

Leadership

Chippewa Falls



CHIPPEWA FALLS
AREA CHAMBER

Chippewa Falls Area Chamber of Commerce 2017-2018 Leadership

Thank you to these
dedicated
participants and their
employers for
supporting Leadership
Chippewa Falls

*Korry Boos
Dana Brilla
Kenneth Brown
Laura Bushendorf
Brittney Calkins-Karnes
Alan Coopman
Joanna Gohlke
Sara Grana
Troy Harvey
Jennifer Hensley
Amy Huempfner
Jessica Holmstadt
James Kirchen
Kyrach Klika
Angela Pratt
Paul Roach
Carmi Simonson
Shannon Small
Cayci Wathke
Tony Willkom*



Korry Boos is a Chippewa Falls native and a graduate of McDonell Central High School. After graduation, he attended CVTC and earned a degree in Criminal Justice. Korry has worked for 16 years in law enforcement in the Chippewa Valley, serving specialized positions such as, Financial Crimes Investigator, Evidence Technician, and SWAT sniper to name a few. Currently he serves as a Patrol Sergeant for the Chippewa Falls Police Department and is the Department's Defense and Arrest Tactics Instructor and in-house training coordinator. Korry and his wife, Tanya, are blessed to have three sons. Korry's free time is centered around his family, which includes sharing his hobbies of dirt biking, the outdoors, and trips with the family.



Dana Brilla is the Director of Operations and Marketing at ChemCeed, where she has worked for the past 10 years. In 2008, Dana graduated from the UW-Eau Claire with a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology. Dana is an active participant in the Chippewa Falls Relay for Life event, and along with her team, raises money to benefit the American Cancer Society. Dana lives in Lake Hallie with her husband and 4-year-old daughter, Abby, and her new born son, Steven. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering at Agnes' Table, swimming, and downhill skiing.



Kenneth Brown is the Divisional Director Imaging Services at Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Hospital. Ken was born in Tomah, Wisconsin and graduated from Tomah High School. He went on to graduate from the Radiology School in Lacrosse and then spent the next 39 years in the healthcare profession. His wife, Cheri, and him have two children, Ryan and Kayla, and two grandchildren, Devun and Kalli, who live in Montana. Ken loves the outdoors and classic cars.

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Each monthly session has a specific focus; from local government to education to healthcare. The goal of each class day is to challenge thinking and inspire you to get involved in your community.



Laura Bushendorf is a Chippewa Falls native. Laura has been employed by the Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District (CFAUSD) since 2004. Prior to becoming the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator, she taught Family and Consumer Sciences. She received her B.S. degree in Family and Consumer Educational

Services, holds a minor in Health Education, and a Masters of Arts degree in Education. Laura is a member of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). Laura serves on advisory committees at CVTC and recently participated in the Chippewa Falls Citizens Police Academy. Laura is proud to live in, and serve, the community she grew up in with her daughter, Brayden.



Brittney Calkins-Karnes is a Client Relations Leader at Manpower in Chippewa Falls. She has been with Manpower for two years and enjoys both the opportunities and challenges that she encounters daily. Brittney graduated from CVTC with an Associate's degree in Human Resources and later received a

Bachelor's degree in Management from UW-Stout. Brittney is a Chippewa Falls native and places great value on living in such an amazing community. Brittney is married to Nathan Karnes and they have three daughters, Lundin, Georgia, and Mara.



Alan Coopman was born and raised in Menasha, WI and moved to Eau Claire in 2003. Alan works at TTM Technologies – CF Division as an Operations Manager of the Lamination and Drill departments. Alan received his Bachelors in Business Administration from UW-Eau Claire with a minor emphasis in Operations

Management. He graduated in 2007 and TTM hired him shortly after. Although Alan was raised on the Eastern side of the state, he claims the Chippewa Valley as his home, along with his wife and Border Collie.



Joanna Gohlke is the Marketing and Sales Account Executive at L.E. Phillips Career Development Center. After High School, Joanna pursued a degree in Pre Physical Therapy at Carrol University. Joanna transferred to High Point University, where she graduated with a B.S.B.A. in Business Administration, concentrating in Marketing.

Joanna is an active member in the community by serving as President of the Chippewa Valley BNI Chapter, committee member of Young Professionals, coach of the JV Dance Team at Eau Claire North, and occasionally serves wine at Bemis Bluff in Eleva.



