448 or Email: [dane.kern@mchsi.com](mailto:dane.kern@mchsi.com).



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Barbara Luke

No dues. No initiation. No hazing. Fun things to do. Fun places to go. Fun people to meet. Sound too good to be true? Unlike Groucho Marx who said "I don't care to belong to any club that would have me as a member," Cargill Cares Retirees is a group of people about whom Groucho would feel differently.

Why? Because there are opportunities in the areas of Service, Seminars and Socials.

**SERVICE:** Thanks to people like you, 237 retirees reported over 18,000 volunteer hours in 2012. While many people volunteered independently, others chose to join fellow Cargill retirees in group projects ranging from Store to Door and Second Harvest to Bridging and Habitat for Humanity. One project added this year was "The Sandwich Project," which is part of the "363 Days Food Program." Volunteers made sandwiches that were distributed to individuals, shelters and locations serving the homeless. One morning, we prepared 1,000 sandwiches in less than 1-1/2 hours. Can you picture being part of that?

**SEMINARS:** Last year, you learned what to do with the old family photos and learned about Reverse Mortgages. This year, you can learn how to plant a garden in a limited space – specifically, a container. If you prefer hearing more about County Government or Cargill Health Care, these and many more seminars are being planned for 2013-14. You'll find them on the CCR-TC Calendar on our website.

**SOCIALS:** Sports? Theatre? Travel? In the sports arena, you may choose to attend a Twins game. Recently, one lucky group who attended a game also had a chance to tour "backstage" at Target Field including the Delta Sky 360 Legends Club at Target Field. If you would rather be a participant than an observer, you are invited to join the Golf League which plays weekly at various courses in the Twin Cities area and culminates in an annual tournament. It's co-ed with players ranging from duffers to low-handicappers. Might Pickle Ball be more up your alley? It's coming. Stay tuned.

While the Old Log Theatre has long been a popular mainstay in the social activities CCR-TC offers, we had a bit of a scare when we learned that they were closing. But it's temporary and the doors should be re-opening



soon. For you theatre aficionados, the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre has been added to the offerings with a group taking in "Bye, Bye Birdie" this year.

City of Lakes Tour? Chippewa Falls? A LaCrosse boat trip? Tough to decide? Some retirees chose all three this past year. Taylors Falls with a visit to the Chateau St. Croix Winery & Vineyard was one of the June socials. If you want a longer trip, you may sign up for a two-day August trip to Dubuque, Iowa and Galena, Illinois.

This is my final President's Corner article and I want to thank each of you for all you do to serve and nourish our community. We appreciate volunteering with you. We enjoy seeing you at seminars and social events and thank you for making them the success that they are.

Do you know a Cargill employee who is considering retiring or is recently retired?

Have they been retired for awhile and have some time to fill? If they are not currently hearing from us, please let them know that we might have what they are looking for. There are many ways to contact us:

Website – [cargillcaresretirees.com](http://cargillcaresretirees.com)  
CCR-TC Office 952/742-6188  
[RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM](mailto:RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM)  
Cargill Cares Retirees, PACR/137,  
P.O. Box 5723, Mpls MN 55440-5723

We look forward to offering more variety in all of these areas to appeal to a broader audience of retirees ranging in age from 55-90+. If you have ideas for what we might offer, please let us know.

We continue to be interested in hearing from you about what keeps your life vital.

Recently, I heard about a couple who completed their first three-month "travel trailer" winter road trip. Not only did they survive it, they are looking forward to the next one. Another person had entered a woodworking competition. He was also looking forward to a trip to China with two grade-school aged grandchildren who speak Chinese fluently and will eagerly be his guide. And still another person competed in his first cribbage tournament. We want to hear more about these adventures.

In this issue, you will read about Rita and Jack Johnston's Grand Circle river cruise.

We would like to include your story. Drop us a note or write an article or let us know and we will write it for you. We want to hear from you. You are sure to inspire somebody.

# Volunteer Recognition Awards

By Gene Gross

The Twin Cities retirees have reported about 18,000 volunteer hours for 2012 in group and individ-



ual volunteer activities in support of non-profit organizations throughout the US. This down a little from the previous year but still an impressive number. To recognize some individuals in this endeavor several awards were announced at this year's Annual Meeting.

Joe Fournier was awarded the Ken Moritz Leadership Award. Joe has been a Board Member for 12 years and is a past President. A big initiative of his for the last 10 years ago was organizing our retiree participation for Second Harvest. Cargill Retirees volunteer twice a month to process and pack food for distribution to Minnesota food shelves. If you ever talk with Joe regarding Second Harvest you can tell the passion he has for this activity. Another key role Joe has done is the CCR-TC Group Projects Co-Chair. In this capacity Joe keeps track of all the various group projects, along with Co-Chair John Tschumperlin. At our monthly Board Meetings we spend a good amount of time updating all Board Members of our group project status. Joe's leadership role has been vital in our success. Joe loves golfing and has organized the weekly retiree golf outings for many years. Joe certainly deserves this award.

