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## Happy New Year!

▲ Professional Plating's new General Manager, Kerry Behnke held her first "Year in Review" meetings with our Team on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. 2024 was challenging for many industries with economic uncertainty, rising costs and major political events world-wide.

Kerry's message to the Team and our 2025 Team Culture Mission Statement is *"When you help someone climb a mountain, you reach the top too"*.

We look forward to continuing to grow and nurture our business relationship with you and together, we will reach the top of the mountain!

## Bundle Up, It's Cold Out There!

▲ Wisconsin and many other states recently experienced a streak of extreme cold temperatures. Locally, some schools were closed due to dangerous wind chills which can be hazardous to children waiting outside for the bus, or students traveling by car that may get stranded. Even when we just have "normal Wisconsin Winter temps", we need to be sure that children are properly dressed for the weather.

In October, the Team at Professional Plating once again answered the call for help in collecting "Coats for Kids" which were donated to the local Salvation Army for distribution within Calumet County.

Our final count came to 118 new and/or gently used winter coats, beating last year's collection of 90 coats!



**Contact Us:**

**920-756-2153**

**Check Us Out On**

**The Web at:**

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

**Specialty Coatings**

**Acrylic E-coat**

**Barrel Zinc**

**Epoxy E-Coat**

**Powder Coat**

**Pro-Advantage**

**Pro-Dura Clear**

**Rack Zinc**

**GM Approval**

**Volvo Approval**

## **Supporting our Community Fund Drive**

▲ The City of Brillion has an organized fund raising event held annually the first week in October. The efforts of a small group of community members over 30 years ago continues to operate under the name of BCCD (Brillion City Community Drive) to raise money for various community service agencies and local non-profit organizations. The thought was to have one venue for the citizens of Brillion to donate to well-deserving groups of their choice and eliminate other door-to-door solicitation.

Professional Plating is proud to financially support the efforts of the BCCD with this year's donation of \$7,500.00 paid from our charitable fund.



Pictured are several BCCD board members, (Kim Buboltz, Tanya Boettcher, and Michelle Endries-Selle) accepting our donation from General Manager, Kerry Behnke who is also on the BCCD board.

## **Fall Raffle & Bake Sale**

▲ To the regular readers of our quarterly newsletter, you already know that the Team at Professional Plating loves a good bucket raffle! In mid-October we held a raffle with the proceeds ear-marked for our holiday Adopt A Family budget. Despite personal budgets being a bit tight, the Team came together to raise over \$2,100.00!

To add to the fun of our raffle event, we also encouraged our Team to "wear pink" in support of breast cancer awareness. Below are pictures of just a few of those who participated:



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## Wellness



▲ It is no secret that companies who care about their employee's health and wellbeing see numerous measurable benefits, from higher productivity and profitability to lower turnover and fewer safety incidents.

One of the initiatives that is offered to Professional Plating Team Members is the free use of our well-equipped fitness center versus them spending hard-earned dollars on a gym membership. Team Members working in our production area are also paid for 15 minutes of warm-up time in the fitness center each day in advance of the start of their shift. We have seen back strains and other repetitive lifting issues dramatically go down since implementing this benefit.

All Team Members are also encouraged to track various other personal wellness activities such as annual health exams, blood donations, community service and eating/sleeping habits. Over the course of a year, points awarded for these activities are accumulated and bronze, silver and gold levels can be reached. In 2024, we had 28 Team Members that reached "medal status" and received a \$50, \$75 or \$100 gift of their choice.

We hope all of our Team is looking to make improvements in their health and wellness in the new year!

## Team Member Spotlight

Angie Lom  
Financial Controller



▲ I recently joined the team as the Financial Controller at Professional Plating Inc., and I appreciate the very warm welcome that I have received from everyone. I bring to PPI over 20 years' experience in accounting and finance roles, including my most recent experience as the Controller at Water-Right Inc. in Appleton. I am originally from Black Creek, WI and went to the University of Oshkosh for my Accounting and Finance degree. I am excited to join the PPI team to help where I can, especially working with my favorite things - numbers and spreadsheets ☺!

