

Cheers to old friends and new beginnings

As I sit down to write the first newsletter of 2022, the nostalgic New Year's Eve melody "Auld Lang Syne" runs through my head. The old tune prompted me to look up the lyrics and research what the song means.

*Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and old lang syne?*

When searching YouTube, I had forgotten about the classic movie clip from *When Harry Met Sally* with Meg Ryan and Billy Crystal when Crystal asks, "What does this song mean anyways?" The song is interpreted to remember long-standing friendships and bid farewell to the old year. Remember people from your past and raise a toast to them. It's an old Scottish celebration song symbolizing an old times' sake and an emotional conclusion to another year.

2021 has been yet another emotional year. And long-standing relationships and old friends are extremely important and valuable. Over the last couple months, I've seen a large wave of friends and members retire and bid farewell to their long-standing career. Meanwhile, our chamber continues to expand with a growing network of new businesses and organizations. Whether you're close to retirement, just getting started in your career, or somewhere inbetween; embrace the long-lasting relationships and friendships that come through networking.

To the long-time friends of the chamber, thank you. You're an integral part of this community, and your support and mentorship is very much appreciated. To the 27 new Chamber members of 2021; welcome! Building relationships and staying connected is a critical part of doing business and also your

emotional health; schedule it into your day. To make it easy, you can download the chamber's events directly into your calendar (link and instructions are in the newsletter). To all the start-up companies of this past year, congratulations! Entrepreneurship is very exciting, but also extremely difficult - please utilize the chamber network and resources to assist you.

The celebration of 60 years continues! While we celebrated 60 years of Nickle Dickle Day in 2021, the official formation docs of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce were created by Paul Melchert and signed on March 9, 1962. We'd like to recognize Paul for his long-standing dedication to the Waconia Chamber and community at our annual meeting on January 27th; along with a State of the Chamber and City address, a year-in-review slideshow, induction of the 2022 board of directors, and other awards. Plus great food, atmosphere, and company. You won't want to miss it!

Cheers to old friends and new beginnings,

-Christine

Source

[New Years Song Lyrics](#)

[When Harry Met Sally - Auld Lang Syne](#)