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**Recognition for Team Member Service**

▲ Each January, Professional Plating recognizes Team Members who observed a milestone anniversary with us in the previous year. We celebrated that accomplishment with a group of 22 dedicated Team Members at our Team Meetings held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Gail Schuh, a member of our Customer Service team celebrated 35 years with Professional Plating. Another Customer Service team member, Sheila Free, celebrated 25 years, along with Jane Cleary from our Sorting department.

Tim Bastian in Maintenance, Kerry Behnke, Zinc Business Team Manager, Angela Geiser in Material Handling and Melanie Schaefer from our Production Team, all celebrated 20 years of service.

Mark Stanelle who works in Shot Blasting, and Sara Bartel, Quality Coordinator, were recognized for 15 years of service; Cindy Bartels from Material Handling has been with Professional Plating for 10 years.

Rounding out the milestone anniversaries were those who reached five years of service in 2018: Chris Gilson, Powder; Wendy Kopecky, Order Entry; Jordan Eickert, Zinc Production; George Petrie, Payroll; Ivan Moon, Quality; Steve Schaeuble, Maintenance; Tanya Flynn, Powder; Mike VandeBurgt, Material Handling; Troy Brack, Logistics; Mark Lundy, Sales; Gabby Hartzheim, Epoxy; and Jocelyn Stenzel, Zinc Production.

**Our heart-felt Thanks goes out to all of these Team Members for their on-going dedication to Professional Plating!**

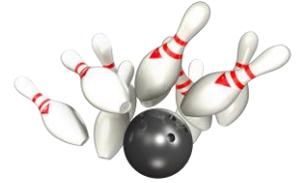


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## A Friendly Game of 9-Pin

▲ On a cold day in February, a group of Professional Plating Team Members and their family and friends were heating up the bowling alleys at The Official's Den in Hilbert as PPI sponsored our annual 9-pin bowling event.



Even non-bowlers may know that in bowling, if all ten pins are knocked down on the first ball that is thrown, it is a "strike" (and is cause for much celebration and bragging). To make a bowling game a little more fun for those who are not as skilled at the sport, 9-pin bowling awards a "strike" when all of the pins, except one, are knocked down on the first ball.

Not that scores matter since the event is more about camaraderie than competition, but let's give credit where credit is due. High scores for the three game series were bowled by Kym Rosner, Zinc Team Leader, with a 500; Sheila Gilson, Powder Production Technician with a 440; and Greg Lettau, Zinc Production Technician with a 426.

Those Team Members that participated were already talking about next year's event and the chance to have some fun away from work but of course with the general agreement of "no shop talk"!



### Team Member Spotlight

Sharon Cross  
Material Handling & Logistics  
Team Leader

▲ I joined Professional Plating in December of 2015 as a part-time Order Entry Clerk. In the past three years, I have been trained on various roles in the office, assisting with Accounts Payable and as the backup Scheduler for Powder Coating. I have also assisted with offline production in the Zinc department. Prior to being employed at Professional Plating, I worked at Sargento for 25 years as the Office Manager and at Econo Foods for five years as a Pricing Coordinator.

Earlier this year, I accepted the role of Material Handling and Logistics Team leader. My past experience and education will serve me well in this new role. I am very excited to see where this new opportunity will take me and my team.

I will have been married to my husband Jeff for 35 years, this coming August. We both love to Walleye fish in the spring, summer and fall. In the winter we look forward to our annual vacation to Mexico, as we are not fans of the Wisconsin winters anymore! In my free time, I love to work in my flowerbeds and make arrangements around our patio where we spend a lot of time watching all the birds that come to visit us every year.

## Pay It Forward Raffle & Lunch

Professional Plating respects the time and privacy of our customers. In no way is this update meant to be spam mail.

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▲ On Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, Professional Plating hosted a celebration for National Employee Appreciation Day (nationally observed on March 1<sup>st</sup>), treating our Team to a catered pasta lunch from Cobblestone Creek Dining & Banquet.

In conjunction with the lunch, we also kicked off a donation drive to collect supplies for the Salvation Army's "Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive", and back by popular request we also organized one of our famous bucket raffles. Through ticket sales for the raffle, our very generous Team raised over \$2300 and with a added contribution from the company, we had \$3,000 to "Pay Forward".

