

# Cargill Cares

Alumni Newsletter  
Winter 2021



## John and Lydija Tschumperlin: Choosing Beneficiaries with Care

**Editor's Note:** John and Lydija Tschumperlin were featured in the September 2021 issue of *Network News*, the monthly publication of The Food Group, one of the volunteer agencies supported by CCA. The reprinted article is below. The entire Food Group newsletter is [here](#).

"If you value your money, and worked hard your whole life toward financial security, then why give it up and let someone else decide what happens to it after you're gone? Put your wishes in writing!" That's the advice of John Tschumperlin, Cargill retiree, long-time volunteer and legacy donor to The Food Group.

"One of Cargill's corporate pillars is 'Feed the people,' and the importance of giving back was ingrained in us," says John. His heart goes out to people who, for whatever reason, experience hunger and food insecurity -- conditions especially noticeable over the past year.

Retired in 2007, John took the initiative to coordinate a team of Cargill retiree volunteers and matched them

up with The Food Group. John describes himself as "a competitor" and likes his team to achieve as much as possible in each shift. "We're driven to do the most we can and produce the best results each month," he says. The team includes John's wife Lydija, also a Cargill retiree.

John and Lydija's financial commitment through their estate flowed from their investment of "time and sweat" over the years. "When we looked at our wills, we asked ourselves, 'Who are we passing our estate along to?'" When John researched charity ratings for how non-profits use their donations to invest directly in the mission, The Food Group was among the organizations that rose to the top.

"The Food Group is a good match with our values," John says. "Growing up on farms, we had just enough and no extras. We never went hungry, but we see how difficult it is today. We're pleased to be able to leave something that will impact future needs."

His advice to other friends of The Food Group: "Don't wait until you're 80. Do it now!"





Hello again, I hope this finds you and your family safe and in good health. As the holidays approach, they seem much different from a year ago. Last year we were in the midst of unknowns. Vaccinations were coming, but we did not know when. Workers did not know if or when they would go back to work. Companies were trying to figure when and how to bring back employees. Families and friends connected on Zoom. Stores and restaurants were primarily carry-out only.

It feels better this season, though COVID still remains with us. Not only have many received two vaccination shots, but booster shots were available and prioritized for seniors. People are traveling, family and friends are getting together again, and there is a new sense of looking ahead and making plans.

While we are happy to be able to sense a more positive future, it's also a good time to reflect on those who made many people's lives better these past 22 months. In particular, I'm thankful for the nonprofits and their volunteers who worked for those most in need. Without them, it would have been disastrous. Food, clothing

and shelter were provided in record quantities, despite the challenges of masking and extra safety measures. If you know of a nonprofit or someone who volunteered for a nonprofit, think about giving them a special thanks for what they did. It will be a gift they will treasure.

In this issue, you may find something to finish your holiday shopping: a coffee table book from Afton Press, such as the one on the MacMillans by Duncan MacMillan; delicious chocolates from Wilbur (with a CCA discount); a Cargill logo item like a hat, shirt or something else. Some of you may even want to buy something for yourselves!

On behalf of the CCA Board, I would like to wish each of you a very special holiday season. Please drive safely and enjoy the company of your family and friends. COVID still restricts us, but it will not constrict us from celebrating the end of this year, nor our hopes for the new year. Thanks for being a member and best wishes.

Bill

## Check Your Spam!

By Barb Kula

Do you miss a CCA email now and then? We occasionally hear from a few CCA members who say they did not receive an email announcement. We are not sure why this is happening, as we have used the same distribution format since spring. Should this happen to you, please check your junk or spam folders in your email files. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact Barb Kula at [b.l.kula@comcast.net](mailto:b.l.kula@comcast.net).

## Recently Deceased

Helen J Bahlmann  
 Nancy Cassano  
 Richard M Dohrn  
 Dale Hetland  
 Robert A Pearson  
 Karen L Tomlinson  
 Betty Westergren  
 David Westergren  
 Dean Kleinschmidt  
 Harvey Marxhausen  
 Donald R Nye  
 Clyde J Potts  
 John Tarnowski

### Bill Swift, President | Phil Deeney, Barb Kula and Ceal Regnier, Newsletter Coordinators | Paul Dienhart, Copy Editor

The CCA newsletter is published quarterly in spring, summer, fall and winter, and is distributed to Cargill retirees and other alumni as well as Cargill senior leadership. If you have articles to share, stories of coping with the pandemic or other items of interest, please send them directly to Phil Deeney at [phildeeney@comcast.net](mailto:phildeeney@comcast.net).