I have two children, Raina (19) and Alex (17). Raina is a freshman at Arizona State University and Alex is a junior at Kimberly High School. My fiancé Adam owns a small construction company. We live in Harrison, on the south side of Appleton. I enjoy spending time with my family, playing games, reading and playing with our calico cat, Chloe.

I look forward to meeting you all!

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)

## Disaster Relief

▲ A true treasure in the Brillion community is a thrift store appropriately named "Hidden Treasurers". It is very comforting to know that when items are donated to a second-hand store, the money that is collected from the sale of those items, is donated both locally such as to the volunteer fire department and Lions Club, and to various humanitarian efforts. That is the ongoing mission of the Hidden Treasurers Thrift Shoppe.

In October, the board members at Hidden Treasurers wanted to assist the American Red Cross' efforts to support those affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. They announced that they would match up to \$10,000 from their sales. Due to the immense need for assistance, they took their plan one step further, inviting businesses, churches and civic organizations in the community to join in.



A \$10,000 match from Professional Plating's charitable fund was also announced, along with matches from several other businesses. In a very short amount of time, the Brillion community was proud to collect \$75,000 to send to the disaster relief efforts!

Not bad for selling a few unwanted items from the closet, right?

## Giving the Diamond a Shine

▲ Professional Plating is fortunate to do business in the great community of Brillion. We need to go only a short five miles to the East along Hwy 10 to find the neighboring village of Reedsville.

Building community and supporting our youth were two strong reasons that we wanted to assist the Reedsville School district when they reached out to let us know about a fundraising opportunity toward their baseball field renovation project. The school had recently purchased the field from the village, as the village was not in a position to make much needed improvements to the playing surface, dugouts, bleachers and scoreboard. They projected needing close to \$225,000 for this project and their fundraising had so far raised just short of \$140,000.

Professional Plating Team Members Jessica Moskow, Austin Behnke, Maria Camacho-Lopez, Sawyer Haese and Kym Rosner represented the PPI Team and proudly presented a donation of \$15,000 from our charitable fund, to Reedsville School District Superintendent, Michael Nate, and Reedsville Baseball Coach Luke Ubersox. Mike commented on behalf of the Reedsville District that they are "grateful for the generous donation that will enhance our community."





## "Tis the Season

▲ The "festive frenzy" experienced by many of us as we near the Christmas holiday was alive and well at Professional Plating in December!



We started the season of giving with our annual Food Drive to support the St Vincent DePaul Food Pantry. In addition to the food that was donated by our generous Team, a monetary donation was also given to the food pantry to be used for the purchase of meat, dairy products, fresh fruit and vegetables.

Another annual community event that our Team is invited to participate in during the Christmas holiday is bell ringing at the Salvation Army Red Kettle located at the local grocery store.

Brillion is fortunate to have two days during the "Red Kettle season" that have donations "matched" (up to \$15,000) by the Endries Family Foundation. The Team at Professional Plating is asked to fill the 12 one-hour shifts for bell ringing on one of those match days.

Pictured is Dedra Boettcher, Sales Estimator/Planner and her two children, happily ringing the bells to encourage donations into the Red Kettle.



A legacy event that we are proud to do each year is our support of several area families thru the Adopt A Family program. Two families came to us thru the Salvation Army and one thru the Brillion Police Department. Our Team truly purchases the gifts on wish lists since the money comes from what they donated at the Fall Bucket Raffle. The generosity of our Team surely made Christmas morning extra bright for these families!



**Now for the celebration! Santa made an appearance at Professional Plating on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> for our Holiday Party. Each Team Member received a special envelope from Santa containing \$125 in gift cards.**

**The Team enjoyed a tasty meal of pork and gravy, beef tips, coleslaw, pasta salad, desserts and more, catered by Neighborhood Pub & Grill.**



*Happy  
New Year*