Our event planning team decided to supplement the hygiene drive collection with a monetary donation of \$1600 to the Salvation Army. Additionally, we had contacted "Hearts at Home" which is a residential facility for developmentally disabled individuals, located here in Brillion, asking for items on their "wish list" that we could purchase. We were able to make quite a dent in their list, gifting them with a new Ariens snow blower, a patio swing and gift cards for outings for their residents to the NEW Zoo and Marcus Theatres. Gift cards to several local restaurants and for gas, were also presented to Linda Alger, Manager of the Hearts at Home LLC facility.

Shown in the picture on the right are several members of the Professional Plating event planning team, Alissa Popp, Carollynn Acker and Sheila Free; along with several managers and residents from Hearts at Home, pictured with their new swing and snow blower.



Pictured on the left is Professional Plating Sales Account Executive Mark Lundy, presenting our monetary donation to Susan Hawk of The Salvation Army/Bread of Life Assistance Center; along with the supplies that were collected, pictured below.



For information about Professional Plating and general questions related to metal finishing, check the FAQ section of our website at:

Frequently Asked Questions

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

## Flooding in the Midwest

▲ The rain, warm weather and subsequent snowmelt that occurred throughout much of the Midwest in March, devastated many areas! Rivers and streams spilled over their banks and levees designed to hold the water were pushed beyond their capacity.

Locally, the Fond du Lac area was hit hard from ice jams on the Fond du Lac river that lead to extensive flooding in neighborhoods near the river. Further away in Nebraska, many rural farming communities were devastated by flooding that caught them off guard. According to one our largest customers located in Lincoln, NE, "some towns lost their water treatment plants and ground water wells have been compromised, farmers/ranchers lost miles of fencing so they need barbed wire and fence posts, some lost grain bins and hay bales so they don't have feed for the livestock that survived just to give a few examples".

On behalf of the Professional Plating Team, we made several significant monetary donations to help two organizations that are assisting those affecting by the flooding.

- We donated to the Nebraska Farm Bureau who are assisting countless farmers and families, many who lost all of their farm animals and livelihoods. Shown presenting a \$3000 check on our behalf is Jerry Lukens of Lincoln Industries.



- A \$1500 donation was sent to The United Way who is assisting families locally affected by flooding in Wisconsin

## Active Shooter Training

▲ On Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup>, Professional Plating opened its facility to the Calumet County Sheriff's Department to conduct active shooter training. The training involved fifty police officers, volunteer fire fighters and first responders from through out Calumet County.



This training program was started last Fall in some area schools, with this being the first time that the event was held in an industrial plant.

The 8-hour training included actors and simulated weapons to portray active shooters, along with rescue task force teams to resolve the situation, recover the injured and prepare for medical transport.

## Supporting the Chamber of Commerce

▲ The Brillion Chamber of Commerce is hard at work promoting Brillion business and commerce and revitalizing the downtown business community. They work closely with the Redevelopment Authority and hold monthly Lunch & Learn sessions. Their annual "Beer, Wine, Chocolate & Cheese Tasting" event is one of their biggest fundraisers, allowing them to have the expendable income needed to develop more opportunities for Chamber members in regard to networking, marketing, education, and business development.



As a proud member of the Brillion Chamber of Commerce, Professional Plating donated a "Keeping It Local" donation to the event, consisting of \$300 worth of gift cards to local businesses.

Presenting our donation to Dana Hoyer of the Chamber of Commerce event committee is TJ Moehr, Professional Plating Zinc Sales Estimator/Planner.

## "Top Shop" Recognition

▲ For the fifth straight year, Professional Plating's Zinc team has been named a "Top Shop" in *Product Finishing* magazine's annual award review!



Tim Pennington, editor of *Products Finishing* magazine said, "Professional Plating has established itself as one of the best finishing operations in the industry. The criteria we used was very stringent, and only the top finishing shops that excelled in all four areas (Current Finishing Technology, Finishing Practices and Performances, Business Strategies and Performances, and Training and Human Resources) made the list. Professional Plating is in rare air when it comes to finishing operations."

General Manager, Larry Dietz was extremely excited and pleased to be named as a "Top Shop" and said, "Our team members and leadership group have worked very hard to be the best in the industry, and to provide our customers with quality service. We have set our bar high and after now winning the award for five years straight, our drive and passion continues to direct us to be the best!"