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All-Inclusive Playground

▲ Just a few miles down the road, the family of Matt Kolbe and the Matt Kolbe Memorial Foundation are spear-heading an aggressive mission to raise the money needed to build an all-inclusive playground at Nenning Park in Chilton.



Matt Kolbe had Downs Syndrome, but he did not let his diagnosis or other health issues dictate how he lived his life. Matt lived by these four basic personality characteristics: Acceptance, Kind-Heartedness, Selflessness and Love. He was an inspiration to many and the foundation named after him has a goal to continue his legacy.

Professional Plating is proud to support the Matt Kolbe Memorial Foundation to raise the money and build a space where people of all abilities can play alongside their peers on a safe and accessible playground.

Shown is Larry Dietz, General Manager, presenting a \$2,500.00 check to Sandi and Ron Kolbe, Matt’s parents, on behalf of the Professional Plating Team.

Making Cents of Your Dollars

▲ It’s a constant struggle for many people! They work hard for their money and it seems to be gone before they have a chance to spend it.

On Tuesday, August 10th, we hosted Sonny Schaar, Becca Mosier and Sara Cardinal from Premier Financial Credit Union to present some financial education to interested Professional Plating Team Members. Topics that were covered included the importance of creating a budget, ways to protect yourself from financial scams and why credit scores are important.



As a takeaway, attendees who don’t already use direct deposit into a savings account, were challenged to set aside \$25 per week until the end of the year, and see how easy it is to accumulate \$500. It’s a step to creating a nice nest egg or emergency fund. The next challenge is to not be tempted to withdraw it until it is truly needed!

Honor Flights

▲ The Old Glory Honor Flights provide an opportunity to thank and honor US war Veterans for their service, by transporting them to Washington, D.C. on a one day trip to see some of the memorials built in their honor. These flights are provided to veterans at no charge.

Many veterans who have participated on a flight have said it was a deeply moving experience; revisiting long-dormant memories, paying their respect to fallen comrades, and bonding with fellow veterans.



Locally, The Primary Companies owned by Brillion natives Doug Buboltz and Don Mathiebe, have held a brat fry fundraiser each of the last six years and have raised over \$90,000 for the Honor Flights.

Professional Plating is happy to annually contribute to their efforts and presented them with a check this year for \$1,000.

These Honor Flights would not be possible without financial support from personal donations. If you would like to donate to allow the Old Glory Honor Flights to continue its mission of honoring local war veterans and giving them the recognition they deserve, please visit their website at <https://www.oldgloryhonorflight.org>.

Shake It Up!

▲ Protein supplements have been all the rage for decades, initially used primarily by body builders and athletes who needed nourishment after workouts. There was maybe even a stigma around protein supplements as you had to purchase them at a health food store. Times have changed, and these products can now be found on the shelves of big box stores and local grocery stores; or can easily be ordered on line.

How protein is provided to our bodies has also changed with the popularity of protein shakes! KOR is a community-based nutrition club serving shakes, teas, protein balls, etc. here in Brillion. To both support our local small business and to give our team an opportunity to try another option to get their daily nutrition, we invited the staff of KOR to mix up shakes for our Team one day in July. Every Professional Plating Team Member was able to choose a freshly-made protein shake in one of three flavors; Peanut Butter, Butter Finger or Salted Carmel.

Lots of smiling faces left work that hot July day knowing they just provided their body with a cold, healthy treat!

Pictured is Steven Kratz giving his refreshing KOR shake the "thumbs up"!



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Team Member Spotlight



Jody Mullard,
E-Coat Scheduler

▲ I have been employed by Professional Plating since 1990. I am currently the E-coat Production Scheduler and have been in this position since 2006. I enjoy my job very much and appreciate that I have a lot of flexibility. My day consists of scheduling and expediting orders for our Acrylic and Epoxy E-coat production lines. Some days I feel like a juggler to try and keep several customer expedites to the top of my list and ship out within 48 hours!

I have been married for 30 years and have two children. In March of 2020 I became a Grandma for the first time to my precious grandson, Oliver. I learn a lot from him every time I babysit. Being a grandma reminds me that family is important. PPI is a good example of family as well; we are all part of the PPI family that care about each other.

