



Le Bon Mot



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

November/December Newsletter 2021

MOTT CHAPTER FALL MEETING

It was disappointing to have the Fall meeting cancelled. After much discussion, it was decided to postpone the October

Branson Alumni joint meeting. The planning committee stated 5 main reasons:

1. There were only 15 pre-registrations and there was a concern that attendance would be small.
2. Branson was not following CDC guidelines of masks and social distancing.
3. Both Iowa and Missouri are showing increased numbers in Covid cases.
4. Members may not be able to get the booster before prior to mid October.
5. Another issue brought up was that with children under 12 being unable to be vaccinated, no one wanted to bring Covid home to grandchildren.

We will try again on April 19-21, 2022.

A Zoom meeting was held on October 19, at 7:00 pm instead. It was good to see some familiar faces and have a relaxing conversation. Nels Bagnardi brought us up to date on the National Service Project.

I will attach Naomi Hundley's minutes from that meeting.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

"It will be good to see everyone in 2022 since Covid has messed up all our other plans!!

Best Wishes to You All for a great Thanksgiving, a Christ-centered Christmas, and a fabulous New Year!!

Jon

REMARKS FROM THE EDITOR

Save the date Nov 9th, 1:00 pm for lunch with fellow members at the Machine Shed at 11151 Hickman Rd, Urbandale, IA 50322. Your hosts will be Marv & Connie Zimmermann and Jon & Lynne Springer. We want to see you in person!!! If you are in the area stop in. If not, we plan to host a northern and eastern area luncheon within the next few months. RSVP to Marv and Connie via e mail or text/phone 641-792-9518 Thanks. Look forward to seeing you soon!

MOTT MEMBER UPDATES

A message from Rich Schoffeman.

“It was good to reconnect with past YMCA colleagues in late 2019 when Mott Chapter members met in Red Oak. Even though Covid has directly impacted getting together in person, staying in touch through technology works.

We continue to live in Blaine, a northern suburb of Minneapolis. We keep busy with family, church volunteering, card playing with friends, outdoor activities (Shirley’s flower garden), and some travel. Our best travel this year was to Sheboygan! We had a wonderful family gathering there in July. The professional photographer we hired captured so many treasured moments.

Our daughter Jill Renaud and her husband Charlie live in Waukee, Iowa. Our grandsons Alex (Amanda) and great-grandchildren Tessa, Calvin, and CeCe live in St Louis: Blake (Liesl) and great-grandson George live in Chicago. Thus, we make numerous trips to Waukee and when possible to St Louis and Chicago.

With our church we serve community meals and also serve as greeters/ushers. Each Wednesday night I volunteer with the church youth program. I was on one of the leadership teams in our church’s recent capital campaign. Shirley has been an active volunteer with the Children’s Hospital and has served 12 years on the Children’s Hospital Association Board including leadership roles.

Prior to Covid, travel within the U.S. and Internationally was part of our lives. We look forward to when we can travel more extensively once again.

Before my mild stroke in April of 2020, I played for ten years with 350 other seniors in a 42-game season of senior softball. My doctor advised me to find a safer sport so my softball playing days ended. I do continue to work out almost daily at the Y!

We look forward to our next gathering together.”

Rich and Shirley Scholffmann



Rich currently serves as our EAF representative. He reports he is happy that Mott members continue to support EAF. Together with other Y Alumni members, EAF provides financial assistance to Y retirees and active YMCA staff facing unexpected difficult situations through no fault of their own. Thus far in 2021, \$60,616 has been granted to 14 qualified recipients. Contributions whether large or small are meaningful and truly help a Y family in need. Please consider a gift. (How to donate is listed on the contact page 4. Please indicate Mott Chapter on your donation)

Member updates continued

A message from Nick Zimmer currently a Senior Consultant American City Bureau.

The most important thing that I learned in my YMCA career is philanthropy is all about “relationships” and connecting the dots. Following a 31 year YMCA Professional career, today I am excited to stay connected to the movement as a member of the ACB team. Since 1913, ACB has been serving non-profits helping them build a culture of philanthropy. Though the YMCA represents our largest market, ACB also serves a vast range of other nonprofits- from youth and social service organizations, to religious organizations, healthcare, education, and the arts.

Nick submitted a short family profile.

Wife-----Nancy

Hobbies-----Spending time with family

Playing tennis

Volunteering in and
attending community and
school events

Walking, swimming, and
Golfing

Bucklist-----Travel

Big Ten Stadium Tour



Picture of the Zimmers at this years
Nebraska vs. Michigan State Football
Game in East Lansing, MI.

Nick Zimmer has served as our chapter representative developing the National Service Project the past 3 years. We applaud the committee for their hard work and foresight in developing a project that will impact so many and provide a positive direction for action among the Y Alumni. As Nels Bagnardi reported to the members during the Zoom meeting on Oct 19th much has been done to establish the project but we are still in the early stages of development with the Sioux Nation people.

The main focus will be on building a tiny 9 home village and constructing twig (program centers) to reach out to remote communities. Designed to bring recycling to the forefront for the reservation community, the tiny homes may be built in a number of sustaining ways, hopefully with green roof systems to add more gardening space in the desert, along with solar lighting and rainwater collection to keep utility costs down.

Now it is “boots on the ground time” for the general Alumni members. We need people to step up and volunteer for fund raising, marketing, and chapter liaisons to move this project forward. The goal is to have site development in 2022.

I am attaching several articles with information regarding the work of the NSP goals and activities for the sites and what they expect from a chapter liaison person. If this speaks to your heart, please step up. NSP is working on a website to make the volunteer process easier and information more accessible.

National Service Project Update

November/December Celebrations



Anniversaries: Joe & Scottie Soczek 11/23
Jack & Mary Carol Fish 12/27

Nov. Birthdays: Nancy Weaton 11/20
Mary Carol Fish 11/30
Dec. Birthdays Barb Sturms 12/04
Nancy Zimmer 12/10

Welcome new member John Donovan!

The Mott Chapter Officers Look Forward to Seeing You !!

Our slate of officers for the 2020-23

President: Jon & Lynne Springer
712-252-0556
jonlynne67@gmail.com

Treasurer: Judy Thornton
Judyann2@juno.com

Secretary: Connie Zimmermann
mrzclz@gmail.com

Membership: Mary Carol Fish
mcfish@gmail.com

World Service: Hank Bagelmann
hbagelmann@outlook.com

EAF: Rich Schoffelman
sschoffelman@comcast.net

Donate: Send check to :
EAF YMCA of USA
Financial Division 16th Floor
101 No Wacker Dr
Chicago, IL 60606 or online

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Mott Chapter luncheon hosted by Marv and Connie Zimmermann and Jon and Lynne Springer November 9th, 1:00 pm at the Machine Shed, 11151 Hickman Rd, Urbandale, IA 50322. The first of several cluster meetings being planned.

Early registration for the Alumni Reunion in New Orleans starts NOW! Reunion date is January 12-15th, 2022. Embassy Suites News Orleans is our host hotel. Rates and registration available now on ymcaalumni.org website or click the link in your most recent Y e-mail. Each event must be a separate registration.

The YMCA Alumni Travel Club is hosting a Caribbean Cruise following the Reunion on January 16-24th, 2022. Rates and registration are available now on the ymcaalumni.org website or click the link in your most recent Y e-mail. Each event must be a separate registration.

CHECK OUT THE YMCA ALUMNI WEBSITE FOR ALL NATIONAL UPDATES!! www.ymcaalumni.org
EAF click membership info/EAF/donate
World service
www.ymcaalumni.org/world-service
Renew membership
www.ymcaalumni.org/renew