Don Biorn was recognized for this year's Volunteer of the Year Award. Don has worked on Habitat for years. One person said he is a specialist in installing doors. Another said doors were too easy for him and stairs is more of his thing. Don is called a "joiner" as he volunteers for so many Cargill Retiree activities including Bridging, Second Harvest, Emergency Food Network, Bell Ringing and even the new Sandwich Project. He often volunteers at Second Harvest in the morning and Bridging in the afternoon. On top of this he is a great golfer and an accomplished skier and sailor.

Three more awards were given by drawing names from a basket. The first was a \$100 gift card from all those who had 100 or more volunteer hours in 2012 which was Herman Gutzke. The other two were from the remaining 100 plus hours and with names of 50 plus hours added. Don Olmsted and Dan Pietso won \$50 gift cards.



# Habitat for Humanity Busy Winter Schedule

By Mike Lilly

Cargill retiree Habitat for Humanity winter crews had an interesting variety of projects. For the first time, Gene Moen, John Keefe and Mike Lilly took on a day of "Brush of Kindness" by painting the interior of an older home in Minneapolis. In March Andy Byrnes led teams rehabbing a foreclosure home in Brooklyn Park. Winter crews installed flooring and trim in St. Louis Park and Minneapolis where John Loken and Jim Kane joined the crews.

In January crew leader, Roger Wherry, left for the West Coast and put in 107 hours building a Habitat home in San Diego. He got back in time to join Larry Knutson, Dane Kern, John Loken and Andy Byrnes to fabricate wall panels at the Habitat for Humanity panel plant. While painting old houses is a needed project, the real fun work is at the panel plant and new home construction.

Watch for the Cargill employees and retirees joint project to build a new home this fall.

## For The Record

### Recently Retired

John Carlson	John Gay	Diane Mills
Judith Carter	Roslyn Harms	Sandy Palmer
Linda Cutler	Judy Ibis	Bernard Peterson
Joyce Dallin	Kevin Ladwig	
Karen Farago	Melodie Martin	

### Deceased

Blaine Bartz	Edward Lindquist Jr.	Ingrid Voss
Norman Erickson	John Osborn	Janet Voss
Grace Farnquist	Donald Peterson	Winthrop Wyman
Helen Goodrich	Gwen Reagan	
Ed Hambor	Leslee Slawson	
Harold House	Frederic Saltvold	



# Feed My Starving Children

By Lois Tolentino

On March 20, 2013 we had 34 retirees and 1 Cargill employee pack food at the Coon Rapids site. Another group of 15 joined us so we had a total of 50 people who packed 17,712 meals which is enough to feed 49 children for a year. The meals we packed cost FMSC \$3,897 or \$.22 cents per meal.

The volunteers at Coon Rapids are listed below:

Elaine Brown, Alvina Cook, Jim Cook, Jan Culver, Marge Engstrom, Mike Farmer, Sue Farmer, Ron Feldman, Bob Fields, Joe Fournier, Sharon Harvey, Jack Johnston, Rita Johnston, Dane Kern, Gail Kern, Joan Koosman, Shirley Koski, Virgil Koski, Don Labeau, Lois Labeau, Delores Lamusga, Mike Lilly, Bev Loken, John Loken, Bob Nowak, Jan Nowak, Maureen Prestifilippo, Clarke Robinson, Anna Rohlfesen, Jerry Rohlfesen, Shelley Rose, Sarah Swendson, Lois Tolentino, Elaine Witt, Lou Witt.

## FMSC Today

In early 2012, FMSC passed a milestone: 600 million meals produced over their history. Here is a snapshot of growth.

	1994	2012
Meals	400,000	153,000,000
Volunteers	2,409	662,062
Employees	2	163
Partners	4	84 (primary)
Annual Budget	\$55,000	\$38,600,000

In 1994 the first shipments of meals, via merchant ships went to a Rwanda pediatric hospital via Operation Blessing; to Haiti, Belarus and Paraguay. Since 1994, FMSC has distributed food to nearly 70 countries through hundreds of embedded partners. More than 99.96% arrived safely.





## TELEBUDDY 2012-2013

*By Shirley Anderson*

The Telebuddy Team -- Shirley Anderson, Donna Duffy, Phillis & Gerald Fields, Bev Johnson, Val Kuhlman, Doug Lindberg, Lois LaBeau, Lorraine Wagner and Sharon Weise -- completed a rewarding year with students at the New Visions Academy. A celebration with the students at the completion of the 2012-13 year was held Monday, April 8.

We are pleased to report that each of the ten students improved their reading skills from a minimum of three levels to a maximum of six levels. The school thanked us for our participation and wish to continue this program.

