

Tap Connections Proving to be a Hit

Last winter CCA member Brad Cross suggested that we should get together and check out some breweries. Brad organized a version of a monthly pub crawl, trying a new brewery throughout the year. The kick-off Tap Connections in January turned out to be a hit with 11 Cargill alumni gathering at Unmappd Brewing.

Beer and snacks, renewing old acquaintances and making new friends has been a successful theme for this new social event. When golf bumped up against the same time slot this spring and summer, Brad selected breweries near the golf courses so folks could stop over and have a cold one.

Cargill Cares

Alumni Newsletter
Fall 2023



CCA members gathered at Falling Knife Brewing in August. Pictured L to R: Tracy Newell, Brad Newell, Brad Hildebrand, Wayne Koester, Steve Budnik, Larry Stueve, Joel Weisberg, Jan Weisberg, John Carlson

We would like to acknowledge special recognition for Brad. While not on the CCA Board, he came up with a successful social event. You, too, can bring forward a fun event that CCA can sponsor. We are open to opportunities to bring together our members! Contact Ceal Regnier at ceal2987@gmail.com with any ideas you may have.

Taproom visits will keep us busy throughout the year. Join us the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. upcoming locations for the rest of the year are:

- [September](#) - Schram Haus Brewery in Chaska.
- [October](#) - Insight Brewing in Minneapolis
- [November](#) - Surley Brewing in Minneapolis -- the one that started it all
- [December](#) - Back Channel Brewing in Spring Park



At Utepils Brewing Company in June are L to R: Greg Good, Cindy Cross, Barb Kula, Darrell Kula, Brad Newell, Tracy Newell, Jan Weisberg, Brad Cross

The Old Log Theater – Thursday, October 19, 2023. For their 83rd Anniversary, The Old Log Theater is bringing back their most popular musical, “*Million Dollar Quartet*.” Register by September 15. More information at [Old Log Event](#).

President's Corner – Phil Deeney



Phil Deeney and Bill Swift at the 3M Open

Each year as the State Fair rolls around it feels like the end of summer. While we still have a few weeks left, it is a time when I take stock on what I did over these fast-paced summer months.

Our CCA members have been involved with plenty of activities over these past few months. Whether it was volunteering at one of our many partners, attending a social event, or listening in on one of our educational seminars, there was plenty to keep us busy. These activities offered a chance to network, share stories, and reminisce with those who have a shared Cargill experience. For me, these memories help keep a perspective on all that occurred -- and less on how fast the summer flew by.

This year I enlisted our past president Bill Swift (along with a few others) to volunteer at the 3M Open in Blaine. We were “Gallery Management Ambassadors” (previously known as Marshalls) on hole number 12. We both have an interest in the Professional Golf Tour, as well as spending some of our careers with North Star Steel. This gave us a chance to exchange some stories, as well as watch some great golf from inside the ropes.

I would encourage all of you to consider joining in with some of your past co-workers and attending a CCA event. You might be surprised at what you have been missing.

Perfect Day for a Boat Ride!

The weather, lunch, and fellowship were perfect for the annual CCA boat ride on September 1st. We journeyed down the Mississippi River aboard the **Anson Northrup**, enjoying the scenery and absorbing the colorful history of this section of the Mighty Mississippi.



Trivia:
Dana and Tim Nelson held their wedding reception on the Jonathon Padelford 33 years ago.



CCA Hosts the Annual Golf Tourney and Dinner

On August 3, 40 golfers participated in our Annual Cargill Cares Alumni Golf Tournament and Dinner at Timber Creek Golf Course in Watertown, Minnesota. Everyone enjoyed a good day of golf followed by a great meal of steak or chicken provided by “Luce Line Lodge” in Watertown. Many prizes were awarded, including rounds of golf at area golf courses, golf balls and other gifts. The lucky winners of Rush Creek golf passes were Bill Swift and Jim Kane.



Ready to roll - L to R: Gene Becker, Tom Scharber, John Carlson, Andy Byrnes and Jim Kane

Winners

- Low Gross – John Carlson (Pheasant Acres)
- Low Net – Norm Davis (Pheasant Acres)
- Low Putts – Phil Deeney (Timber Creek)

Field Events, Timber Creek

- Longest Drive – Louis Ricard
- Longest Putt – Scott Montgomery
- Closest to the Pin – Jim Carlson

“There have been excellent turnouts this year for the CCA summer golf league,” said Wayne Koester, CCA Social Committee member and avid golfer. “We will continue to play through October 19. So it’s not too late to join us for a round of golf.”

‘Fore’ more information about golf, check us out at <https://cargillcaresalumni.wildapricot.org>.



After the Tourney are L to R: Ron Hunter, Joe Liesch, Larry Gray, Barry Burnett

Take Me Out to the Ballgames!