Sara Grana is the Packaging Team Leader at Great Northern Corp. in Chippewa Falls, where she leads and oversees a group of Packaging Account Coordinators. Sara was previously a Print Buyer, before moving on to GNC to coordinate print production and customer service. A graduate of Memorial High School, Sara is a native of the Eau Claire area, but now calls Chippewa Falls home. Sara

enjoys supporting her community as the Service Chairperson, past board member of the Chippewa Valley After Hours Rotary Club, and Advisory Board member for the Chippewa Falls Boys and Girls Club. Sara is a huge animal lover, and enjoys spending time with her Bernese Mountain Dog, Riley. In the summer months, you can catch Sara skimming across Lake Wissota on her bright yellow jetski.



Troy Harvey has been at Advanced Laser since 2008 and has worked throughout the organization from Customer Service to Operations Management. He is currently the Strategic Account Manager, taking care of Advanced Lasers core customers. Troy grew up in Chippewa Falls, but moved to Cadott after high school. He has traveled the country for

previous employers, but says it's nice to come back home. He has been involved through Advanced Laser in many youth programs and is currently involved with Junior Achievement. Troy loves spending time in the outdoors with his wife and three wonderful children.



Jennifer Hensley leads the merchandise team at the Leinie Lodge as the Retail Supervisor. She was born and raised in Woodbury, MN. She attended Carthage College in Kenosha, WI earning a BA in Business Administration. Jennifer went on to earn a second BA in Interior Design from the Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg. At Leinenkugel's she has been involved with the United Way as a committee member. She is married to John, who is the

Assistant Brewmaster at Leinenkugel's. They currently live in Eau Claire with their two sons, Jackson and Joel.

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Amy Huempfner is the Marketing & Youth Program Coordinator at the Chippewa Valley Family YMCA. She has also been the Director of Operations and Marketing Specialist at Bye the Willow since September of 2015. Amy earned her degree in Organizational and Professional Communication from UW-La Crosse. After graduation, she moved back to the Chippewa Valley and now resides in Chippewa Falls with her husband, Josh. In

her spare time, she helps coach the McDonell Girls Cross Country & Track Teams. Amy also enjoys traveling, photography, outdoor activities, staying active and cheering on the Packers.



Jessica Holmstadt is a Merchandise Manager at Mason Companies, Inc. She is originally from Hayward, Wisconsin. Jessica earned a degree in International Business from St. Mary's University in Winona, MN, prior to moving to the Chippewa Valley 12 years ago. She currently lives in Eagleton with her Husband, Rick, and two children, Macy and Grant. In her free time, Jessica enjoys attending local events, volunteering

and camping with her family.



James Kirchen moved to Chippewa Falls in 1995 and has held various positions at ITW Deltar Fasteners, including most recently the Director of Innovation. He completed his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at UW-Platteville and his MBA from the Univ. of Phoenix. He is a member of the Chippewa Valley Bible Church, where he has taught youth group and Sunday School. He is an active member and leader of Leading With Power and very

active at the Chippewa Valley YMCA as a fitness instructor and personal trainer. James is married to his amazing wife, Jill, and is very proud of his two children and gorgeous granddaughter. In his Spare time, he enjoys camping, woodworking, biking, running with his dog, snow-shoeing, and racquetball.

The program culminates by participants organizing into teams and identifying issues or challenges in Chippewa Falls. Teams work on projects designed to raise awareness of an issue, improve team skills and effect change.



Kyrah Klika is the new Vice President of the Chippewa Falls Office of WESTconsin Credit Union. Kyrah possesses a bachelor's degree from UW-Stevens Point and has 11 years' experience working in finance. Her many community involvements include advisor on the Young Professionals Network of Wisconsin Credit Union and being a member of the

Young Professionals of the Chippewa Valley and Kiwanis of Chippewa Falls. She volunteers for Junior Achievement and teaches high school financial literacy courses at local high schools. From 2015-17, she served on the Wisconsin Credit Union League's Board. Kyrah and husband, Kevin, reside in Lake Hallie with their son, Kannon. Her hobbies include being a devoted Green Bay Packer fan, camping with the family, visiting Door County and the North Shore, and photography.