The New Visions Academy is moving to a temporary location this summer as a new school is being built in Brooklyn Park to be completed for the fall of 2014. There is a possibility for the Telebuddy Program to be suspended at the temporary location for fall of 2013 and spring of 2014. The good news is that we may have more students participating in this program when they move to their new school.

Anyone wishing more information on this program contact Doug Lindberg at 763.486.9650 or Shirley Anderson at 952.933.3035.

## Lloyd M. Smith Reaches 100

We've learned that Lloyd Smith recently celebrated his 100th birthday

Lloyd started with Nutrena in 1937, moved to the Lake Office in 1950 when he was elected treasurer of Nutrena, Cargill's Feed Division, and was transferred from Feed to the Tax Dept. in 1966. He was on the Cargill Board Audit Committee (1969). In 1975 he was granted "early retirement" after 38 years of service to Nutrena and Cargill, which was interrupted by a tour of duty with the Navy from 1942 until 1945.

## Minnesota Zoo Beastly Ball

*by Shirley Anderson*

On Saturday, April 27, the Minnesota Zoo toasted the 25th anniversary of the annual Beastly Ball. Five hundred fifty (550) generous guests raised nearly half a million dollars for the Zoos conservation and education programs.

Sixteen (16) Cargill retirees and employees participated in the registration of the guests and the silent auction:

Elaine Brown, Jana Brown, Shari Erickson, Liz Reznicek, Lois Tolentino, Bev Youness, Brad Cross, Jerry Dohrman, Mary Wiley, Terry & Shirlee Livelsberger, Melanie Burke, Megan Honan, Devarae Bender, John Keefe, Shirley Anderson.

## Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Seminar

*By Mike Lilly*

On April 3rd. a small but enthusiastic group of Cargill retirees attend a seminar commonly known as reverse mortgages. Home equity conversion mortgages can be an excellent financial tool for families with a crisis or financial hardship. We also learned that reverse mortgages can be an effective tool for wealth management or an enhanced retirement life style.

Guaranteed Rate offered us a panel of four experts led by Earl Rose. The panel included a financial advisor, Paul Humphrey, who has advised Cargill employees and retirees. We learned how the tax free revenue from reverse mortgages can improve equity investment returns in a down market.

A real estate expert talked about cost effective ways to buy a dream house in retirement. With record low interest rates the opportunities are excellent. In the audience was Cargill retiree, Gary Johnson, who currently serves as Senior Program Manager, The Center for Fraud Prevention. Gary attended with an eye for market ethics and he plans to offer an education seminar for CCR in the fall. Curtis Loewe, a panel member, was Manager of Consumer Services, MN Attorney General-Skip Humphries. Consumer issues were well covered at the seminar.

If you missed the seminar and would like a written summary of the presentation please call or email the CCR office for a copy.



## Winter Photo Contest Results *By Mike Hall*

Firstly, thanks to those that submitted photos for this year's inaugural contest and stay-tuned for upcoming contest announcements for the coming year. We have awarded the following three prizes.

Winner (\$25 Gift Card): Frank St. Lawrence, Two Runners-up (\$15 Gift Card): Ted Hass & Don Ketcham



Thanks again for all of the great entries.

## City of Lakes Tour

*by Lois Tolentino*

On April 30th, CCR retirees enjoyed another 1 day trip. We had it timed perfectly as the next day the snow came. We had the most wonderful guides for the tour. Our first stop was at the Lakewood Memorial Chapel and Cemetery where we had a 1 ½ hour history of the beautiful chapel, mausoleum and cemetery.

The interior was created by New York designer Charles Lamb who enlisted the services of six accomplished mosaic artists from Rome and they created more than 10 million mosaic pieces, called tessellai, from marble, colored stone, and glass fused with gold and silver.

Upon its completion in 1910, the Lakewood Memorial chapel was the only building in the country with an authentic mosaic interior. (not one nail was used in the chapel). The chapel dome is 65 feet high and ringed with stained-glass windows that serve as a sundial telling the time of day and season. Four large mosaic figures representing Love, Hope, Faith and Memory are situated on the sidewalls below the dome.

They have a large Memorial Mausoleum and a new Garden Mausoleum and Reception Center, which we toured. We drove through the cemetery with our guide pointing out the many different places and well-known people who are buried in the cemetery.

Our second stop was lunch at Vescio's, then another professional sightseeing guide joined us for a tour around the city lakes district, the beautiful old homes in the Kenwood area, the Sculpture Gardens and Walker Art Center.

In downtown Minneapolis we viewed the many changes and the historic riverfront area. We went to the Guthrie Theatre and took the escalator and the 'endless bridge' up to level 5 where we were able to go outside and see the Stone Arch Bridge, St Anthony Falls, I-35 W Memorial which was established to honor the victims and survivors of the I-35 bridge collapse on August 1, 2007. What a good way to end our day.



