



# Le Bon Mot



News letter for the John R Mott Chapter of YMCA Retirees of Iowa and Nebraska

## September/October 2024

### **Save the Dates Oct 15-16!!**

Our fall meeting is fast approaching so we want to go over the details and make sure everyone RSVPs for tours and meals and hotels reservations.

### **Fall meeting in Kalona, Iowa**



Kalona Chamber of  
Commerce

Visit >

[www.kalonachamber.com](http://www.kalonachamber.com)

Our hosts for the Fall Meeting will be Mary Carol and Jack Fish. You can RSVP by Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at 641-485-3402 and pay on Tuesday.

Here are the details for your review.

#### Hotel Reservations:

Dutch Country Inn

110 East Ave

Kalona, Iowa

319-656-3611

YMCA Alumni \$99.75 +

#### **Tuesday**

Tour of the Amish Countryside by Mike Zahs. Tour cost \$5.00 per person.

Dinner Tuesday evening will be an authentic Amish meal prepared by Ila Miller cost \$20.00 per person.

#### **Wednesday**

Chapter meeting at the Washington YMCA

Itinerary is attached.

## **Monthly Submissions**

Please note a new address for

**Chuck Pletke**

Apt 605

805 Southeast Tallgrass lane

Waukee, IA 50263

Chuck recently moved into an assisted living residence. We were so appreciative that Bill Keck brought Chuck to our Spring meeting in Newton and attended our recent cluster meeting in Des Moines.

**Nick Zimmer** hosted a group of RAGBRAI bikers and submitted this photo.



**Scottie Sozcek** sent an update about the memorial for Beth Oleson that she received from her daughter Paula Richardson. A memorial service was held in Forest City back in May. It was not publicized. Beth was buried next to her husband Merrill in the Oakland Cemetery there in Forest City.

Paula Richardson  
5330 Hwy 1 SW  
Kalona, Iowa 52247  
319-936-6967

**Jim Weaton** submitted a devotional story from his book *God Talks*.

“Never Judge a Box by Its Wrapping”

Some time ago a father scolded his daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became angry when the child tried to decorate a box for his birthday. Nevertheless, the girl brought the gift to her father on his special day and said, “This is for you, daddy.”

The man became embarrassed by his over reaction a few days before, but his frustration continued when he saw the box was empty. He yelled at her, “Don’t you know, when you give someone a gift, there’s suppose to be something inside?”

The little girl looked at her dad with tears in her eyes and cried, “Oh, daddy, it is not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They are ALL for you, daddy.” The father was devastated. He put his arms around his daughter, and begged for her forgiveness.

A few years later, the girl died in an unfortunate accident. Her father kept the gold box by his bed every night and, whenever he was feeling sad, he would take out the imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child that put it there.

**Simply put, LOVE is the most precious gift in the world.**

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Proverbs 27:19

John 3:16

May each of you know that you are loved

Jim

**The Mott Chapter Officers**  
**Look Forward to Seeing You !!**

Our slate of officers:

President : Marv Zimmermann  
641-792-9518  
mrzclz@gmail.com  
Treasurer: Mary Carol Fish  
641-485-3402  
mcjfish@gmail.com  
Secretary : Connie Zimmermann  
651-521-3306  
Membership: Mary Carol Fish  
World Service: Hank Bagelmann  
319-352-1198  
EAF: Rich Schoffelman  
651-5879705

**Monthly Celebrations**



**Happy Harvest!!**

Anniversaries :

**September...none**

**October....Zimmermann 10/10**

Birthdays:

**September..Jack Fish 09/26**

**October...Jo Bagelmann 10/09**

**Jon Springer 10/10**

**Chuck Pletke 10/30**

**Save the dates**

The fall Mott Chapter meeting will be held in Washington and Kalona Iowa hosted by Jack and Mary Carol Fish. The dates are Oct 15-16.

The Ozark Chapter is still in the planning stages for their next meeting.

**CHECK OUT THE YMCA ALUMNI WEBSITE FOR ALL UPDATES!!**

[www.ymcaalumni.org](http://www.ymcaalumni.org)

**How to Donate/Renew**

EAF: Mail to Y USA EAF  
101 N Wacker Dr 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Memo line: designate chapter

**NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT**

Mail to YMCA Alumni Treasurer  
PO Box 725  
West Chester, OH 45071  
Memo line: designate chapter

**WORLD SERVICE**

Mail to: YMCA of the USA  
101 N Wacker Dr  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Memo line: designate chapter

Our Mott Chapter goal is 100 % participation in all Alumni organizations. Thank you for your support!