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## 2019 Service Anniversary Awards

▲ So much has happened since we spent time with our team back in January presenting our annual "Year in Review" team meetings! We share with our Team our successes from the previous year and thank them for their role in that success. We discuss plans for continuous improvements in the year ahead. The best part of these meetings are the celebrations; most notably recognizing Team Members who reached milestone anniversaries with Professional Plating during 2019.



**Shown above are 2019 Service Anniversary Award recipients:**

**Top left picture:** Jill Trochta, 25 years; Dave Schwahn, 15 years; Tim Hauch, 5 years; Kody Willman, 10 years; Crystal Hedrich, 15 years.

**Top right picture:** Jason Behnke, 15 years; Nick Rosner, 25 years; Keith Jandrey, 25 years; Austin Behnke, 5 years; Carollynn Acker, 15 years; Emily Behnke, 5 years; Heidi Rusch, 5 years; Steve Bates, 15 years.

**Bottom left picture:** Jody Brault, 5 years

**Bottom right picture:** David Rogers, 15 years; Roger Mueller, 5 years.

**Not pictured:** Darryl Bauer, 5 years

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**The Web at:**

**[www.proplating.com](http://www.proplating.com)**

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**Pro-Dura Clear**

**Rack Zinc**

**GM Approval**

**Volvo Approval**

## **Perfect Attendance**



**Another special part of our Year in Review Team Meetings was recognizing those distinguished Team Members who attained perfect attendance for all of 2019!**

**Professional Plating recognizes perfect attendance among our Team each month and quarter. In 2019, we averaged 74% of our team that qualified for a monthly attendance award. At the conclusion of the year, 36 Team Members were proud to be awarded a Professional Plating jacket for having no unscheduled time away from work for the whole year!**

**That is a remarkable achievement!**



**Pictured (left to right): Dedra Boettcher, Sheila Free, Tim Bastian, Jane Cleary, Lois Keehan, Sara Bartel, Carrie Zipperer, Jody Mullard, Dylan Wordell, Cory Fritsch, Mark Stanelle, Dave Schwahn. Front row: Crystal Hedrich, Kym Rosner, Mike Wait, Vicky Giesseman**

**Travis Luedtke, Steve Stecker, Karl Bastian, Denise Tamm, Justin Jacobs, Robert Popp, Alissa Popp, Nick Rosner, Gail Schuh. Front row: Diana Schmitt, Andrea Turner, Steve Bates, Angela Geiser, Wendy Kopecky**



**Mike VandeBurgt, Paul Dietrich, Jon Koehler.**

**Not pictured: Tanya Flynn, Jesse Koehler and Bob Zipperer**

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## Manufacturer of the Year Nomination

▲ The Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year program celebrates the successes of manufacturers in our state. In December, Professional Plating learned that we had been nominated for the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year (MOTY) Award.

Manufacturing contributes \$63 billion to the state's economy and employs roughly 475,000 people. The MOTY program recognizes top manufacturers in all industries and of all sizes, focusing on their commitment to good business practices and customer satisfaction, innovative processes and productivity enhancements. Twenty-five Wisconsin manufacturers were nominated this year with four grand prize winners chosen based on company size.

Nominees were honored and grand prize winners were revealed at the MOTY ceremony held at The Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Shown attending the ceremony are Kerry Behnke, Jessica Moskow, Pat and Bob Endries, Audrey and Larry Dietz, Carl Weber, John and Carollynn Acker and Sue Cohen



## Salvation Army Hygiene Drive

▲ Professional Plating has formed a great working relationship with the local chapter of The Salvation Army, as we have supported the various programs that they offer to those in need.



In February and March we once again collected items for the "Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive". Collection boxes were placed in several locations for Team Members to drop donations of personal hygiene and cleaning supplies. Our efforts brought in just over 800 items that helped stock the shelves at the Bread of Life Center in Chilton.

Shown kicking off the "Help for the Homeless" collection drive at Professional Plating are Production Schedulers, Ashley Behnke, Jody Mullard, Bekki Eldred and Carrie Zipperer, and Epoxy Flex Team Member Dennis Sonnleitner.





## Spring Warm Up Celebration

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)

▲ In early March, as Spring was clearly in our sights, we knew we needed to celebrate the coming of warmer weather! There were other reasons to celebrate as well. National Surface Finishing Day and Team Member Appreciation Day also fall in early March, so events were planned for Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> to encompass them all. Relying on the success of past events, we decided to do a Soup and Bake Sale, along with our ever popular bucket raffle.