## WALK FOR THE ANIMALS – 2013

*By John Tschumperlin*

On April 30th some Cargill Retirees met at the Animal Humane Society headquarters in Golden Valley to lend a hand in preparing for the AHS 39th annual "Walk for the Animals". This pre-walk event labeled "Premium Sorting and Set-up" involves unboxing, sorting, folding and displaying premiums that are given to walk participants based on contributions.

The walk took place on Saturday, May 4th, under a cloudy, damp and cool sky. Winter didn't seem to want to give in this year!! However the weather did not seem to deter all the animal lovers as thousand of walkers and their animal companions turned out for the event. The "Walk" is the major annual fund raiser for the Animal Humane Society and, by last count, had raised \$950,000.

These dollars go to help run the 6 AHS locations where they expect to care for over 35,000 animals this year.

Thanks to this year's pre-walk event volunteers. They were: Marietta Digatono, Mary Hill, Sandy Kenny, Dane Kern, Jim and Beth Kurtt, Rueben Lantto, Mary Ann Masee, Fran McNamee, and John and Lydija Tschumperlin.



# WHAT DID YOU SAY?

By Mike Lilly

Don't let hearing loss change your life. That was the message I took away from a monthly meeting of Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). Marie Saliterman, a Cargill employee, suggested Cargill retirees learn more about HLAA and invited me to attend their monthly meeting.

One of five senior citizens has hearing loss. That would equate to over 200 of our Cargill retirees in the Twin Cities. At the HLAA meeting I heard life stories of the hardship of hearing loss. But also I learned of the many ways that people with hearing impairment can benefit from new technology. For profound hearing loss, cochlear implants can offer life changing communications and a more normal life. Cochlear implants are often covered by insurance, unlike hearing aids.

Four engineers from Starkey Hearing Technologies attended the meeting and took questions from the audience on issues with hearing aids. New technologies such as T coils help greatly with telephone communications. New hearing aid products are coming to the market continuously.

For those of us with some hearing loss, there are valuable solutions available. The upcoming HLAA president, Monique Hammond, has published a book about hearing loss, "What Did You Say?", and we hope to bring her to the CCR Education Seminar Series soon. The friendly volunteer group of HLAA members will share their knowledge and experiences. They meet on the third Saturday 10:00 AM each month at the Courage Center in Golden Valley. Check out HLAA's web site [www.hlaatc.org](http://www.hlaatc.org) for meeting dates and times. Retirees are welcome to attend

Barbara Luke, President  
Frank St. Lawrence, Editor

The CCR newsletter is published quarterly in spring, summer, fall and winter, and is distributed to Cargill retirees throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Submit items of interest to the CCR office (Community Relations/137).

For additional information about CCR volunteer activities, call the CCR office at 952/742-6188 or email [RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM](mailto:RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM)

### CCR Management Committee

Shirley Anderson	Jim Guyre	Mike Lilly	Frank St. Lawrence
Elaine Brown	Mike Hall	Jim Little	Ty Thayer
Joe Fournier	John Keefe	John Loken	Lois Tolentino
Tom Geisen	Dane Kern	Barbara Luke	John Tschumperlin
Gene Gross	George Kubera	Rich Peters	

### Retirees E-Mail Directory

If you are not currently receiving email updates from the Cargill Cares Retirees office and would like to be added to the CCR Email Directory, please send your name and Email address to [RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM](mailto:RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM).

# GOLFERS WANTED!

Please consider joining fellow Cargill retirees who participate in our informal golf league. We tee off each Thursday at 10 a.m. at one of the 12 golf courses listed below. Play continues through October 24th. We tee off each Thursday at 10 a.m. Green fees and 1/2 a cart prices vary from \$22 to \$35, for 18 holes. All handicaps are welcome. If you have an interest in joining please call Joe Fournier at 763/420-6720 or [fournier\\_joe@hotmail.com](mailto:fournier_joe@hotmail.com).

2013 golf schedule includes the following courses

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Timber Creek  | Pheasant Acres       |
| Pioneer Creek | Shadow Brooke        |
| Valley View   | Francis Gross        |
| Sundance      | Monticello C.C.      |
| Bluff Creek   | Ridges at Sand Creek |
| Greenhaven    | Pioneer Creek        |

## Jesters Corner

### Divorce

"Listen, your mother and I are getting divorced. Forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," he says. "I'm sick of her face, and I'm sick of talking about this, so call your sister in Chicago and tell her," and he hangs up.

Now, the son is worried. So he calls up his sister. She says, "Like hell they're getting divorced!" and calls her father immediately. "You're not getting divorced! Don't do another thing; the two of us are flying home tomorrow to talk about this. Until then, don't call a lawyer, don't file a paper, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and she hangs up.

The old man turns to his wife and says, "Okay, they're coming for July 4th and paying their own airfares."

### Password Solution

My memory is gone, so I changed my password to "Incorrect."

That way when I log in with the wrong password, the computer will tell me... "Your password is incorrect."