On Site Vaccinations

▲ Many of the events that you will read about in our quarterly newsletter are focused on the most important asset at Professional Plating, our Team.



In our continued efforts to keep our Team healthy, Professional Plating teamed up with the Calumet County Health Department to provide free on-site Covid vaccinations, taking away the hassle to our Team of getting to a vaccine clinic. Team Members could anonymously sign up for a time slot for their vaccine and were encouraged to invite members of their family to sign up as well. Knowing that allergic reactions could occur, the Health Department also arranged for an ambulance to be on standby, should anyone need assistance. The medical group returned a few weeks later to administer the second dose of the vaccine.

We had a good turnout of Team Members/Family Members who chose to get the Covid vaccination and appreciated having the medical team come on-site to provide them with this service.

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

National Night Out

▲ In August, Police Departments across the country encouraged people to get outside and meet their neighbors for National Night Out. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

The combined communities of Brillion and Reedsville organized the "Night Out" event for Thursday, August 5th. The event included food trucks, balloon animals, magic and juggling shows, police vehicles and fire trucks, and concluded with fireworks!



As part of the event, Kobussen Bus Lines who serve the Brillion school district, provided a school bus for kids to "tour". This was especially helpful for the youngsters who would need to take a bus to school but had never been inside one. They also used the empty bus as a "Fill-the-Bus" school supply collection site.

Sue Cohen, Professional Plating Office Manager is shown presenting a \$250 check to Paula Freimuth of Kobussen Bus Line, to be used for the purchase of school supplies.

House of Hope

▲ The Team at Professional Plating was able to help a new legacy-partner through a collection drive this past summer.

"House of Hope" in Green Bay (www.houseofhopegb.org) provides emergency shelter and housing stability services for homeless youth, young women, and families with children. Their wish list shows the on-going need for personal hygiene items, bedding, towels, gift cards, baby monitors, stuffed animals, sleepwear, etc.

Pictured are the goods collected at Professional Plating. Several Team Members also donated gift cards that they won at our summer picnic, or wrote personal checks so that in total, our Team donated over \$3,100 in goods and cash to House of Hope.

In the words of English Writer John Bunyan, "You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you".



Capping Off the Summer!

▲ Is an end of summer picnic celebrating the end of Summer or the start of Fall? How ever you want to see it, the Team at Professional Plating looks forward to our Summer Appreciation Picnic each year!

The celebration started on Monday, August 16th with the kick-off to the House of Hope collection, and also with what has become a much anticipated event, the PPI bean bag tournament.



36 Team Members signed up to compete which allowed us to have an 18-team single elimination tournament. The final rounds of the tournament were held on Tuesday and since beautiful weather prevailed, the competition was held outside.

The team of Jody Mullard, E-coat Scheduler and Bob Zipperer, Engineering & Quality Coordinator, took 2nd place to the excellent throwing of Jordan Miller, Office Assistant and Kerry Behnke, Zinc Business Team Manager, who were crowned the new CHAMPIONS!

Another highlight of our Summer Picnic is having a return visit from our favorite motivational speaker, Randy Fox! As always, Randy's message to the Team gave everyone some food for thought.

Speaking of food, Marko's Smokin' BBQ of Brillion provided a tasty lunch which was capped off by a cool treat from Coldstone Creamery. Joining us for lunch were twelve of our retired Team Members, one of whom traveled from Florida to be able to visit with past co-workers.



Along with full stomach's, the Team also left that day with full hands! Each Professional Plating Team Member received a summer picnic t-shirt, depicting "Driving Gains...Creating \$uccess...By Adding Value", and a \$25 gift card, many of which were provided by some of our supply chain partners.

Here We Grow Again!

▲ On Monday, July 19th, General Manager Larry Dietz communicated to our customer base and to our Team that we are growing again!

Due to our outstanding customer relationships and the trust they put into the Professional Plating Team on a daily basis, our business has grown and in order to continue to give our customers outstanding service, we are taking a step to install another zinc rack plating line!

Our last plating line installations were in 2016 and 2018. 2020 was a difficult year for most businesses due to the pandemic, but we have learned new methods and continued to grow our abilities, emerging strong and looking forward to continuing in our growth.

We are looking to have this new machine operational for production in April 2022!