CCA Cheered the **Twins** to Victory



John Keefe and Twins Curator Clyde Doepner

Cargill Alumni and guests cheered the Minnesota Twins as they scored a 5 to 4 victory over the Boston Red Sox at Target field on Wednesday, June 21.

Clyde Doepner, Twins curator, gave us a tour of the stadium. What a highlight! He is THE official historian and collector of Twins memorabilia. With his wealth of baseball knowledge, Clyde also provided an in-depth walk-through of the Twins' great players. Clyde and John Keefe, CCA member and loyal Twins fan, were wonderful hosts for our tour.



CCA members thoroughly enjoyed the pre-game tour with the Twins Curator

But The **Saints** faltered

Despite the rousing welcome to CHS Field (right), on Thursday, July 27, the Saints lost to the Toledo Mud Hens 5 to 4. The Saints are a Triple A affiliate of the Minnesota Twins and are known for having a grand sense of humor and infield antics. The fans even got the chance to see the new Saints mascot, 'Mud Grant'.



Packing Backpacks for Back to School

This year on Greater Twin Cities United Way Action Day, CCA and Cargill volunteers packed 1,200 back-to-school backpacks for Metro area students in need. CCA volunteers accounted for 400 of those backpacks, filling them with supplies, back-to-school notes and lots of energy.

In total, volunteers stuffed 43,000 backpacks with school supplies on August 3. The backpacks were delivered to students through more than 100 nonprofit organizations. Many of those other organizations, like Achieve Twin Cities, CLUES, Centro Tyrone Guzman, Pillsbury United Communities, YMCA of the North and Urban Roots are also Cargill Foundation partners. For a full list of organizations receiving stuffed backpacks for distribution, see [Action Day website](#).



Enthusiastic CCA group ready to pack! L to R:
First Row: Lisa Olberg, Mary Kurth, Barb Kula, Katie Hoff, Jerome Hoff, Colleen Porter, Mindy Micek
Second Row: Shirley Boyd, Jennifer Mohrland, Nancy Sward (CCA guest), Connie Hauswirth, Melissa Perttula, Shane Perttula, Lisa Clemens, Amy Seard (CCA guest), Debra Lind (CCA Guest)



Writing personal notes that were included in each backpack are:

Mary Mccullough, Nancy Sward (CCA guest), Betsy Rasmussen, Jennifer Mohrland, Sara McFarlan

More Volunteer Updates: Prodeo, Habitat, Open Arms

Opportunities Expand at Prodeo Academy

By Dave Braden

Nothing like a little variety.... One of the joys of volunteering at Prodeo Academy is that we are never quite sure what tasks we will encounter when our small, committed team of CCA volunteers walks through the door at this public charter school one morning each month.

First, a bit about Prodeo Academy. Founded by Rick Campion and Chancey Anderson in 2011 after two years of intensive study of best practices nationally, Prodeo (which in Latin means “go forward”) began welcoming underserved youth in the Twin Cities, starting with a single kindergarten class. Since then, Prodeo has added a class nearly every year, now offering Pre-K through eighth grade at two campuses, Columbia Heights and St. Paul.

Prodeo’s core values spell PRIDE: Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Development and Engagement. The curriculum stretches students, and appropriate behavior is modeled and expected in an overall joyful learning environment. An inclusive school with a very diverse student body, Prodeo stresses partnership with parents and goes to extraordinary lengths in that often-challenging effort.

Prodeo first approached CCA in early 2015, and since then (except during the COVID lockdown), we have gladly offered whatever administrative support Prodeo teachers need. That is why there is nothing like a little variety!

Among tasks to date: constructing bulletin boards and wall displays in the halls; photocopying, cutting out and laminating (lots of laminating!) teaching materials; determining and marking books by reading level; making paper crowns for end-of-year graduation events; sorting and alphabetizing files; assembling furniture and organizing storage rooms; and even -- one snowy day -- repairing outdoor playground equipment.



This summer, we have hoisted paint brushes to prepare the halls of Prodeo’s “new” St. Paul campus (a former parochial school) for this fall’s entering students.

We find great satisfaction in even the most mundane of these tasks because we know that every hour that we devote is an hour that the committed, overworked teaching staff does not have to spend during their precious spare time. We bask in the often-expressed gratitude of the Prodeo staff.

Prodeo’s previously cramped space could accommodate only a small team of four to six CCA volunteers. With the school’s expansion into two campuses, we can make an even bigger impact if we can recruit more CCA volunteers. If you would like to help, in any capacity, please let me know at dbbraden@gmail.com

Habitat for Humanity - CCA Members Part of the 2023 Cargill Build

Five CCA members joined a team of 10 Cargill IT employees to help Habitat for Humanity (H4H) build a new wheelchair-accessible home in Golden Valley. Tasks included unloading walls made in H4H's panel plant (possibly by CCA volunteers), shoveling rock, installing a power pole, cutting and laying subfloor, toting lumber, and -- to avoid citations from the city -- removing weeds from the boulevard and dirt from the streets.