## Annual Membership Meeting

*By Frank St. Lawrence*

The voiceless Barbara Luke welcomed everyone to the meeting and due to her laryngitis quickly delegated the master of ceremony duties to past presidents Rich Peters and John Loken before introducing David MacLennan, Cargill President and Chief Operating Officer as our keynote speaker.

Before beginning his presentation, David introduced Marcel Smits, Cargill's new Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer who'll be our keynote speaker next year.

David told how Cargill is having a much better year with more balanced earning. He also spoke of some new Cargill products that have strengthened the partnership with customers like Nestle', McDonalds and Frito-Lay.

Gene Gross presented the volunteer recognition awards to Joe Fournier and Don Bjorn. Please read the Volunteer Recognition article to learn more about Joe and Don's volunteering.

Steve Lattu spoke about Partners in Food Solutions a nonprofit organization that links the technical and business expertise of volunteer employees from General Mills, Cargill, Royal DSM and Buhler to small and growing food processors and millers in the developing world. Steve said that they are looking for retirees who'll offer their professional expertise by volunteering 1-2 hours per week. You may learn more about the organization and volunteer opportunities at their website [www.partnersinfoodsolutions.com](http://www.partnersinfoodsolutions.com).

During the CCR-TC business portion of the meeting Mike Hall was elected President for the coming year. Mike presented Barbara Luke a plaque as appreciation for her leadership as president during the past year.

## ANNUAL PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST

*By John Tschumperlin*

This summer/fall the Three River Park District will hold their annual wildflower seed harvesting. Collecting native wildflower seeds helps the Park District restore over 800 acres of prairie under their control.

Collection dates start in mid August and run through mid October. This year they are centering their collection efforts at Crow-Hassan and Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserves. Other Park Reserves such as Elm Creek and Baker may also be harvested at a lesser level.

Normal collection days and times are Saturdays or Tuesdays from 10:30 – 1:30, however if we have a group of 10 or more we have some latitude on picking our day and possibility our park.

Seed collectors work in open prairie areas and collect seed by hand. Training and collection bags are furnished at the site. Light garden gloves are recommended and you might consider carrying water with you.

If this is something you may be interested in doing or would like more information please contact John Tschumperlin at [tschump@aol.com](mailto:tschump@aol.com) or (952) 472-4465.



# A River Cruise to Remember

*By Jack & Rita Johnston*

Before my wife Rita and I joined 89 other people from the States for a 13-day Grand Circle river cruise called “Essence of the Elbe: Hamburg to Prague,” half of us visited Warsaw and Krakow, Poland on a pre-trip.

We left Minneapolis Friday August 10 and returned Monday August 27. Our flights were on Delta Airlines or KLM. Outbound we had a connection in Amsterdam to Warsaw Poland. Return was Hamburg to Amsterdam; then Amsterdam to Minneapolis.

Travel time was approximately 10 hours each way.

We chose this trip because the river cruise itinerary visited former East German towns including Dresden that we had hoped to see. We had not traveled to Poland either so wanted to go there.

Although this was a summer trip we were advised to bring warmer clothing since the itinerary took us though northern Europe. Fortunately, we had quite nice weather for most of the trip. We have a pack list we use for long trips to make sure we have everything we will need.

The trip from Warsaw to Prague was by bus. The rolling countryside was mostly farmland and not so different from here. Fields were smaller. Corn was a frequent crop.

The cities are European style, a large square with a monument in the middle surrounded by buildings and one with a tower. On a holiday in one town, a trumpeter played a trumpet call from the tower on the hour. Warsaw has many monuments throughout the city. The one marking the famous Jewish ghetto is very large and impressive. On the way to Krakow we stopped at the Czestochowa Black Madonna Shrine. There were massive numbers of people making walking pilgrimages on the roads as well as buses and automobiles coming there from all over Europe.

The bus tour of Krakow included a surprise stop. The factory of Oskar Schindler. Unfortunately it was a holiday and closed. At the entrance there are plaques and pictures of those he saved. Outside of Krakow we toured the eleventh century Wieliczka Salt Mines filled with sculptures. In the church room the chandeliers are carved salt. This mine is still producing salt. Also near Krakow we toured the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps. This very emotional experience can bring tears to the eyes.

Next we arrived in Prague, “City of 100 Spires”. This is one of the few European cities that escaped serious damage in WWII. As a result it still has most of the old structures. For example, the castle overlooking the city is over 1000 years old. I asked our guide if the Marionette Theater was still there because some years ago we enjoyed its presentation of Don Giovanni. This drew a totally blank look from our young lady guide. As we toured the city I spotted the theater and sure enough it was on that night. So we bought tickets and stayed for the performance while our group went back to the hotel for the evening. Taking the streetcar back in the dark late at night was a bit tense. We got off a couple stops too soon and had a long walk in the dark.





From Prague we bused to an area called Bastei in Germany. The Sandstone Mountains there are eroded into amazing shapes and very similar to the Dells in Wisconsin. We saw a lot of rock climbers from viewing areas.