28 Team Members treated us to a variety of their best homemade soups, including Mexican Chicken Soup, Pizza Soup, Split Pea with Ham, Shrimp Chowder and Chili. Many Team Members opted to tempt us with sweets instead and brought items for our Bake Sale. Free-will donations were collected from those who enjoyed the wonderful home cooking!



Additionally, we had a bucket raffle from items donated by our Team. Winning tickets scored items such as a Door County Goodie Basket, Easter-themed items, Tool sets, camping supplies, gift cards and a lottery tree.

The benefactors of the proceeds from the day's events were split between two Team Members, Sandy Horswill (Material Handling) and Todd Maertz (Logistics) who are currently battling cancer issues. Words cannot express how great our PPI Team is, as evidenced by the outpouring of support for their fellow Team Members, as we were able to present them both with a check for \$2,250!



## Wellness Wednesday

▲ For the past several years, Professional Plating has offered a monthly "Wellness Wednesday" when we encourage healthy snack options in the hopes of introducing our Team to think about healthier choices. At times we have simply provided a seasonal fruit (apples in Fall, watermelon in Summer) whereas at other times we have done yogurt, nuts or string cheese.



In February, we worked in partnership with our vending provider, Be's Vending, to offer "Be's Bucks" which were good for \$1 toward all of the items in our "Better For You" vending machine (with most options priced at \$1 or less). Although many of the offered items do not replace things like fruits or vegetables, we wanted to emphasize to our Team that there are healthier options available to them for their snack such as baked chips, popcorn and milk.

Shown are Deb Diny, Emily Pope and Heidi Rusch excited to receive their "Be's Bucks" while pondering what item they would choose from the "Better for You" vending machine.

## Bowling Event

▲ As bowling alleys in Georgia are one of the businesses that are allowed to open back up under the state's COVID-19 orders, Professional Plating was fortunate to have had our annual Team Bowling Event scheduled just before Wisconsin's Safer at Home orders went into effect.



High PPI bowlers for the women were Brea Verhagen with a 221 game and Lisa Behnke bowling a 209. On the men's side, Greg Lettau led the way with a 237 followed by Nick VanHeuklon with a 194.



## **Team Member Spotlight – Flex Team**

▲ Our spotlight this month is on our Flex Team. Professional Plating currently employs a group of 43 team members comprised of people interested in part time employment. This group includes retirees, those who work a full time job elsewhere, and many high school and college students whose ability to work flexes due to athletics or academic schedules. Some of our Flex Team members previously worked full-time positions at Professional Plating but have decided to move to a Flex schedule. Other Team Members were hired as a Flex Team member to “try us on for size” and later applied for and were awarded a full-time role.

The premise of our Flex employment status is that these Team Members let us know what days and hours they are available to work week to week, and we then try to slot them into a production area where an open position exists. This is a great help in the summer when we see an increase in vacations by our full-time team.

As a company, we enjoy the fact that many of our Flex Team members have worked in various departments and are extremely valuable due to their ability to fill in on short notice without additional training.

Shown at right are several of our college Flex Team Members, Brock Behnke, Morgan VandeHey and Ellie Popp.

We look forward to seeing all of our Flex Team members as we ramp back up to full production and summer vacations!



## **We're All In This Together**



The Team at Professional Plating who has continued to work to meet our essential customer needs wants to thank and pass along their deep appreciation to all of the support workers who are helping to maintain various sectors of our daily lives.

Our health care workers, EMT's, Fire, Police and Sheriff staffs; the various retail workers who are seeing a large surge and being ask to support customer needs thru all sorts of challenges; our teachers and school support staffs who are doing a wonderful job trying to keep students at all levels, engaged in learning.

Thank You All very much for your bravery, passion and support to continue to do your jobs at a very high level thru these challenging times!

## **Our Team has always been Essential**



The emergence of the coronavirus pandemic has brought with it many new words and phrases that were not part of our normal daily conversation a few months ago; one of them being “essential” and “essential workers”.

Although it may not have been the term we have used to describe the Team at Professional Plating, by definition, it certainly fits. The dictionary defines “essential” as “extremely important or necessary”. Words such as “key, vital and indispensable” are synonyms for “essential”. The names and faces that make up the PPI team are not just classified essential during this pandemic, but **ALL THE TIME** and are the reason for our past success!

The Professional Plating Leadership Team, we would be remiss if we did not once again recognize **OUR TEAM** at Professional Plating for their support and commitment in the turbulence brought on by COVID-19.

Their support and trust has been amazing. Their efforts to continue to perform as always at a very high level is admirable.

Our **TEAM** has held together and stayed focused on being safe, while working to fill the needs of our essential customers.

We again applaud our **TEAM**. The PPI Family has truly walked this path **TOGETHER** and made it easier to navigate each and every challenge.