### CCA – TC Board

Shirley Boyd	John Keefe	Colleen Porter	Bill Swift
Phil Deeney	Wayne Koester	Ceal Regnier	Janice Weisberg
Terry Garvert	Barb Kula	Julie Rothstein	
Greg Hehman	Mary Kurth	Tom Streit	

**Alumni E-Mail Directory:** If you are not currently receiving email updates from the Cargill Cares Alumni office and would like to be added to the CCA Email Directory, please call the CCA office at 952/742-6188 or send your name and email to CCA Admin at [cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com](mailto:cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com).

## Lindsey Kaufmann Earns BestPrep Award

Congratulations to our Cargill Liaison, Lindsey Kaufmann, for being presented with the BestPrep Service Award at its 2021 annual luncheon. As liaison to CCA, Lindsey of Cargill's Corporate Responsibility Group, brings Cargill and Cargill Foundation volunteer opportunities to the CCA membership and helps facilitate CCA communication within Cargill. Lindsey has been a strong advocate for CCA, and we are so proud of her leadership and involvement with BestPrep.



Since its founding in 1976, BestPrep has reached 1.7 million Minnesota students in grades 4 to 12, providing virtual programs and distant learning opportunities to help them become college-prepared and work-ready.

### Service Award

***“One of my students in 2016 shared with me she never had thought about attending college. In 2020...she wrote me how she was grateful for my support during her freshman year of high school and remembered our conversations and my own story to help guide her in her college journey. This was something that reminded me that every interaction with a student is important and can help inspire them.”***

**Lindsey Kaufmann**  
Cargill, Inc.

## Changes to Cargill Structure

At the October CCA board meeting, Lindsey Kaufmann, Cargill liaison to CCA, reported that Cargill has restructured some of the administrative groups, including her work group, Corporate Responsibility. New leadership also has been appointed. Pilar Cruz, Executive Team member, leads the group now called Global Impact. It is composed of Environmental Sustainability, Social Sustainability, ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) Reporting & Portfolio Management, Digital/Data/Analytics, Global Communications, and Corporate Responsibility.

## Consider Volunteering At Prepare + Prosper

By Nicole Laumer, Volunteer Resources Manager for Prepare+ Prosper

Are you looking for a meaningful volunteering opportunity this winter? Prepare + Prosper (P+P) is currently recruiting volunteers for the 2022 tax season. P+P provides free tax preparation and financial services to individuals and families with low- to moderate-incomes. With several in-person and virtual volunteer roles to choose from, there is something for everyone, including people with no tax experience!

But don't take our word for it. Here are some quotes from current Cargill Volunteers:

*"I have volunteered with Prepare + Prosper for many years because I enjoy employing my skills and experience to assist taxpayers with tax and personal finance issues that make a significant impact in their lives. Join other Cargill employees and alumni and lots of other volunteers in rewarding work." - Doug E*

*"I volunteer at Prepare + Prosper because it files free tax returns for people and encourages them to save and plan for the future. It is well run and has a very enjoyable and collaborative atmosphere." - David M*

[Sign up for an information session here](#), a no-strings-attached way to learn more about the work P+P volunteers do, training requirements and commitment or [take this quiz](#) to see what role is best for you!

Do you ever wish you could give \$17 million directly to your community? Now you can!

Volunteer with  
Prepare + Prosper!



## Fun at the 363 Sandwich Events!

CCA volunteering for the 363 Sandwich Project started again on August 20 with volunteers packing snack packs. A second snack packing event was held October 15. Over the two events, CCA volunteers made 1,860 snack packs – potentially reaching 1,860 homeless.