Our next stop was Dresden. It is famous now for the terrible firestorm that resulted from allied bombing in WWII. All of that has been rebuilt. The church, opera house and palace are as they were before the war. It was famous before the war for its buildings and especially the art objects in the buildings.

Most of those objects had been stored away during the war for safekeeping and are back in their places. The famous Historic Green Vault houses one of the largest collections of treasures in Europe. We joined the rest of our group on the riverboat here and continued on stopping in Meissen to tour its world famous porcelain factory. We continued on to Torgau, which is famous as the place where the Soviet and US troops first met. There is a large monument on the riverbank.

Next we stopped in Wittenberg famous as Martin Luther's home. We toured his home and the churches. We also had a koffeeklatsch at a local home and visited with the residents. Our hosts, a grandmother, mother and her two sons seemed happy and comfortable in their single family home. One son spoke English fluently from a stay in South Africa and answered our group's questions. He was attending a technical college. The other son was already employed and the mother worked as a physical therapist.

Our guides had provided background on how east Germany's employment picture changed after the reunification causing some problems for these folks.

The boat stopped at Tangermunde where we were to make a bus visit to Berlin. We got a big surprise. The river level was down too low to go on to Hamburg. So they put us up in Berlin overnight and then we proceeded by bus on to Hamburg.

Berlin is impressive. We were last there when the wall was up. Now you can hardly find Checkpoint Charley. It is surrounded by tall buildings and swarming traffic.



Our hotel was nicely situated near a memorial section of the wall, the famous Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag.

Hamburg's harbor is one of the world's most significant seaports and a tour is a must.

We saw a "cape" size ship, too big to go through the Panama Canal and went into the entrance to the 2.9 Km long Elbe tunnel built in 1910. It has elevators at each end to lift the cars, pedestrians and bicyclist up and down because of lack of space for approaches.

In conclusion, we were very satisfied with the trip. Cost was in line with similar tours. Unexpected changes happen in most foreign trips. They were handled well by the tour company and the guides. Food and accommodations were fully adequate. As in most tours, lots of walking was involved. Guides, tour bus drivers etc. are usually tipped, which means keeping some small bills handy. Most of the time US dollars are acceptable.

A riverboat is not a cruise ship, for example no swimming pool. But we had a very pleasant time on board. There was entertainment at night. The weather was good with a fine view of the fields and shores from the deck of the boat as we moved along enjoying a cocktail with fellow travelers watching the sun go down. The oldest person on this tour was 92. There was one woman in the group who used an electric cart, which her husband loaded and unloaded from the bus.

One shouldn't expect to see every thing in a city like Berlin or Dresden. That takes several days or visits.



# Four Cargill Railroads

*By Bruce Bruemmer, Director, Cargill Corporate Archives*

In agribusiness, the ability to move goods efficiently and timely is as important as its production. In the United States, the development of agriculture primarily followed the growth of the railroad. And Cargill was close behind. At Cargill's beginnings, W. W. Cargill established his first grain warehouse along the McGregor Western Line at Conover, Iowa. As the line moved northward, Cargill followed, eventually forming a string of grain elevators along the Southern Minnesota Railroad.

Although the Cargill enterprise was a close client of the railroads, there is no record of the company ever owning or operating a railway. However, the Cargill/MacMillan family has invested in and sometimes owned railway companies.

The Green Bay, Winona and St. Paul Railway was formed in 1881 but plagued by high operating costs. W. W. Cargill, desiring a direct route for eastbound grain from Minnesota, became interested in the struggling railroad. At least one historian has concluded that W. W. Cargill was a key factor for the establishment of the Kewaunee, Green Bay, and Western Railroad Company (KGB&WR) in 1890. The 34-mile line connected Green Bay to Kewaunee, and its train schedule was aligned with the Green Bay, Winona, and St. Paul (both lines shared directors). W. W. Cargill was a significant backer of the KGB&WR; this gave Cargill leverage along the Green Bay Route, but also access to lake transportation with connections as far as Buffalo, New York. It is one of the first known examples of Cargill looking for a commodity to backhaul. This turned out to be coal, and resulted in Cargill building the Green Bay Coal Dock and selling coal at company elevators and warehouses.

In 1896, W. W. Cargill and other investors sold out to the newly formed Green Bay and Western Railroad, which also purchased the bankrupt Green Bay, Winona and St. Paul Railway.

A decade later, W. W. Cargill invested in the La Crosse and Southeastern Railway Company, which ran over 30 miles between La Crosse and Viroqua, Wisconsin. The line had run into financial difficulty and W. W. Cargill assumed ownership. The railway's fortunes ebbed with the rise of the automobile, not to mention the basic problem that it (according to a 1945 Cargill

history) "started nowhere and ended nowhere." After W. W. Cargill's death in 1909, ownership of the line passed to the Cargill Securities Company (predecessor to Waycrosse). In 1933 the company and the Milwaukee Road swapped a portion of the LC&SE for a 25-year lease to Milwaukee's Elevator B, which Cargill Securities then leased to the Cargill Elevator Company. As if the line sensed its demise, a telegram sent on July 1, 1933, noted that the roundhouse at Viroqua was destroyed by a wind storm the night before. The last run for the LC&SE was made on August 5, 1933.