Roger Wherry, CCA member and unofficial supervisor, brought **all** his tools. It made the work so much easier.

Right: The full Cargill Team includes CCA members, Cargill IT & Analytics employees and Tony the Habitat supervisor



There is still time left to volunteer on Sept 11-15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 1605 Douglas Drive in Golden Valley. You need to sign up directly with Habitat for Humanity (and, if you have not already done so, complete a waiver): [SIGN UP HERE](#). You will not be permitted to volunteer if you have not signed up online and completed the waiver. You can find additional instructions for the sign-up process [here](#).

If you have questions, please contact Tom Sasman at tomsasman@gmail.com

Right: Mark Baril and John Estall made sure the saw cut only the subfloor, not the beam



Open Arms offers New Volunteer Activity



Do you want to help critically ill people get nourishing meals?

If you do, consider volunteering with Open Arms of Minnesota -- a new Cargill Cares Alumni (CCA) supported volunteer partner. Using fresh and organic ingredients, Open Arms prepares delicious, medically tailored meals that are delivered to critically ill clients. In 2021, Open Arms prepared and delivered more than 790,000 meals to 3,757 clients, caregivers and dependents.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Open Arms. CCA, in partnership with Cargill, will work with Open Arms to identify group and individual volunteer opportunities, which could include helping in their kitchens, working on their farms and making meal deliveries. By volunteering with Open Arms, CCA members will be able to connect with Cargill employees and other CCA members while helping those in our communities living with life-threatening illnesses.

To learn more about Open Arms, we invite you to:

- Join us on September 7 for the Corporate Responsibility sponsored [Open Arms Coffee Chat](#) to learn more and how to participate.
- Volunteer on September 26, at a CCA- and Cargill-sponsored kitchen volunteer event, preparing, portioning and packaging meals. Click on [kitchen event](#) to register.
- Visit the Open Arms website: <https://www.openarmsmn.org/>

More specifics on those events will be coming soon!

Show Your Impact; Claim Volunteer Hours

The number of CCA volunteer hours is in the THOUSANDS. You are doing it every day and doing it well. Every time you volunteer, you make such a difference to all you serve and to yourself. You make a community better; you broaden your network and learning.

One of the main reasons people joined CCA is to volunteer with other CCA members. With CCA you also can renew old acquaintances and meet new CCA members. We want to hear from you! CCA offers a range of events that increase camaraderie while doing good. Many other CCA members invest in their own personal causes. Either way, we are a formidable force in our communities. For a full list of volunteer opportunities, check out our website at <https://cargillcaresalumni.wildapricot.org/>.

Show your impact – tell your story. You can do that by reporting the personal volunteer hours you have already dedicated to the community! We track volunteer hours on an October 1 through September 30 schedule. Please submit volunteer hours, not already submitted, *no later than October 1, 2023*. This will help you stay current in your reporting and help CCA close out the volunteer year with a complete picture of everyone's volunteer efforts.



Thanks for all you do! Submit your hours to cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com.

Protect Yourself from Fraud Presentation

You can never be too careful. Eder Castillo, assistant Hennepin County attorney, delivered that message this summer to CCA members. To view his full presentation, just click here: [Protecting Yourself from Fraud](#).

Don't Miss Out: Update Your Profile

We will be using CCA Member Profile information to understand your interest areas and send communication about activities that may interest you.

The profile only takes a few minutes to complete. Here are the steps:

- Click on the CCA **Website Home** page. You will need to log in to the CCA website, if you have not already done so.
- Click on "View profile" in the upper right on the home page, under the Member Login blue box.
- Click on the gray box that says "Edit profile" on the next screen.
- Scroll down to the section titled "Group participation" and click on the boxes for the CCA activities that interest you.
- If you have any problems updating or accessing your profile, send an email to CCA Admin at cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com

What are you interested in?



With your updated profile, CCA project leads can then make you aware of events in the areas you selected. Feel free to update your contact, privacy and communication preferences as well. Thank you!

Cargill Cares Alumni – Twin Cities

Phil Deeney - President

Barb Kula, Ceal Regnier, Colleen Porter - Newsletter Coordinators

Paul Dienhart - Copy Editor

Website – Cargill Cares Alumni at <https://cargillcaresalumni.wildapricot.org/>

Click to view [CCA Board Members](#)

The CCA newsletter is published quarterly in spring, summer, fall and winter. It is distributed to Cargill retirees and other alumni, as well as Cargill senior leadership. If you have articles to share, stories of volunteer activities or other items of interest, please send them directly to Barb Kula at b.l.kula@comcast.net.

Contact the CCA office at cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com or leave a message at **952-742-6188**.