Angela Pratt is a native of Ladysmith. She graduated from UW-Eau Claire with a Nursing degree. Angela is an RN and the Western Division Regional Manager of Operations for Prevea Health, where she oversees 10 locations. Angela utilized her degree to build a career in nursing, leadership and management that originated in the

nursing home setting, advanced to the hospital setting in the ICU/ER and Med-Surg, transitioned to a clinic setting, and then returned to Risk Management. Angela actively serves her community through volunteerism and fundraising efforts. She is a member of the Chippewa Falls Chamber and serves on the Chippewa County Tourism Board. Angela lives in New Auburn with her husband, Kevin. They have three grown sons and a granddaughter. Hobbies include ownership of Pratt Trucking and Green Acres Family Campground.



Paul Roach is the IT Solutions and Development Manager at Royal Credit Union (RCU) in Eau Claire, where he has worked for the past 19 years. During this time, Paul has held several positions at Royal including Computer Operator, Intern, Data Coordinator, IT Consultant, and Application Developer. While attending UW-Eau Claire, Paul started his career with RCU as a Computer Operator. After graduating

with a Bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems, RCU hired him full time. Paul enjoys volunteering through Royal Credit Union, McDonell Area Catholic Schools, St. Charles Catholic Church, as a board member of the Chippewa Falls City Wide Class Reunion, Cub Scouts, and many of his kids' activities. Paul graduated from Chippewa Falls High School in 1991 and currently lives in Chippewa Falls with his wife and five children.

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Dr. Carmi Simonson is a veterinarian and owner of Riverview Animal Hospital in Chippewa Falls, which she opened in 2015. She previously worked at Northside Pet Hospital in Eau Claire for 10 years. After graduating from Chippewa Falls High School, she attended UW-River Falls. In 2004, she graduated from UW-Madison School of Veterinary

Medicine. Dr. Simonson is on the board of directors for the Northwestern Veterinary Medical Association and a member of Chippewa Falls Rotary Club. Carmi lives in Tilden with her husband, two sons, a yellow lab and two cats.



Cayci Wathke is the Assistant Administrator at Dove Healthcare – Wisconsin Health & Regional Vent Center. She has worked at this facility since 2015 and completed a year-long internship before graduating from UW-Eau Claire's Healthcare Administration program in 2017. Cayci is a licensed Nursing Home Administrator in the state of Wisconsin. She has been active in creating and furthering partnerships

with local schools, businesses, and wellness partners to better the lives of community members, facility residents, and staff. Cayci lives in Chippewa Falls with her dog Milo. Together they enjoy spending time at the family cabin on Lake Wissota and frequent the Old Abe State Trail.



Shannon Small is the Director of Chippewa Manor Residential Living in Chippewa Falls. A lifelong resident of the Chippewa Valley, Shannon began her career at Chippewa Manor as a Certified Nursing Assistant on the campus's Nursing and Rehab wing. Prior to Director, she served as Concierge at Residential Living, assisting families and residents with activities, schedules, and various other

tasks. Shannon is dedicated to helping the people she serves live active, worry-free lives. She currently resides in Jim Falls, with her husband, Jon, their two young children, Wesley and Emma, and three pets. Shannon enjoys camping, kayaking, bow hunting, and spending time with friends and family.



Tony Willkom is the Business Loan Servicing Supervisor at Royal Credit Union. He has been with Royal for over 8 years. After graduating McDonell High School, he earned a Finance degree from UW-Eau Claire and completed the Supervisor Management Certificate Program. Tony is active with Young Professionals, planning Chippewa Falls Oktoberfest, and is the Treasurer of the Board for West CAP. Tony is originally

from Cadott, but currently lives in Chippewa Falls. He enjoys running, hunting, and spending his free time with his wife, Justine, daughter, Aubrey, and son, Graham.

2018 - 2019 Leadership Applications



Historically the Chippewa Falls Area has been fortunate in having excellent leadership from its businesses and various other segments of the community. Our area continually experiences many issues due to the constant influence of change and growth. How these issues are managed depends, to a considerable degree, upon informed, skilled and concerned community leaders. This program offers a way to ensure that the tradition of strong leadership continues in the Chippewa Falls area. This program acquaints participants with a broad understanding of community issues and civic challenges facing our community. Each month participants are exposed to one sector of the Chippewa Falls community; community service/quality of life, business, infrastructure, government, education, healthcare, media and volunteer opportunities. They have the opportunity to meet key

leaders in these areas, discuss the challenges within the community, and determine how these challenges might be resolved. Leadership Chippewa Falls consists of eight half-day sessions and a recognition dinner. Attendance at the sessions is required for both the success of the program and the benefits you will receive from the program. If you are interested in our next Leadership class, please contact us for an application.

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