In 1909, the Montana Western Railway was established by William S. Cargill and ran 20 miles from Valier to Conrad. This short line was part of an ill-fated Montana irrigation development project in the region. The fortunes of the line were connected to the success of the agriculture of the area, mostly wheat, but the line's meager profits would never cover the long-term debt of the railway. By the 1920s, management of the line tried to convince the Great Northern to take over the line and cut its losses, but GN would not. At the same time the farmers in the area opposed closing the Montana Western, so the Interstate Commerce Committee permitted the railway to raise its rates enough to keep the line running. In the 1950s, Cargill MacMillan again attempted to sell the Montana Western so that the Valier Distributing Company, owned by Cargill Securities, could be dissolved. The Montana Western finally was allowed to abandon the line by 1970 and it was transferred to the Great Northern.

The other short line with a Cargill connection was the Minnesota Western Railway Company, which was purchased in 1942 to facilitate transportation needs of the shipbuilding operation at Port Cargill in Savage, Minnesota. Cargill, Incorporated, was prohibited by law from owning another transportation operation in addition to Cargo Carriers, so John, Jr., and Cargill MacMillan bought the line themselves. Even though the Minnesota Western ran due west of Minneapolis, its ownership would permit the Minneapolis, Northfield & Southern to give Cargill switching rights at Savage. This meant that the transportation needs of Port Cargill could be covered at cost plus a fee to the Northfield line. After World War II, the line's primary value was to service the Cargill Wesota elevator at Gluek.

The MacMillan brothers sold the line in 1949 to the Minnesota Western Company, which was held by Cargill Securities Company. The Minnesota Western was sold to the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway in 1956. The line eventually was abandoned and the eastern part became the Luce Line bicycle trail.

In spite of the meager financial returns of these lines, their ownership gave the family one perk that they thoroughly enjoyed. The family could travel free on other railroads across the United States. The corporate archives still hold some of these passes.



*The Cargill elevator built in the 1890s in Luxemburg, Wisconsin on the Kewaunee line.*



*The logo of the La Crosse and Southeastern, which ran along the Coon Valley of Wisconsin.*



*Gluek elevator at the terminus of the Minnesota Western, 1949.*



*Montana Western's Engine 31 in the 1950s. The engine survives at the Mid-Continent Railway Museum in Wisconsin.*



*A postcard view of the La Crosse and Southeastern train at Viroqua, Wisconsin, 1912.*

# Why Do I Volunteer?

by Terrance Shawn McGill

## Why do people volunteer?

In the past, it was thought that individuals volunteered strictly for altruistic reasons. The good Samaritan that goes out of their way to aid a stranger. The soldier who goes back to save a fallen comrade. It was the noble thing for someone to lend a hand for the greater good of mankind. People helping those in need for no reward, favor or any grand show of gratitude. However, recent studies have indicated that there may be other reasons.

Some people volunteer to gain career experience, to build their resume. Develop skills or learn new ones. In addition volunteer work enables others to make contacts with people in their chosen career.

Some people volunteer to build self-esteem, to make themselves feel better. To feel needed, to feel that they have a place in this world. To truly feel like they are making a contribution to society.

Some people volunteer for the social aspect, to climb the social ladder while helping those less fortunate.

Some people volunteer as a result of the instilled set of values they have a set of values that compel them to act on deeply held beliefs about the importance of helping others.

Some people volunteer because they have felt the cruel sting that life may have afflicted them or a loved one with. For example someone might volunteer for the American Cancer Society because a family member died of cancer.

And some people do it because they want a better understanding about different people or the organization they serve, "bridging the gap," so to speak, in order to better understand their community and themselves.

However, I volunteer to give back to my community. I am grateful for the help I received from others. When I was in high school I participated in the Upward Bound program.

There I was influenced by the academic success of my tutors. I was challenged by them to exceed all of their expectations, and to broaden my horizons of thinking. Through Upward Bound I was able to acquire skills and opportunities that have helped me become the man that I am today. So I give back to enable kids to have the same chances at life that I have had.

Volunteering is the ultimate payback to those who helped me on the road to success. I remember asking a counselor when I was in Upward Bound how I could repay him. He smiled and said "Shawn, you can help me by helping another." A statement so simple, yet so deep in its meaning.

The feeling that I can shape someone's life for the better is unexplainable. When I got my first volunteer position as a junior counselor at my local Boys and Girls club, I was eager to be a great role model for the kids.

But things did not work out as I initially thought. After about a couple of weeks of volunteering, I felt that my efforts were in vain, that no one really appreciated what I was trying to do. It was a slow process and it got to be frustrating.