The 363 Sandwich Program provides many homeless people in the Twin Cities metro area with sandwiches and snack packs. More information is at [363days.org](http://363days.org)

We would love to have you join us at the next packing event – sometime in April 2022! Check out the CCA event calendar on our website. If you have questions, contact Eugene Becker at [eugene.becker@comcast.net](mailto:eugene.becker@comcast.net)



CCA members assembling snack packs in August included (l-r): Fred Abercrombie, Patty Abercrombie, Shirley Boyd, Colleen Porter, Linda Croswell, Aleda Jacobson, Roy Jacobson and Dean Blomquist.

## Cargill's 2021 Build For Habitat for Humanity

By Shirley Boyd

The annual Habitat for Humanity (H4H) Cargill Build ran from Sept. 13 through Oct. 15 this year. Many CCA members volunteered, and a number continued working past Oct. 15 to help ensure that the “Cargill Build” house exterior is completed this calendar year.

CCA volunteers worked over 500 hours on the Cargill Build. Combined Cargill and CCA volunteer hours totaled more than 1,850 hours!

CCA members have also been active working on other H4H projects this year. COVID restrictions prohibited CCA volunteering until early April, but CCA members have volunteered over 1,350 hours since then. Roger Wherry has volunteered more than 400 hours this year and is approaching 1,100 total volunteer days at H4H. Amazing dedication! Thank you, Roger.

CCA members should be heartened by the praise from Warren Staley, former Cargill CEO and active H4H volunteer: “It’s great to hear that CCA have volunteered 460 hours [in two months] with Habitat. I read the article on the TC housing shortage [referring to the *Star Tribune* article about the Twin Cities having the worst housing shortage in the nation]. The local Habitat affiliate certainly has been working for many years to help alleviate this problem.”

Not only is the work by the H4H volunteers a value-add to our local housing shortage, but the volunteers have fun and learn valuable skills. Doug Dunlay says he’s learned a lot of construction skills from Dave, a retired H4H supervi-

sor. Dave often works when CCA members are on site.

You can tell the volunteers enjoy one another. Jack Staloch has fun with caulk, but Tom Sasman says Jack should not be allowed to use caulk. There is too much clean up afterward.

Skip Schmall, a H4H construction manager has worked with Cargill on four of his last five houses. His only regret is, “I did not have Cargill on all five!”

You don’t need to be a master builder to join in the H4H fun and comradery. Expert guidance and support are provided. If someone like me can successfully nail up insulation, tape plastic sheeting and measure for siding, anyone can!

When not involved in the Cargill Build, CCA volunteers typically work on Tuesdays and sometimes on Fridays. If you have any questions about H4H, please contact Tom Sasman at 763.218.7627 or [tomsasman@gmail.com](mailto:tomsasman@gmail.com).



Crane Day



House reading for siding – with scaffolding



Roger Wherry cut some trim.



Tom Sasman and Jack Staloch take a measurement.



Roger Wherry, Eric Johnson, Tom Sasman, Doug Dunlay and Jack Staloch are frequent CCA volunteers.



## Thanks to Larry Knutson For Service to FMSC

CCA would like to thank Larry Knutson for seven years of leading and coordinating CCA volunteer efforts for Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). In fiscal 2019, CCA members logged 486 hours to reduce the number of starving children throughout the world. During the time Larry was leading the CCA volunteer efforts for FMSC, he scheduled four events every year. Larry says that – pre-COVID -- he typically had 40 volunteers at each event and sometimes had more than 50.

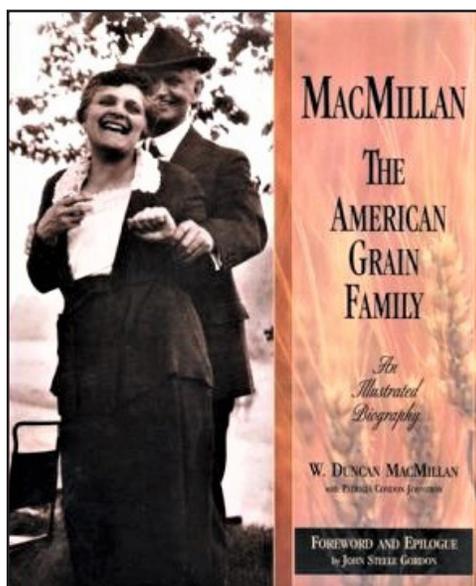
FMSC was started in 1987 by Minnesota businessman Richard Proudfit following a mission trip to Honduras. In 1993, a team of Cargill food scientists (including Dick Fulmer) and others from General Mills and Pillsbury, created the formula for a vitamin-and-mineral-fortified rice meal specifically for malnourished children around the age of five years old. In 2008, this meal was rebranded to the current FMSC brand name MannaPack™ Rice.

