

BECON

6/26/2026

[Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities](#)

We're Home Again!

After a lot of soul-searching (and breakfast searching), Shawnee and the board found us a new home. For those who couldn't make it Friday, the food was really good, and the seats are super comfy!

Our guest this week was **Cory Stremka** from Cushing Terrell, brought by Shannon.

We have lots of announcements this week:

- **July 8 at Noon** – The **Unattended Veterans Ceremony** will be held at the Yellowstone Veterans Cemetery. This is always a meaningful event, and if you have the time, please consider attending.
- **August 1 | 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.** – The **Family Tree Nurturing Center** will host a carnival at South Park featuring food, games, candy, and fun for the whole family. The event helps provide much-needed school supplies for the upcoming school year.
- **Spirit of Freedom Field** – Set-up begins **Tuesday, June 30 at 5:30 p.m.** at Par 3. EEC will have the field laid out, so we'll just need to pound rebar and plant flags. Tear-down is **Monday, July 6 at 4:00 p.m.** Thank goodness for the rain this weekend, right?

Also attached is the **Flag Dedication Form**. Please share it with anyone you think might be interested in honoring a loved one.

- **Veterans Navigation Network** is looking for volunteers for **The Wall That Heals** at Will James School. Set-up begins at **8:00 a.m. on July 1**, and tear-down starts at **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 5**. You can also sign up directly through the Veterans Navigation Network website.
- Shawnee said there were lots of guesses to last week's pancake riddle. Congratulations to **Dave Weller**, who won the drawing!
- Shawnee passed around committee sign-up sheets again. If you haven't signed up for a committee yet, please consider doing so. It's one of the best ways to get involved, meet fellow members, and help our club continue to grow.
- **National Convention** is fast approaching! The district purchased convention pins to hand out in Omaha, and Shawnee passed one around for everyone to see. It's a pretty cool design. Rumor has it the idea was born in Louisville last year by a team of highly dedicated...and slightly inebriated...Exchange members.

- We have some exciting personal news to celebrate—**Krista Hood** and **Ashley Dubbs** are both expecting! Congratulations to both families!
- Our club has recently worked several **Chamber After Hours** events, as well as events at the **Yellowstone Art Museum**. These are new fundraising opportunities that the leadership team and business managers have been exploring to help support our club.
- In case you hadn't heard, **Mike Fleming** and **Carol** will be retiring as our business managers at the end of the year. **Maria** has graciously agreed to step into the role, with **Bruce** assisting her. He'll make a pretty great right-hand man!
- Tony gave the speech he'll be delivering at National Convention. I'm pretty sure there were people crying, and maybe even a few doing cartwheels and backflips afterward...although I can't actually confirm witnessing any of that.

This was Shawnee's final breakfast as our club president.

Our club has been incredibly fortunate to have her enthusiasm and energy leading us this past year. We finished the Exchange year **plus two members**, have a **new meeting home**, a **new website**, and, perhaps most importantly, renewed excitement throughout the membership.

Thank you, Shawnee, and to this year's board, for all you've done for our club. And thank you to Scott for keeping Shawnee on schedule so everyone actually had time to eat breakfast!

As is tradition during the final meeting of the year, the president presented thank-you gifts to board members completing their terms. Thank you to **Scott, Randy, and Bob** for your commitment and service to our club. We truly appreciate everything you've contributed.

Congratulations to **Mike Fleming**, our club and district's **Exchange Club Member of the Year!** Mike and Carol, thank you for everything you've done to make our club stronger.

What once was old is now new again! Congratulations to **Don Lorenz** (who is still old) for finding his way back home and becoming our very first **Rookie of the Year**. We're lucky to have you back, Don!

Shawnee also presented numerous membership anniversary awards recognizing **5, 10, and 20 years** of service. I didn't get them all written down, so let's simply say congratulations to everyone who celebrated another milestone with Exchange. Every year of service matters!

A few final reminders:

- There is **no breakfast on July 3** in observance of Independence Day.
- There are still spots available for the **Bejot Golf Tournament**. Sign up soon...and often!

Have a safe and wonderful Fourth of July! We'll see you back at breakfast soon.