By the time I had reached my wits end and was ready to quit, it happened that the very day I intended to tell my supervisor of my decision. I overheard some of the kids asking where I was that day. They said they liked having me around.

My desire to give back to the community was renewed by the fact that I made a difference.

I feel that you should not volunteer for the praise or to boost your resume. You should not do it because it gives your organization a community service for some kind of quota. You should do it simply because it must be done.

Yes, because if there was not a need to volunteer then why would we do it in the first place. When we volunteer we are ultimately filling in the gaps that have been stretched out by apathy and the need of the people.

Some people are dissatisfied with those people that choose to volunteer for personal gain. I on the other hand am not. Yes, it is selfish of them to be under the guise of doing something for others when they really are doing it for themselves.

But despite the fact that they are benefiting from volunteering, so are the people they are helping. It is the classic case of symbiosis and that is a good thing. After all we all win when we volunteer.

So I implore everyone to find a cause and volunteer. Because not only will you be helping others, you will be helping yourself as well.

*"This article was found on the website for The Prism, a volunteer newspaper that was published in 1998 and 1999 and no longer exists. This article is reprinted following no response to attempts to contact anyone regarding using it in this newsletter." - Frank St. Lawrence*





## DAKOTA RAIL REGIONAL TRAIL

*By John Tschumperlin*

Cargill Retirees have increased their support of the Three Rivers Park District by sponsoring an additional 2 ½ mile section of the trail. Sponsorship mainly involves twice yearly clean up.

Our current section runs from Spring Park though downtown Mound. The new section picks up where the current one ends and runs to 1 mile NE of St. Boni. It runs predominately though open countryside and is very scenic.

The Dakota Rail Regional Trail is a 44-mile former rail-road corridor in the countries of Hennepin, Carver and

McLeod. The Hennepin county section runs for 13 ½ miles from Wayzata to St. Boni and was opened in 2009. Carver County has since finished their section that runs another 12 ½ miles to just west of New Germany. McLeod County has plans to finish their section, which would run out to Hutchinson. The Hennepin and Carver county sections are paved.

If fresh air and a little walk in the countryside twice a year interests you or you would like more information please contact John Tschumperlin at [tschump@aol.com](mailto:tschump@aol.com) or call (952) 472-4465.



## GOT EMAIL???

*By Rich Peters*

Help us save money and communicate better! If you are not presently receiving emails from CCR, please send us your email address to [RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM](mailto:RETIREESTC@CRGL-THIRDPARTY.COM) and we can get you on our list. We'll email you the website to read the CCR Quarterly Newsletters and send you notices of upcoming events. We appreciate the opportunity to better serve you and save paper and money.



## *Cargill Cares Retirees*

PACR/137  
Box 5723  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-5723  
952/742-6188

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 936  
Twin Cities,  
Minn.

## **Coming Events-Information**

*Compiled by Lois Tolentino*

Contact the CARGILL CARES RETIREE Office for more information, 952/742-6188

### **Upcoming events:**

#### **Creative Container Gardening**

Tuesday, June 11, 2013 10:00-11:30 am  
Registration letter sent

#### **Twins Game**

June 12, 2013  
Registration letter sent

#### **Taylor's Falls Boat Cruise**

June 28, 2013  
Reservation letter sent

#### **Feed My Starving Children**

Monday June 29, 2013 9:30-11:30 am  
Chanhassen, Mn  
Calling tree will be used  
email Lois @loistolen@aol.com or call 763-537-6051

#### **Seminar-Donuts & Democracy**

July 31, 2013 10:00-11:30  
Jeff Johnson

#### **Summer Special Olympics**

August 17th and 18th, 2013  
Bocce Ball-Woodbury  
Golf-Oakdale  
Calling tree will be used.

#### **Health Seminar**

Monday August 26, 2013  
AM and PM session @ Office Center  
Tuesday Sept 10, 2013 @ Excelsior Crossings  
Registration letter will be sent.

#### **Dubuque, Ia/ Galena, Ill**

Overnight trip August 26-27th, 2013  
Registration letter will be sent.

#### **Ongoing Events:**

##### **BBridging**

Contact Jim Little @612/338-1872 or  
Don Olmsted @952/941-6122  
Bloomington and Roseville  
1pm-4pm the 1st & 3rd Tuesday

##### **Emergency Foodshelf**

New Hope. 9:00-11:00 AM 1st Wed each month.  
Contact John Tschumperlin @ 952/472-4465

##### **Retiree Golf League**

Contact Joe Fournier 763/420-6720

##### **Second Harvest**

Contact Joe Fournier-763/420-6720  
On the 3rd Tuesday and Last Wednesday each month.

##### **Loaves and Fishes**

Contact Dave Kern-952-472-4488

##### **Store to Door-**

Contact Marge Klimmek-763/732-1733

##### **Habitat for Humanity**

Contact Mike Lilly, 763/546-9665