Thom Shultz has assumed leadership of CCA volunteer efforts for FMSC and led his first FMSC event on Nov. 2, 2021. Twenty-four CCA/Cargill volunteers and guests participated. Great start, Thom! Check the CCA Events calendar for the next FMSC event.

If you have questions about volunteering for FMSC, contact Thom at [thomschultz@hotmail.com](mailto:thomschultz@hotmail.com) or at 763-568-1233. Future FMSC volunteer shifts will be posted on the CCA Events Calendar, found at [Cargill Cares Alumni - Event Calendar \(wildapricot.org\)](http://CargillCaresAlumni-EventCalendar(wildapricot.org))

## A Little Press with a Cargill Connection

Wandering among the tables at a recent book fair, CCA President Bill Swift spotted a familiar name: W. Duncan MacMillan. It was the author's name on the cover of a book called *MacMillan: The American Grain Family*.



Duncan was instrumental in Cargill entering the steel business, which was where Bill had spent his Cargill career. After purchasing a copy of the book, Bill set out to learn a little more about the publisher, Afton Press, which turned out to have a major MacMillan connection: Duncan was its co-founder and served as president and chairman until his death in 2006.

Sitting in the Afton Press offices in Edina, Editor and Production Manager Beth Williams explained that the press had its genesis in a genealogy project Duncan had with writer Patricia Condon Johnson McDonald. His family history going back centuries to its Scottish origins would be a private printing for family members, bound in the MacMillan tartan.

Before the project had finished, the two decided in 1993 to start a nonprofit press specializing in lavish, coffee table books on Minnesota history, culture and achievements. It was called Afton Press after its original location. Its first book on the art of Francis Lee Jacques won a Minnesota Book Award.

“Duncan was very literate and loved books,” Beth says. “Patricia, the co-founder of Afton Press, had her own publishing company in the 1980s and knew a nonprofit press was the only way for the type of books she wanted to create.”

The MacMillan connection to the press ended with Duncan's death, and by 2019 Afton Press was on the verge of closing. That's when Ian Graham Leask came as publisher.

“It's become almost impossible to make money by printing absolutely gorgeous books,” Ian says. “The cost of printing is prohibitive. I got involved with Afton because I couldn't stand to see it go under. It's such a fantastic endeavor. I wanted to be able to think that I did something useful in the world that was not commercially oriented.”

The MacMillan book, which earned the 1999 Independent Publisher Book Award for Biography, concentrates on the roles of Duncan's grandfather, John Hugh MacMillan, and his father, John H. MacMillan, in leading Cargill. “This is not only a surprisingly readable business history, but also the story of an unsurprisingly fascinating family,” wrote the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

Another Cargill-related book is *The Grain Merchants*, which is an illustrated history of the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. Cargill is well represented in its index.

For CCA members looking for distinctive gifts with a Minnesota connection, check out the Afton Press catalogue at [www.afton-press.com](http://www.afton-press.com). The sixty books in the catalogue range from a beautifully illustrated coffee table book on the history of Minnesota gardens to Christmas memory books by such notable Minnesota authors as Bill Holm, Carol Bly and Jon Hassler. Some of the books have only a few remaining copies, and all will be on sale in November and December.



Ian Graham Leask, publisher of Afton Press, at a display of some of its Minnesota-themed books.

## Join the CCA Book Club

By Ceal Regnier

Please join our group for the following book discussions, 1-3 p.m., the third Wednesday of the month. Click on the link to go to our CCA website and register.

**Jan. 19** - [The Book Women of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson](#)

**Feb. 16** - [The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah](#)

**March 16** - [Pick your own book on Ruth Bader Ginsburg and join our discussion.](#)

**April 20** - [An Unsuitable Job for a Woman by P.D. James](#)



## Mixed Bowling League Looking for Members

by Wayne Koester

The Cargill Bowling League is still looking for more men and women to bowl with us this year. The League started bowling Wednesday, Sept. 22, with seven teams, but some of those teams could use additional bowlers. Formerly a men's league, this is a mixed gender league of Cargill-affiliated bowlers and is sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress. The Cargill affiliation includes current and past Cargill employees and Cargill contractors. For more information, please contact Wayne Koester at [wrkoester@msn](mailto:wrkoester@msn) or 612-418-8060.



## CCA Members See 'The Music Man' At Chanhassen

By Ceal Regnier

On Wednesday, Oct. 27, 60 CCA members finally got to see "The Music Man" at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. This was supposed to be our social event for March 18, 2020, which was five days into the Minnesota COVID-19 pandemic shutdown. As always, the food was great, and the performance was wonderful.



Robert and Nancy Fields in the CDT photo booth

**Save the Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022**

CCA will see 'Footloose' at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Registration opens in February 2022.

## Bundle Up in Cargill!

Shop our outerwear must-haves to stay warm during the colder months.



Carhartt Rain Defend Sweatshirt



Ladies Cowl Neck Sweatshirt

Check out more Cargill Merchandise [here](#).....

## Your Volunteer Efforts Make a Difference

Volunteering invigorates your community and your life. The table below shows CCA's impact for the last five years.

We will have a new method to report volunteer hours in 2022. Please track and hold onto your hours until we have a new format established to replace Spark.

CCA Volunteer Hours 5-Year history					9 Months
Organization	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Independent Volunteer Activity	11,954	9,834	9,202	6,412	6,323
Second Harvest	2,567	1,714	1,806	1,371	640
Habitat for Humanity	1,689	2,227	1,394	806	1,097
The Food Group	393	396	268	155	193
Feed My Starving Children	427	467	419	172	106
Hope Academy	632	148	154	136	64
Prepare + Prosper	385	125	136	253	104
Bridging	265	241	194	15	74
Other CCA Projects	262	59	121	85	83
Sandwich Project	213	201	148		20
Prodeco Academy	86	89	69	14	
Salvation Army Bell Ringing	194	26	123		
Three Rivers Park	22	73	37	31	14
BestPrep		133	79	93	24
CCA - Support	2,245	1,602	1,003	1,050	911
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>21,333</b>	<b>17,333</b>	<b>15,152</b>	<b>10,591</b>	<b>9,652</b>

## Are you missing out on CCA Communications?

By Barb Kula

If you are getting this newsletter by postage mail, please note that CCA has a lot of communication in addition to the newsletter that is *only* available by email or on the [CCA website](#). If you would like to receive *all* CCA communication, please send an email to CCA Admin at [cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com](mailto:cargillcaresalumni11@gmail.com) or leave a message on the CCA phone line at **952-742-6188**. Ask that your status be updated to receive all CCA communications via electronic means. Note that your email address will *ONLY* be used for distribution of CCA communication; it will *NOT* be shared or made public.



AVAILABLE IN OUR RETAIL STORE & ONLINE  
45 North Broad Street, Lititz, PA 17543 1-888-2WILBUR

*Wilbur*  
CHOCOLATE  
WILBURBUDS.COM

Don't forget to order some Wilbur Chocolates this Christmas. Remember CCA members get the same 10% discount that Wilbur currently offers Cargill employees.

For those of you not already signed up, just click on this [Wilbur](#) promo which requires you to login as a member on CCA's website, then click on the Wilbur promo and fill out the required Wilburbuds.com registration information. Then just place your order.

## Thanks for Helping CCA Membership Grow

By Jan Weisberg

Since June of this year, 14 Cargill alumni have joined CCA. Most of them joined because one of our members reached out to them! And, like many of you, they joined because they wanted to connect with other Cargill alumni "one on one" or at group volunteer, education or social events.

Part of the CCA 2021/22 Strategy is to connect with Cargill employees leaving and with those that recently left. If you know of someone who recently retired from Cargill or you happen to run into any ex-Cargill people -- even one day of Cargill employment qualifies -- please introduce them to CCA.

Thanks for your help!



The new fiscal year is off to a great start. Opportunities to serve and reconnect with other alumni have increased and our membership has grown!